

October 15, 2024 9:00 a.m.

The Jones County Board of Supervisors met in regular session. Present Chairman Rohwedder, Supervisors Oswald, Schlarmann, Swisher, and Zirkelbach.

Moved by Zirkelbach seconded by Oswald to approve the minutes of the October 8, 2024 meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Swisher seconded by Schlarmann to approve the payroll for the period ending October 6, 2024, as certified by the department heads. All aye. Motion carried.

The Auditor met with the Board for the various items as noted in the motions below including a discussion on the county compensation board. The County Attorney and Treasurer were present for the discussion. The County Auditor explained the changes to law per SF 2442 Division V. At this time, the Board is undecided on whether or not to reinstate the county compensation board.

Moved by Zirkelbach seconded by Oswald to approve a Class C Retail Alcohol License with catering and outdoor privilege for Hale Tap Inc., doing business as Hale Tap to be effective October 19, 2024. All aye. Motion carried. [2024-147]

Moved by Swisher seconded by Schlarmann to approve the Clerk's Report of Fees Collected for the month ending September 30, 2024. All aye. Motion carried. [2024-148]

Moved by Schlarmann seconded by Swisher to make of record the Board of Health's promotion of Brad Knudson to Public Health Director, starting at \$35.00 per hour, effective October 15, 2024 with no annual increase in wages until July 1, 2026. All aye. Motion carried.

The Land Use Administrator met with the Board to discuss implementing moratoriums for the construction of data mining facilities and utility scale battery energy storage.

Supervisor Oswald introduced the following resolution, seconded by Supervisor Schlarmann. On roll call vote: Zirkelbach aye, Schlarmann aye, Swisher aye, Oswald aye, Rohwedder aye, whereupon the Chairman declared the resolution passed and adopted.

Resolution Approving a Moratorium on Data Mining Facilities

WHEREAS, Data Mining is the commercial process by which volumes of data are analyzed to find patterns, discover trends, and gain insight into how the data can be used will constitute a commercial data mining operation.

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised by public officials regarding the county's level of preparedness when it comes to the development of Data Mining Facilities within the county due to not having a current Data Mining Facility ordinance.

WHEREAS, the county has an interest in protecting the county's infrastructure, natural resources, and property rights through adequate setbacks provisions. The Planning and Zoning Commission will require time to gather information and coordinate with multiple agencies for the purpose of reviewing, updating, or creating ordinances, policies, and procedures relative to Data Mining Facilities development.

WHEREAS, the Jones County Board of Supervisors wishes to enact a moratorium on the development and construction of Data Mining Facilities and on issuing application for permits relating to such development and construction of Data Mining Facilities until April 15th, 2025, which may be extended upon resolution of the Board of Supervisors, to allow the Board of Supervisors to adopt an ordinance that balances the rights of property owners seeking to have Data Mining Facilities on their property and to be mindful of the health and safety of others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Jones County, Iowa, that a moratorium is approved through April 15, 2025 on the development and construction of Data Mining Facilities, and the application for permits relating to such development and construction of Data Mining Facilities at the end of which time the moratorium could be extended by resolution if deemed necessary by the Jones County Board of Supervisors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Jones County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to end the moratorium prior to the approved term of the moratorium upon completion of a satisfactorily developed Data Mining Facilities Ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the moratorium approved by this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption of this Resolution. [2024-149]

Supervisor Zirkelbach introduced the following resolution, seconded by Supervisor Swisher. On roll call vote: Zirkelbach aye, Schlarmann aye, Swisher aye, Oswald aye, Rohwedder aye, whereupon the Chairman declared the resolution passed and adopted.

Resolution Approving a Moratorium on Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems

WHEREAS, Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems means a large scale electrochemical device that can store and discharge electricity from the grid or a power plant. Different battery technologies, such as lithium-ion, sodium sulfur and lead acid, can be used for this purpose.

WHEREAS, concerns have been raised by public officials regarding the county's level of preparedness when it comes to the development of Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems within the county due to not having a current Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage System ordinance.

WHEREAS, the county has an interest in protecting the county's infrastructure, natural resources, and property rights through adequate setbacks provisions. The Planning and Zoning Commission will require time to gather information and coordinate with multiple agencies for the purpose of reviewing, updating, or creating ordinances, policies, and procedures relative to Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems development.

WHEREAS, the Jones County Board of Supervisors wishes to enact a moratorium on the development and construction of Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems and on issuing application for permits relating to such development and construction of Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems until April 15, 2025, which may be extended upon resolution of the Board of Supervisors, to allow the Board of Supervisors to adopt an ordinance that balances the rights of property owners seeking to have Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems on their property and to be mindful of the health and safety of others.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Jones County, Iowa, that a moratorium is approved through April 15, 2025 on the development and construction of Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems, and the application for permits relating to such development and construction of Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems at the end of which time the moratorium could be extended by resolution if deemed necessary by the Jones County Board of Supervisors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Jones County Board of Supervisors reserves the right to end the moratorium prior to the approved term of the moratorium upon completion of a satisfactorily developed Utility Scale Battery Energy Storage Systems Ordinance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the moratorium approved by this Resolution shall become effective immediately upon adoption of this Resolution. [2024-150]

The Facilities Maintenance Director met with the Board to set a bid date for snow removal services at the Courthouse and Broadway Place Annex.

The Board members gave brief reports on past and future committee meetings.

Moved by Schlarmann seconded by Swisher to adjourn at 9:48 a.m. All aye. Motion carried.

Attest: Whitney Hein, Auditor

Ned Rohwedder, Chairman