

**LAWRENCE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MEETING – March 20, 2020 page-1**

Vice-Chairman Brandon Flanagan called the special meeting of the Lawrence County Commissioners to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was conducted at 3:00 p.m. on March 20, 2020 in the Administrative Annex Building of the Lawrence County Courthouse located at 90 Sherman Street, Deadwood, SD with Commissioners Daryl Johnson, Richard Sleep and Randy Deibert. Absent-Randall Rosenau.

All motions were passed by unanimous vote, by all members present, unless stated otherwise.

**AGENDA:** Moved-Seconded (Deibert-Sleep) to approve the agenda as amended. Motion Carried.

**COVID-19:** Staff gave an update on the COVID-19 preparedness.

Moved-Seconded (Deibert-Flanagan) effective March 23, 2020, in order to protect the public, County employees, and to lessen the transmission of the COVID-19 virus, County buildings (excluding the Courthouse) shall be closed to the general public until further notice and with business conducted by appointment only. The public is reminded and encouraged to use phone, web and mail services. Motion Carried.

Moved-Seconded (Deibert-Johnson) to approve and adopt the following Lawrence County Resolution #2020-13 a resolution designating decision making authority to the acting Chairman regarding emergency policy decisions related to COVID-19 issues. Motion Carried. **LAWRENCE COUNTY RESOLUTION 2020-13 A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY TO THE ACTING CHAIRMAN REGARDING EMERGENCY POLICY DECISIONS RELATED TO COVID-19 ISSUES** WHEREAS, COVID-19 infections are present in South Dakota; and WHEREAS, new developments related to the pandemic are occurring at a rapid and unpredictable pace; and WHEREAS, County functions include facilities that operate 24 hours a day; and WHEREAS, decisions related to issues, e.g. operations and employee benefits, may require timely decision making; WHEREAS, pursuant to SDCL 7-8-20(7), the Board of County Commissioners has the power to superintend the fiscal concerns of the County and to secure management of same consistent with the best interests of Lawrence County; WHEREAS, pursuant, to SDCL 7-8-20(10), the Board of County Commissioners has the power to perform such duties and acts as it is or may hereafter be required to do and perform; and WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, the Board of County Commissioners finds that it is in the best interests of Lawrence County to delegate its collective authority to the acting Chairman to perform such duties and acts as set forth in this Resolution to facilitate effective decision making in response to the present public health emergency; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, considering the existing emergency circumstances, the acting Chairman is hereby authorized to make responsive policy decisions regarding COVID-19 related issues as is deemed to be reasonable and appropriate in his sole discretion considering the public health, safety and welfare and consistent with the best interests of the County; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this Resolution and the emergency authority conveyed herein may be rescinded at any time by a majority vote of the Board of County Commissioners. Duly passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Lawrence County Commission on the 20th day of March, 2020. Lawrence County Commission: Brandon Flanagan, Acting Chairman **ATTEST:** Brenda McGruder, Auditor.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION PERSONNEL:** 3:24 p.m. Moved-Seconded (Deibert-Sleep) to go into executive session pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) to discuss personnel. Motion Carried. 3:43 p.m. The Board opened for regular business with no action taken.

Allan Bonnema, Highway Superintendent, informed the Board that effective March 23, 2020 the Highway Department will start working four (4) ten hours shift due to the COVID-19 virus, by doing so they reduce the risk of exposure and transmission by 20%.

**ADJOURN:** 3:43 p.m. There being no further business, Vice-Chairman Flanagan adjourned the meeting. Motion Carried.

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Date Approved

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Brandon Flanagan, Vice-Chairperson

ATTEST:

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Brenda McGruder, Auditor