The Board of Supervisors met as per adjournment in regular session at 9:03 a.m. with all members present except Dan Friedrichsen and Sherri Bootsma. Sherri Bootsma joined the meeting at 9:20 a.m. This meeting is being held electronically due to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions imposed on the number of people allowed to assemble.

Moved by Steensma, seconded by Vanden Hull to appoint Nancy McDowell as Chairman for 2021. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Steensma, seconded by Vanden Hull to appoint Dennis Vanden Hull as Chairperson Pro-Tem for 2021. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Vanden Hull, seconded by Steensma to approve the proceedings of December 22, 2020. Motion carried by all ayes.

The following newspapers submitted requests to be the official newspapers for 2021: The N’West Iowa Review and The Sheldon Mail-Sun. O’Brien County is required to appoint two official newspapers.

Moved by Vanden Hull, seconded by Steensma to appoint The N’West Iowa Review and The Sheldon Mail-Sun as official newspapers of O’Brien County for 2021. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Steensma, seconded by Vanden Hull to authorize the Auditor to pay claims when presented and approved by the proper parties for postage, freight, utilities, contract estimates, salaries and payrolls. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Steensma, seconded by Vanden Hull to appoint the following township trustees for a four year term ending December 31, 2024: Baker Township – Randy Porter & Barry Nieuwenhuis; Caledonia Township – Jim Lange & Don Kreber; Carroll Township Don Wagenaar & Roger Sauer; Center Township Lyle Luedke & Jerry Hofman; Dale Township – Dan Wilson & Dennis Mars; Floyd Township – Clifford Bootsma & Lyle Laubach; Franklin Township – Chris Wolters & Kevin Wiekamp; Hartley Township – Alan Jatho & Darrel Bethke; Liberty Township – Samuel Flinders & Todd Faust; Lincoln Township Joel Wright & Glen Van Meeteren; Omega Township – Greg Gillespie & Greg Paulsen; Summit Township – Jim Thornton & Marlin Vander Velde; Union Township – Loren Johannsen & Rich Frerk; Waterman Township – Dale Amendt & Jeff Ebel. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Vanden Hull, seconded by Steensma to adopt the following resolution. Motion carried by all ayes.
CONSTRUCTION EVALUATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Iowa Code section 459.304(3) sets out the procedure if a board of supervisors wishes to adopt a “construction evaluation resolution” relating to the construction of a confinement feeding operation structure; and

WHEREAS, only counties that have adopted a construction evaluation resolution can submit to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) an adopted recommendation to approve or disapprove a construction permit application regarding a proposed confinement feeding operation structure; and

WHEREAS, only counties that have adopted a construction evaluation resolution and submitted an adopted recommendation may contest the DNR’s decision regarding a specific application; and

WHEREAS, by adopting a construction evaluation resolution the board of supervisors agrees to evaluate every construction permit application for a proposed confinement feeding operation structure received by the board of supervisors between February 1, 2021 and January 31, 2022 and submit an adopted recommendation regarding that application to the DNR; and

WHEREAS, the board of supervisors must conduct an evaluation of every construction permit application using the master matrix created in Iowa Code section 459.305, but the board’s recommendation to the DNR may be based on the final score on the master matrix or may be based on reasons other than the final score on the master matrix;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF O’BRIEN COUNTY that the Board of Supervisors hereby adopts this construction evaluation resolution pursuant to Iowa Code section 459.304(3).

Nancy McDowell  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Barbara Rohwer  
County Auditor

Moved by Steensma, seconded by Vanden Hull to set Good Friday, April 2, 2021 as a holiday for 2021. Motion carried by all ayes.
Moved by Vanden Hull, seconded by Steensma to accept the quote of AgriVision Equipment Group for a John Deere 6135E at $74,527.00 and the quote of Diamond Mowers for a mower at $35,578.00. Motion carried by all ayes.

At 9:42 a.m. the hearing for Proposed County Ordinance No. 28; Floodplain Management in O’Brien County was held. There were no comments or questions presented. Moved by Vanden Hull, seconded by Bootsma to closed the hearing at 9:45 a.m. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Steensma, seconded by Vanden Hull to approve the first reading of Proposed County Ordinance No. 28; an Ordinance Prescribing Floodplain Management in O’Brien County, Iowa and to hold the second reading on January 12, 2021 at 9:05 a.m. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Vanden Hull, seconded by Bootsma to extend the deadline for the Families First Coronavirus Relief Act (FFCRA) leave through March 31, 2021. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Bootsma, seconded by Steensma to allow for carryovers of employees Health Flexible Spending Accounts (HFSA) and Dependent Care Assistance Programs (DCAP). Employees may carry over unused HFSA or DCAP balances into 2021. Employees will also be allowed to change HFSA and DCAP elections in 2021 even if the employee has not experienced a recognized event. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Bootsma, seconded by Vanden Hull to appoint the following committee assignments for 2021: Nancy McDowell – 3rd Judicial Dist.; 911; Cherokee MHI Advisory Alt.; EMA; Health Insurance Committee; Housing Authority; Safety Committee; Tourism & YES Center. Sherri Bootsma – 3rd Judicial Alt.; 911 Alt.; Conservation; DECAT; Economic Development Alt.; EMA Alt.; EMS Advisory; Hartley Economic Development; Health Insurance Committee; REAP and Sioux Rivers Mental Health. John Steensma – County Farm; HAZMAT; Landfill Alt.; NW IA Planning; SHIELD; Value Added Ag; Sioux Rivers Mental Health and Workforce Development. Dennis Vanden Hull – ECI Alt.; Landfill; O’Brien Co. Comprehensive Plan; OSCEMSA; Rides Alt.; SHIELD Alt.; Sheldon City Zoning and YES Center Alt. Dan Friedrichsen – County Farm; DECAT Alt.; Economic Development; ECI; EMS Advisory; LEPC; NW IA Housing Trust; OSCEMSA Alt. and Rides. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Bootsma, seconded by Vanden Hull to adjourn to January 12, 2021. Motion carried by all ayes.

Attest: Barbara Rohwer
County Auditor

Nancy McDowell
Chair