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FOR THE YEAR 2007  
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK  
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA  
DECEMBER 11, 2007

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The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on December 11, 2007 with Ron Wetherell, Jeff Simonsen, Dean Schmidt, Mark Leeds and Terry Graybill present. Also attending were Ken Ross, *Chronicle Times*, along with Jim Nielsen, Harold Klassen, Gloria Strub, Steve Strub, and Nancy Hier.

MSP Graybill, Schmidt to approve amended agenda and minutes of previous meeting.

Jody Hauptert, Auditor's Assistant, conducted the canvass of votes from the Special Gambling Issue Election held on Dec. 4, 2007. Total voters were 1163 with 418 voting YES, 719 voting NO, and 26 blank ballots cast. After reviewing the results, MSP Simonsen, Leeds to accept the results and notify the Iowa Gaming Commission. All voted aye. Estimated total cost of the election is \$3523.

Jim Nielsen questioned the cost of paving 4 miles of G Avenue north of Marcus. A statement from the Steve Strub family was read addressing several areas of inconvenience to their property. Nielsen asked, "Do we need another highway north of Marcus? We are for progress, but are concerned about money and spending of tax dollars."

MSP Graybill, Schmidt to approve claims as presented. A complete list is available for review in the Auditor's office.

Renewal of the county's bond for acts of elected officials was discussed. Quotes at two higher levels will be requested from the insurance agency.

Aimee Barritt, EMS Director, and Ginger Walker, Conservation Director, discussed the need for tornado sirens in the county parks. A quote of \$7700 plus installation was discussed. Supervisors are in favor of this project and asked if any grants may be available. Barritt and Walker will look into this and report back.

Ginger Walker presented the CCCB's 2006/07 Annual Report. Camping and park usage has increased within the past years. Donations are coming in daily for the Martin's Access project and facility improvements continue at Silver Sioux Recreation Area.

MSP Graybill, Schmidt, with all voting aye, to approve Resolution 2007-21 pertaining to use of secondary roads in Cherokee County, Iowa by RAGBRAI and cyclists in general. Full text available for review in the County Auditor's office.

MSP Leeds, Simonsen to approve Resolution 2007-22 for a \$517,000 Inter-fund Operating Transfer from the Rural Basic Fund to Secondary Road Fund. The full text can be seen in the County Auditor's office.

MSP Graybill and Schmidt to approve Chairman Wetherell sign the ISACA Website Agreements with Iowa Interactive and ASPIRE. This will allow the public to search and purchase real estate information through a statewide web portal.

Rhonda Dean and Julie Schulenberg, CAASA Directors, presented a review of services and funding request of \$6000 for the 2008/09 year. Supervisors will take this under advisement during the upcoming budget process.

Larry Clark, County Engineer, discussed costs of moving aggregate product from Gilmore City, wondering if it would be cheaper to haul themselves. County will receive \$350 per registered Ag related floater to apply toward damage to roads. There are currently 26 units registered in Cherokee County. Clark presented a sample ordinance for use of public road right-of-way. Supervisors advised Clark to have a new ordinance drawn up by the county attorney specifically for Cherokee County's needs. It will be reviewed at a later date.

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Clark reported on a certified letter that has been sent to the City of Washta regarding a wooden bridge within city limits on Ritts Road. Jerry Holloway, Assistant to the County Engineer and certified bridge inspector, had previously notified the city of his recommendation to close this structure. After no action was taken, an independent bridge consultant was hired to evaluate the bridge and also advised that the bridge is not safe for travel and should be closed. No response has been received from the City of Washta.

Compensation Board met and approved wage increases for elected officials, but has not presented them to the Supervisors for their consideration. In order to begin the budgeting process, the proposed wages were discussed. MSP Simonsen, Leeds to approve a 40 cent per hour increase for non-union hourly employees and suggest that the elected officials initially figure their budgets on a 50% reduction of the Comp Board's recommendation. If given final approval by the Supervisors, this would result in the following wages effective July 1st: Supervisors \$20,500 (\$300 increase, plus additional \$1000 for chairman); Auditor, Recorder, Treasurer \$43,631 (\$869 increase); Sheriff \$52,395 (\$1105 increase); and County Attorney \$75,000 (\$5000 increase). Auditor's office was instructed to send out letters and budget worksheets to every department.

There being no further business, meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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Ronald Wetherell, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kris Glienke, County Deputy Auditor