
FOR THE YEAR 2010
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA
MARCH 9, 2010

The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 with Larry Prunty, Dean Schmidt, Jeff Simonsen, Mark Leeds, and Terry Graybill present. Mike Leckband, *Chronicle Times*, represented the press. Bud Clow, Cheryl Gordon, Deb Sorenson, Janet Cedar, Judy Smith, and Larry Walker were also in attendance. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes were offered as follows: Ayes - Schmidt, Graybill, Prunty, Leeds, Simonsen; Nays - none; Abstentions - none.

Motion by Leeds, seconded by Schmidt to approve the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

At 9:05 a.m., a motion was offered by Prunty and seconded by Leeds to open a public hearing for the proposed 2010/2011 fiscal year budget. Roll call vote: Schmidt-aye, Graybill-aye, Prunty-aye, Leeds-aye, Simonsen-aye. Motion carried. County Auditor Kris Glienke reviewed the highlights of the proposed budget which reduces the property tax levy rate by 20 cents. Glienke commended the county departments for being conservative with their budgets and thanked the Board of Supervisors for making some tough decisions that have kept the county's finances on track. The county audit for fiscal year ending June 30, 2009 is nearly complete and reflects that the county brought in \$685,000 more than it spent. Bud Clow thanked the supervisors for keeping the budget in line with revenues and Cheryl Gordon asked how the county has managed to keep the budget balanced. Glienke responded that when the county lost 23% of its rural valuations 6 years ago, the departments were asked to cut 10% across the board. Most departments complied with this and have requested minimal increases since then.

Hearing no further comments from the public, a motion was made by Graybill, seconded by Schmidt to close the public hearing at 9:15 a.m. Roll call vote: Schmidt-aye, Graybill-aye, Prunty-aye, Leeds-aye, Simonsen-aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Graybill, seconded by Leeds to adopt the fiscal year 2010/2011 budget as published. Motion carried.

Motion by Schmidt, seconded by Prunty to adopt the County Compensation Board recommendations for 2010/2011 elected officials wages as follows: Attorney \$83,000 (\$1,160 increase), Auditor \$47,000 (\$1,120 increase), Recorder \$46,500 (\$620 increase), Sheriff \$57,500 (\$2,160 increase), Supervisors \$21,100 (\$300 increase), and Treasurer \$47,000 (\$1,120 increase). Motion carried.

Dana Evans, Veteran Affairs Director, requested additional part time staff to assist with paperwork in his office. No action was taken on this request.

Cheryl Gordon, spouse of a secondary roads employee, addressed the board regarding holiday pay for the secondary roads department. Secondary Roads employees who worked on President's Day were paid 1 ½ times their regular hourly wage per the union contract that states: "*Overtime shall be paid for at the rate of 1 ½ times the normal wage (regular wages are currently \$17.99 to \$20.67 per hour). Work performed after forty (40) hours per week, and on Saturday or Sunday of either weekend in the pay period or a recognized paid holiday will be paid for at 1 ½ times the employees straight time hourly rate. Sick leave and vacation will not be considered in the computation for overtime pay.*" Gordon requested that the roads employees be paid for 8 hours of holiday pay in addition to the 1 ½ times their regular rate for hours worked and she contends that this has been the "past practice". The supervisors were not aware that this additional benefit was being paid and questioned who had authorized the deviation from the terms of the signed contract between the Cherokee County Board of Supervisors and the Cherokee County Secondary Roads Employees and how long this had been happening. This "past practice" of paying 2 ½ times on a holiday was brought to light after a change in payroll processing duties. Payroll had previously been entered by the Engineer's Office Manager and it is now being entered by the County Auditor's Office.

No action was taken and the issue will be researched further.

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Motion by Graybill, seconded by Leeds to approve the claims for payment as presented. Motion carried. A complete listing is available for review in the Auditor's office and online.

Motion by Leeds, seconded by Graybill to modify the tentative labor agreement with the Secondary Roads Employees to include an additional 72 cents per hour for one grandfathered employee who declines family health insurance coverage. Motion carried.

The board discussed county owned property. County Attorney Ryan Kolpin will draft a publication to take bids for the properties that are for sale or rent.

There being no further business, Chairman Simonsen adjourned the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

All board agendas and minutes are available online at www.cherokeecountyiowa.com .

Attest: _____

Jeff Simonsen, Chairman

Kris Glienke, County Auditor