
FOR THE YEAR 2012
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA
SEPTEMBER 4, 2012

The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, September 4, 2012 with Larry Prunty, Dean Schmidt, Mark Leeds, and Jeff Simonsen present. Terry Graybill was absent. Dan Whitney, *Chronicle Times*, represented the press. Dennis Bush was in attendance. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes were offered as follows: Ayes - Simonsen, Prunty, Leeds, Schmidt; Nays - none; Abstentions - none.

Motion by Leeds, seconded by Simonsen to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Prunty, seconded by Leeds to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Dave Driggs, Courthouse Maintenance, made a request to have an email account set up. He has a lot of suppliers who would like to be sending him emails. Also, it would be nice for him to receive a notice when there is a flag proclamation. Driggs currently has an old laptop from the Records office. He will talk to the IT Department to get the email and computer set up.

Lindsay Bressler, Wellness Committee Chairman, reported that this past week they held a committee meeting to discuss the support from the Board of Supervisors. Bressler questioned the board, "What is the purpose of the committee if we aren't going anywhere with it?" The committee would like to know what to do from here. Schmidt replied, "We are very supportive on the action to get healthy. You bring this up around any taxpayer and they reply, we have to pay for our own wellness programs, why do we have to pay for theirs. Bressler has talked with Blue Cross Blue Shield and they don't offer any wellness programs. Leeds asked, "Other than financials, is there any other way the board can show support?" Bressler replied, "Get involved." Bressler says she doesn't know what to say when other people come to her and say "I think that what ISAC (Iowa State Association of Counties) does for people is great, why can't we do that?" Schmidt replies, "For now our hands are kind of tied, the taxpayers are our boss."

Kristi Petersen, Human Resources Director, prepared 6 cards for the supervisors to sign as recognition of employees with September birthdays.

Petersen provided a copy of the holiday schedule for the remainder of 2012 and for 2013. Petersen asked to clarify the Veterans Day holiday for 2012. Veterans Day is on Sunday, therefore Petersen wanted to be sure that the courthouse would be closed on Monday. Also, Petersen has had several questions about the Christmas Eve holiday, Christmas Eve is a half a work day for non-bargaining unit employees. Petersen questioned do we want to leave it that way or make the entire day a holiday since Christmas is on Tuesday? The board suggested sticking to the employee policy as a half day.

Dave Skou, E911 Director, spoke of issues with the Communication Center reaching the Sheriff's Deputies in certain parts of the county. Currently the Sheriff's repeater is located at the County Maintenance Shop on a 100 ft. tower. Schmidt asked, "What do we need to do to solve this problem?" Skou replied, "What we are having problems with is the repeater." It would be ideal to put up a new tower in the center of the county that would cost approximately \$100,000, and approximately \$20,000-30,000 in moving supplies. Alpha Wireless currently owns Schoon's old tower, they are willing to rent us space on that tower for \$2200 per year. The repeater would then be up 300 ft., with approximately \$2000 in moving cost. Schmidt said, "We are talking about people's lives, let's go with it."

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Prunty to proceed with moving the Sheriff's repeater to the tower owned by Alpha Wireless. Motion carried.

Leeds left the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Dave Shanahan, County Engineer, met with Pingel Farms and they have drafted an acceptable design to handle runoff water in Section 3 of Afton Township.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Prunty to approve a DNR Construction Permit for Pingel Farms in Section 3 of Afton Township. Motion carried.

Shanahan presented bids let through the IDOT office for two bridge replacement projects.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Prunty to approve a \$1,314,958.70 bid from Christensen Bros for Project #SPRFM-CO18(62)-5D-18 on C66 in Willow Township. Motion carried.

Motion by Prunty, seconded by Simonsen to approve a \$228,638.50 bid from Dixon Construction for Project #BROS-CO(60)8J-18 in Afton Township. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Chairman Schmidt adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

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

Attest: _____

Dean Schmidt, Chairman

Sara Lucas, Assistant County Auditor