
FOR THE YEAR 2013
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA
APRIL 30, 2013

The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, April 30, 2013 with Mark Leeds, Dennis Bush, Rick Mongan, Jeff Simonsen, and Ginger Walker present. Dave Skou, Jeff Friedrichsen, Dave Scott, Lisa Langlitz, Ben Shuberg, Dena Dungan, Lynda Holmich, Chad Brown, and Hedgie Brandt were also in attendance. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes were offered as follows: Ayes – Simonsen, Mongan, Bush, Walker, Leeds; Nays – none; Abstentions – none.

Motion by Walker, seconded by Mongan to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Bush to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Dave Skou, 911 Director, presented a wage authorization for approval.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Walker to approve a step wage authorization from \$15.81 to \$16.41 for William Robinson, part-time dispatcher, effective May 20, 2013 per the Law Enforcement Center Union Contract. Motion carried.

Lisa Langlitz, Community Services Director, reviewed upcoming changes to the County's Case Management program and requested authorization to hire a full time person for a position that will become available upon the retirement of a current employee.

The consensus of the board was to advise Langlitz to move forward with advertising and filling a full time Case Management position.

Simonsen reported that he was contacted by an Ida County Supervisor about sharing a Central Point Coordinator (CPC) position for mental health services. Langlitz is Cherokee County's full time CPC and expressed concerns about the number of hours required to perform duties for two counties and implications of not knowing what Mental Health Region Ida County will be assigned to. After discussion of the pros and cons of sharing a position with another county, the board agreed that Langlitz and Simonsen would meet with the Ida County Supervisors to research the proposal before any action is considered by Cherokee County.

Dave Shanahan, County Engineer, presented a utility permit and a request to transfer monies within the current budget.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Bush to approve an underground utility permit for Iowa Lakes Electric Cooperative in Section 32 of Pilot Township. Motion carried.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Simonsen to approve a \$350,000 transfer of funds within the 2012/2013 Secondary Roads Construction Budget to the following categories: Roads (\$85,000); Asphalt (\$85,000); Granular (\$100,000); Dust Palliative (\$5,000); Crack-fill Material (\$25,000), Equipment (\$35,000); and Bridges (\$15,000). Motion carried.

Chad Brown, Conservation Director, informed the supervisors that three temporary seasonal employees had been hired with wages of \$10.00 and \$9.50 for two returning employees and \$9.00 for a new hire. The Cherokee County Conservation Board took action during their last meeting to approve the new employees pending successful completion of a Physical Capacity Profile (PCP) test per the County's Personnel Policy.

Brown reported that work on the Martin's Access cabin has begun and requested action to amend the 2012/2013 Conservation Budget to increase county funding for the project by \$25,000.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Walker to approve publication of a proposed 2012/2013 Budget Amendment and to set a public hearing date of May 21, 2013. Motion carried.

The supervisors reviewed the State Appeal Board's order for Cherokee County to reduce the 2013/2014 Supplemental Levy by \$725,000. Bush proposed a plan that would cut \$250,000 from budgetary expenses and \$500,000 from cash balances. Walker proposed that the entire reduction be taken out of cash balances with no cuts in expenditures. Bush stated that he was not comfortable leaving such a large deficit in the hands of departments who have the authority to spend every dollar that was certified. Walker added that the supervisors need to trust the department managers and should not tell them what they need to do with their budgets. Bush contended that it is the responsibility of the supervisors to determine what the county can afford to give each department and to set the tax rates to allow for those expenditures; not the department managers. Walker explained that she did not see any waste in any department's budget and the boards' role was not to be the budget police, but to educate and trust the departments as they learn how to manage their budgets. Mongan suggested that the supervisors start meeting with department managers at least once a month to get updates from their offices and to address questions or concerns.

Motion by Walker, seconded by Leeds to approach the State Appeal Board's order to reduce property taxes by recertifying Cherokee County's 2013/2014 Budget with a \$725,000 reduction in General Fund cash

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balances and to leave the spending authority of county departments as previously certified. Motion carried with Bush voting nay.

There being no further business, Chairman Leeds adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.

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

Attest: _____

Mark Leeds, Chairman

Kris Glienke, County Auditor