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FOR THE YEAR 2014  
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK  
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA  
JANUARY 7, 2014

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The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, January 7, 2013 with Mark Leeds, Jeff Simonsen, Rick Mongan, Dennis Bush, and Ginger Walker present. Dan Whitney, *Chronicle Times*, represented the press. Gary Lundquist, Dylan Short, Dave Scott, Jeff Friedrichsen, Dave Shanahan, Tom Oswald, and Lisa Langlitz 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 Simonsen, seconded by Mongan to approve an amended agenda to include approval of a bridge replacement bid. Motion carried.

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

Sherri Stevenson, Cherokee County Library Association, thanked the Board of Supervisors for its past support and gave an informative review of the many services provided by local libraries along with requirements needed to meet technology needs. Those in attendance included: Mary Jo Ruppert, Cherokee; Sherri Stevenson, Aurelia; Linda Sones and Shirley Perrett, Quimby; Jane Zupp and Shannon Trapp, Washta; Beth Kingdon and Martha Heuser, Marcus. County funding of local libraries will be considered during the budget process.

Mary Jo Ruppert, Cherokee Library, explained the Stories 2000 literacy program that provides a book to every child attending monthly WIC clinics and has been funded by a \$1,000 annual donation from Cherokee County. The County has also provided \$500 annually to support a Books to Babies program to give a board book to every child born at the Cherokee Regional Medical Center. Ruppert reported the Stories 2000 program averages 65 books per month given to children, however, there are sufficient funds on hand to operate another year so county funding will not be needed in 2014/2015. Ruppert requested \$1,000 for newborn books since the number of births in the County have continued to increase. The supervisors will take the request under consideration.

Arlene Hollenbeck and Larry Rapagnani, Marcus Historical Society, gave an update on the Marcus Historic Center's building project. The Historical Society had to borrow \$20,000 to complete the new building in time for the fair last summer and would like to get it paid for before beginning another project. Hollenbeck thanked the board for their past support and requested additional funding from the county to assist with the loan repayment. No action was taken.

Jeff Friedrichsen, Chief Deputy, presented a quarterly revenue report for consideration.

Motion by Bush, seconded by Mongan to approve a \$61,362 December 31, 2013 Sheriff's Quarterly Revenue Report including \$26,891 of funds retained by the County. Motion carried.

Dawn Miller, County Recorder, presented a quarterly revenue report for consideration.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Walker to approve a \$56,914 December 31, 2013 Recorder's Quarterly Revenue Report including \$19,593 of funds retained by the County. Motion carried.

Dave Shanahan, County Engineer, presented a utility permit, noxious weeds reports, and bids for a bridge replacement project.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Mongan to approve an underground utility permit for the City of Marcus for construction of a new sanitary sewer system in Sections 4 and 5 of Amherst Township and Section 32 of Marcus Township. Motion carried.

Motion by Bush, seconded by Mongan to approve Resolution #2014-02 "Noxious Weed Destruction". Roll call vote: Simonsen-aye, Mongan-aye, Bush-aye, Walker-aye, Leeds-aye. Motion carried and resolution adopted.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Bush to approve the 2013 Annual Weed Report as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Mongan to accept a \$314,694.30 bid from Graves Construction for a Farm to Market bridge replacement project #FM-CO18(68)--55-18 on C25 east of M21 in Afton Township. Motion carried.

Patrick Schmitz, Plains Area Mental Health Center, outlined total costs of \$815,000 to provide mental health support services in Cherokee County for the 2014/2015 fiscal year. Schmitz reported that his request of \$45,001.50 of county provided block grant dollars is significantly lower than past years due to unknown factors yet to be determined in the Affordable Care Act and the statewide mental health redesign of county regions. The funding request will be considered during the budget process.

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Dana Evans, Veteran Affairs Director, presented an informative report detailing services provided to county veterans and their families in 2013. Evans introduced Dylan Short as a volunteer who is interested in becoming a Veteran Affairs Director. Evans encouraged the supervisors to consider providing training and certification for Short so that he would be qualified to assist veterans with disability claims during office hours in the Cherokee County Veteran Affairs Office. No action was taken.

Greg Zarr, County Assessor, and Lindsay Bressler, GIS/IT Coordinator, proposed cancelling a contract with Sidwell and transferring website hosting of the County Assessor's property assessment data and GIS mapping information to the Schneider Corporation's Beacon program. Bressler reported that the Beacon program would be easier for her to update data online so it could be kept current for public use. Zarr and Bressler recommended the change as a cost savings effort for both the Assessor and GIS Department.

Motion by Bush, seconded by Simonsen to allow the Cherokee County GIS Office to assume responsibility for the GIS software that is currently paid for by the County Assessor. Motion carried. No action to sign a contract for website services was taken by the supervisors since the Assessor's Office is governed by a County Conference Board consisting of representatives from each city, school, and the county.

Sheriff Dave Scott and Chief Deputy Jeff Friedrichsen provided a vehicle listing to the supervisors and requested permission to replace two deputy vehicles that have 150,000 and 108,000 miles on them. After a brief discussion, the board advised the Sheriff to purchase one vehicle now and wait to reassess his budget closer to the end of the fiscal year.

Lisa Langlitz, Community Services Director, presented a wage authorization for consideration.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Walker to approve a 50 cent per hour wage increase to \$14.70 for Destiny Jorgensen, Targeted Case Manager, after completion of a six month probation on January 8, 2014. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Chairman Leeds adjourned the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

All board agendas and minutes are available online at [www.cherokeecountyiowa.com](http://www.cherokeecountyiowa.com).

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Mark Leeds, Chairman

Kris Glienke, County Auditor