
FOR THE YEAR 2015
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA
DECEMBER 22, 2015

The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, December 22, 2015 with Dennis Bush, Rick Mongan, Gary Lundquist, Jim Peck, and Jeff Simonsen present. Ken Ross, *Chronicle Times*, represented the press. Ray Mullins, Dean Schmidt, Justin Pritts, Jeff Friedrichsen, and Mark Murphy were also in attendance. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes were offered as follows: Ayes – Simonsen, Mongan, Lundquist, Peck, Bush; Nays – none; Abstentions – none.

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

Motion by Peck, seconded by Lundquist to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Emily Heidesch, Auditor's Assistant, assisted with reviewing the Board of Supervisors budget for the 2016/2017 fiscal year. The supervisors will continue to review department budgets each week during their regular meetings.

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

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Peck to open a public hearing for the Private Sewage Disposal System Contractor Regulations Ordinance #2015-03 and to conduct the first reading. Roll call vote: Simonsen-aye, Mongan-aye, Lundquist-aye, Peck-aye, Bush-aye. Motion carried.

No written or verbal comments were received from the public.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Lundquist to close the public hearing at 9:11 a.m. Motion carried. Roll call vote: Simonsen-aye, Mongan-aye, Lundquist-aye, Peck-aye, Bush-aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Peck to forego the 2nd and 3rd readings of Ordinance #2015-03. Motion carried.

Motion by Peck, seconded by Mongan to adopt Ordinance #2015-03 as written. Roll call vote: Simonsen-aye, Mongan-aye, Lundquist-aye, Peck-aye, Bush-aye. Motion carried and ordinance adopted.

Dean Schmidt, Zoning Administrator, requested a closed session to conduct his job evaluation.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Peck to go into closed session per Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(i) "*To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session.*" Roll call vote: Simonsen-aye, Mongan-aye, Lundquist-aye, Peck-aye, Bush-aye. Session was closed at 9:15 a.m. Regular session resumed at 9:45 a.m.

No action was taken as a result of the closed session.

Joe Draper and Dutch Robbins, Veteran Affairs Commissioners, reported on the VA Commission's desire to fill a part-time position to assist in the Cherokee County Veteran Affairs Office. Draper added that the commission had previously hired an employee who was being trained to replace the current VA Director upon his retirement in 2017, but that part-time employee left to take another job. Lundquist expressed concern that the county is adding an employee to replace someone who may not be retiring for several years. Draper stated that a new employee must earn national certification to be able to assist local veterans with disability claims and that will take some time. Lundquist stated that he would support hiring someone if the VA Director gives a specific retirement date; however, he would not support a hire if it is just to have another person in the office for an indefinite period of time.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Mongan to authorize the Veteran Affairs Commission to hire a part-time employee for no more than 10 hours per week with the intent of assuming the Veteran Affairs Director position in 2017. Motion carried.

Brandon Billings, Assistant Engineer, discussed recent bridge ratings received from Calhoun Burns and advised adding a local bridge replacement project on C66 for construction in Spring 2016. The consensus of the board was to have Billings update the five year construction plan and present it to the supervisors for their review.

Chairman Bush left the meeting at 10:20 a.m. and Vice Chairman Mongan presided over the remainder of the business meeting.

Rick Emswiler, Emswiler Architecture, reviewed proposed plans for updating the sidewalk and main entrance to the Law Enforcement Center. The supervisors discussed several potential changes to the design to reduce the cost of the project. Emswiler will present updated plans at a later date.

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Motion by Lundquist, seconded by Peck to rescind board action taken on December 8, 2015 to rezone a parcel of land from agricultural to light industrial and to send the matter back to the Cherokee County Zoning Board with instructions to follow proper procedures for public hearings including posting and publication of legal notices in official county newspapers prior to board action. Motion carried.

The supervisors provided committee reports and reviewed meeting schedules.

There being no further business, Vice Chairman Mongan adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

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

Rick Mongan, Vice Chairman

Attest: _____
Kris Glienke, County Auditor