
FOR THE YEAR 2013
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA
JANUARY 22, 2013

The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, January 22, 2013 with Mark Leeds, Jeff Simonsen, Rick Mongan, Dennis Bush, and Ginger Walker present. Dan Whitney, *Chronicle Times*, represented the press. Mark Buschkamp, Dave Scott, Chad Brown, Jeff Friedrichsen, and Lindsay Bressler 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 Bush, seconded by Walker to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

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

Beth Conley, Rock Island Clean Line Energy, gave an informative presentation of the proposed high voltage direct current transmission line to connect the wind source in Northwest Iowa with consumers on the east coast. Conley provided a resolution for Cherokee County to show support for the project and clarified there is no financial request since the project is funded by private investors.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Mongan to approve Resolution #2013-02 Support for the Rock Island Clean Line Electric Transmission Project. *“NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Cherokee County supports Clean Line Energy’s efforts to develop and construct the Rock Island Clean Line and the County will work cooperatively with Clean Line Energy during the development and construction of the Project.”* Roll call vote: Simonsen-aye, Mongan-aye, Bush-aye, Walker-aye, Leeds-aye. Motion carried and resolution adopted.

Chuck Tolzin and Brad Nelson, Cherokee County Fair Board, presented a 2011/2012 financial report. Nelson thanked the supervisors for the financial support that helped complete the 4H Expo Building and requested \$25,000 of county funds for 2013/2014; which is the same amount as the current year. No action was taken.

Chad Brown, Conservation Director, provided copies of the Cherokee County Conservation Board’s 2011/2012 Annual Report. Brown discussed funding requirements to maintain eligibility for REAP funding and asked for \$75,000 of additional property tax dollars from the County’s General Fund to put toward a 12 person cabin project at Martin’s Access. No action was taken.

Bush cautioned the supervisors to be aware that as requests for additional funding are coming to the board table, the County is going to spend \$800,000 of the cash reserves. Bush asked the supervisors to keep this shortfall in mind and question themselves if they will be willing to increase taxes or look for places to cut requested budget increases.

Patrick Schmitz, Plains Area Mental Health Center, reviewed annual services provided to Cherokee County clients and requested \$81,204 of funding from the county for 2013/2014 which includes no increase. No action was taken.

Dave Shanahan, County Engineer, presented three bids for new survey equipment that includes a trade in value. After discussion of the differences in equipment, the consensus of the board was to advise Shanahan to purchase new survey equipment from Trimble for \$44,525.

Kris Glienke, Commissioner of Elections, presented a bid for replacement of electronic voting machines including a \$20,960 trade in value. Mark Fredericks, Unisyn Voting Solutions representative, answered several questions from the supervisors and offered interest free financing terms over a two year period.

Motion by Bush, seconded by Simonsen to purchase electronic voting machines for \$95,485 with half to be paid on July 1, 2013 and half on July 1, 2014 with no interest or finance charges. Walker asked for clarification of how much the Auditor’s current budget would be reduced to return funds to the County for the purchase price.

Bush rescinded the motion on the table stating the board had been given an Attorney General’s Opinion from another elected official two weeks prior inferring that department heads manage their own budgets, therefore, all departments should be treated the same. The consensus of the supervisors was to advise the Auditor/Commission of Elections to purchase electronic voting equipment in order to maintain compliance with state and federal laws.

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.

Mongan reported on a recent meeting of the proposed four County Mental Health Region.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Mongan to approve a letter to legislators regarding Mental Health Redesign and the hardships faced by counties to comply with the new legislation. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Chairman Leeds adjourned the meeting at 12:52 p.m.

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Attest: _____

Mark Leeds, Chairman

Kris Glienke, County Auditor