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FOR THE YEAR 2013  
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK  
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA  
JULY 16, 2013

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The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, July 16, 2013 with Mark Leeds, Dennis Bush, Rick Mongan, and Jeff Simonsen present. Ginger Walker was absent. Dan Whitney, *Chronicle Times*, represented the press. Jeff Friedrichsen, Dave Shanahan, and Jamie DeWitt were also in attendance. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes were offered as follows: Ayes – Simonsen, Mongan, Bush, Leeds; Nays – none; Abstentions – none.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Mongan to approve an amended agenda to include Dave Shanahan, County Engineer, and Lorna Olson, Cleghorn Senior Citizens. Motion carried.

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

Jeff Friedrichsen, Chief Deputy, explained a program that allows law enforcement agencies to partner with the Federal Marshall when property is seized during federal drug related arrests. Cherokee County did not receive any of these funds last year, but a partnership would provide funding if there was a federal drug related seizure involving the Cherokee County Sheriff's Department.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Simonsen to authorize the chairman to sign an Equitable Sharing Agreement with the Department of Justice to qualify Cherokee County as an eligible partner to receive forfeited funds. Motion carried.

RoxAnn Smith, Jackson Recovery Prevention Education Specialist, reported that funds received from Cherokee County will be used for three new projects and will be available to all residents at no cost. The projects will focus on businesses, families, and high school students with educational opportunities structured for each target group. Specific programs include Drug Free Workplace Training for local businesses and organizations; Community Education Series about Family and Addictive Illness; and prevention programs presented to students and staff in area high schools. Individuals, businesses, local civic groups, and schools are encouraged to contact Jackson Recovery about scheduling a program or to receive general information on prevention or treatment services.

Dave Shanahan, County Engineer, reported on construction projects and a recent federal disaster declaration which qualifies Cherokee County to pursue FEMA assistance for damage sustained from the Memorial Day flash flood event.

Jamie DeWitt, Washta, asked the supervisors if they knew when the Washta Bridge project would be completed. DeWitt reported that local residents were told the bridge would be opened in late July or early August but there does not appear to be a full construction crew working on the bridge and very little progress has been made toward completion. DeWitt added that local residents are questioning if there is a deadline for the contractor to finish the project and what can the County do to encourage the construction company to get a crew working on the bridge. The road was closed in December to prepare for the bridge replacement and the closest river crossings are in Quimby or Correctionville which impacts fire departments, schools, businesses, farmers, and residents. Shanahan explained that the bid for the Washta Bridge project was let in Ames by the DOT and the contract is subject to state regulations. The construction company has approximately 125 days to complete the project, however, weather related delays or winter construction does not count towards the completion deadline. If there are no additional severe weather events, the completion date would fall in the first part of October. Shanahan reassured DeWitt and the supervisors that he has been in contact with the contractor and the state about the project. DeWitt asked Shanahan to research solutions for visibility issues caused by increased truck traffic from a local gravel pit on the Woodbury/Ida/Cherokee County line and trees obstructing the view at intersections. DeWitt expressed concerns for the safety of cars and farm equipment operators since he personally has been run off the road by a gravel truck driver that couldn't see because of trees and dust. Shanahan agreed that truck traffic hauling out of gravel pits continues to be a problem and he will contact adjoining counties to see what can be done to remedy the situation.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Mongan to authorize the chairman to sign a proclamation stating "*Now, Therefore, we the Cherokee County Board of Supervisors, do hereby proclaim Saturday, July 27, 2013 as Veteran Appreciation Day in Cherokee County and we do hereby call upon residents of Cherokee County to honor the military service of all veterans.*" Motion carried.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Bush to approve tax suspension on parcel #1412101003 per Iowa Code Section 427.9 which provides property tax relief to eligible property owners verified by the Iowa Department of Human Services. Motion carried.

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Lorna Olson, Cleghorn Senior Citizens, called the supervisors during their meeting to clarify that the Cleghorn Seniors do not receive the entire amount of funds provided by the County. The money is divided equally amongst the active Senior Citizen groups in Cherokee County. There currently are four active groups including Cherokee, Cleghorn, Quimby, and Washta. If other cities establish an active Senior Citizen group, they would also receive an equal share of the county funding. Olson added that the money is used for rent and incidental expenses such as coffee. The supervisors thanked Olson for her call and clarification of how the public funds are being used.

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