

---

FOR THE YEAR 2020  
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK  
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA  
MARCH 17, 2020

---

The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, March 17, 2020 with Dennis Bush, Rick Mongan, Gary Lundquist, and Wane Miller. Duane Mummert was absent. Nick Brewer, *Chronicle Times*, represented the press. William Gauthier, Don Drefke, Jerod Clyde, Justin Pritts, Keva Wolf, Lisa Bringle, Don Fiser, Sam Boothby, Sarah Tracy, Meredith Scott, Lisa Grashoff, Bill Anderson, Hedgie Brandt, Chad Brown, Ryan Kolpin, Stu Hogg and Linda Bindner were also in attendance. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes were offered as follows: Ayes – Mongan, Bush, Miller, Lundquist; Nays – none; Abstentions – none.

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

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

Chairman Lundquist explained why the Board of Supervisors invited the Cherokee Regional Medical Center (CRMC) and Public Health staff to provide information to county departments related to COVID-19 Community Spread Mitigation Guidance. As a public entity, Cherokee County's objective is to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus by encouraging citizens to conduct business by phone, mail or online when possible. CRMC Public Health and Emergency Management departments are working on this situation daily and the Board of Supervisors understand that any decisions made today may have to be changed tomorrow. It is unknown how long this situation may last; however, Cherokee County will work through each situation to determine the best plan of action for keeping the public and county employees safe.

CRMC and Public Health representatives Lynn Ivarson, Judy Stowater, and Chris Nelson provided an overview of steps already taken to reduce the risk of community spread of the virus and reported that CRMC staff are prepared to provide medical treatment and testing as needed. Ivarson emphasized the importance of the public to practice social distancing and limit group gatherings to 10 people or less.

A basic list of healthy practices that all citizens should implement immediately include:

1. Wash hands regularly
2. Don't touch your face
3. Stand back six feet from other people
4. Stay home if you are sick or not feeling well
5. Be mindful of other people's health conditions
6. Call 211 for public questions answered by the Iowa Department of Public Health

Justin Pritts, Emergency Management Director, presented a local disaster declaration which would allow mutual aid agreements and state financial assistance for response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Motion by Mongan seconded by Miller to authorize the chairman to sign a Local Disaster Declaration in Cherokee County, Iowa, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic which was declared by Governor Kim Reynolds on March 9, 2020. Motion carried.

After a lengthy discussion amongst the Board of Supervisors and county department managers, the supervisors determined the best course of action to mitigate community spread of the COVID-19 virus is to close the courthouse to the public and allow business transactions to be conducted by appointment only. Closure of the courthouse will begin on March 18, 2020 and will be in effect until further notice. County employees will report to duty as usual and be available to assist the public through mail, phone, email, and in person by appointment.

Stu Hogg, IT Director, reported that he has been researching options for re-designing the county's website and requested permission to seek public input about what information would be helpful and to gather photos from citizens for the site. Hogg also advised that each county department would be responsible for updating forms and basic information on their department's web page. Consensus of the board was to allow Hogg to proceed with the redesign project and request public input through local radio and newspapers.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Bush to accept a proposal from Certified Testing Services, Storm Lake, to provide construction materials observation and testing for the 2020 Cherokee County Courthouse Sidewalks Project. Motion carried.

Motion by Bush, seconded by Mongan to appoint Bill Anderson as Cherokee County Representative to the Northwest Iowa Regional Housing Authority board for a three-year term beginning March 17, 2020. Motion carried.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Bush to accept a resignation from Neal Rogge, Cherokee Aviation Authority Director. Motion carried.

---

FOR THE YEAR 2020  
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK  
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA  
MARCH 17, 2020

---

Motion by Bush, seconded by Miller to appoint Rick Angell as Cherokee Aviation Authority Director to fill a vacancy with term ending January 2022. Motion carried.

The supervisors provided committee reports and reviewed meeting schedules.

There being no further business, Chairman Lundquist adjourned the meeting at 9:48 a.m.

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

---

Gary Lundquist, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Kris Glienke, County Auditor