
FOR THE YEAR 2010
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA
MARCH 16, 2010

The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, March 16, 2010 with Larry Prunty, Dean Schmidt, Jeff Simonsen, Mark Leeds, and Terry Graybill present. Mike Leckband, *Chronicle Times*, represented the press. Cheryl Gordon, Deb Sorenson, and County Attorney Ryan Kolpin were also in attendance. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes were offered as follows: Ayes - Schmidt, Graybill, Prunty, Leeds, Simonsen; Nays – none; Abstentions – none.

Motion by Schmidt, seconded by Graybill to approve the agenda and minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Jerry Chizek, ISU Extension Regional Director, discussed reorganization of the extension program and pledged that the extension's mission will stay the same, but there will be change in the way services are delivered.

Hank Hayes and Roger Frisbee, Cherokee Fire Department, requested \$15,000 to support the purchase of a four wheel drive brush truck to assist with field and grass fires. The truck would be available for mutual aid throughout the county and could assist with rescues along the river and in county parks. No action was taken on this request.

Sheriff Dave Scott and 911 Director Dave Skou requested an amendment to the current labor contract for the law enforcement center employees. The current contract states: "*All employees covered by this contract shall receive overtime pay or compensatory time off at the rate of time and one-half when they work in excess of eight (8) hours in one twenty-four (24) hour period, in excess of forty (40) hours in one week, or in excess of one hundred seventy-one (171) hours in a twenty-eight (28) day period. The choice between receiving overtime in wages or in compensatory time off shall be at the discretion of the employee.*" The contract addresses pay on holidays as: "*All employees, including part-time employees, who are scheduled to work on a recognized holiday are to be paid at the rate of time and one-half for each hour actually worked.*" The employees have requested the option to get paid straight time for the hours worked on a holiday and to bank the additional holiday pay rate as compensatory time off to be used at a later date. As an example, 8 hours worked on a holiday would be paid as 8 hours straight time and 4 hours of compensatory time banked for later use. Under the current contract, holiday pay does not qualify for compensatory time because it is not overtime, but rather part of the regular 8 hour shift and 40 hour week and is paid at 1 1/2 times the regular wage.

Motion by Graybill, seconded by Prunty to allow the practice of banking compensatory time in exchange for holiday pay rate on holidays worked by employees covered by the Cherokee County Law Enforcement Association Labor Agreement with proper notation and signature by the Sheriff and/or 911 Director; and with the understanding that this amendment to the current labor agreement will not be binding to future contracts or agreements. Motion carried with Leeds voting naye. Ryan Kolpin, County Attorney, will draw up a letter of understanding to be signed by both the Cherokee County Board of Supervisors and the Cherokee County Law Enforcement Association.

Discussion continued on the issue of holiday pay for secondary roads employees. Graybill suggested that the roads employees be paid 8 hours of holiday pay and straight time for hours worked on the holiday with overtime given only when actual hours worked for the week exceeded 40 hours. County Attorney Kolpin suggested that the past practice issue needed to be investigated before any final decisions are made. Leeds requested to go on record as stating: "*I am not against secondary roads and I am not against paying them, but I read the contract as 1 1/2 times the regular rate for actual hours worked. I believe the roads employees do a fine job but if we aren't going to follow the contract, then we might as well just burn the contracts that we've just paid to negotiate.*" Deb Sorenson spoke on behalf of Bill Gordon stating that he is dedicated county worker and lives to move snow.

A motion was offered by Leeds stating that due to past practice, the county should pay secondary roads employees 8 hours of holiday pay plus 1 1/2 times the regular rate for hours worked.

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A second to the motion was never offered. Leeds withdrew his motion to allow for discovery and proof of the past practice.

Barry Lewis addressed the board about a community housing development organization that he is trying to create. Lewis stated that he has been successful with every grant that he has written and requested support from the county for this program. Chairman Simonsen thanked him for the information.

Dave Shanahan, County Engineer, discussed general business and presented several documents for consideration.

Motion by Leeds, seconded by Schmidt to approve an underground permit for Iowa Telecommunications between Sections 26 & 27 in Spring Township. Motion carried.

Motion by Graybill, seconded by Prunty to approve the plans for Project # JFM-CO18(56)- -6R-18 including 4 miles of overlay on C38 which includes stimulus money and local/farm to market funds. Motion carried.

Motion by Schmidt, seconded by Graybill to approve an annual authorization allowing the county engineer to sign final payments after completion of projects. Motion carried.

Motion by Prunty, seconded by Leeds to approve letters to state legislators expressing opposition to adding another axle to trucks due to long term damage to the secondary road system. Motion carried.

Motion by Graybill, seconded by Schmidt to approve a Request to Modify the 2010 Local Public Health Services Contract to allow for expenditures of additional funds received. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Chairman Simonsen adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

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

Attest: _____

Jeff Simonsen, Chairman

Kris Glienke, County Auditor