
FOR THE YEAR 2013
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA
MARCH 12, 2013

The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, March 12, 2013 with Mark Leeds, Dennis Bush, Rick Mongan, Ginger Walker, and Jeff Simonsen present. Dan Whitney, *Chronicle Times*, represented the press. Gary Lundquist was also in attendance. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes were offered as follows: Ayes – Simonsen, Mongan, Bush, Walker, Leeds; Nays – none; Abstentions – none.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Mongan to approve the amended agenda to include a deadline waiver for union negotiations and to postpone the SIMPCO appointment due to weather. Motion carried.

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

Chad Brown, Conservation Director, appeared before the board to request a decision on funding of a proposed cabin project. Bush asked what additional amount is needed in the Conservation budget to qualify for REAP funds. Brown stated that if he spends his entire budget, he would be about \$22,000 short of the required 22 cent local property tax support but he would rather add an additional \$40,000 to be safe. Walker expressed concerns that making amendments at the end of the year and trying to find last minute ways to spend money may not be the best approach to maintain REAP qualification. She would like to see the Conservation Board's goals for park development and long range plans for maintaining a budget that qualifies for REAP funds. Leeds suggested a \$25,000 amendment to insure qualifying for REAP funds. Mongan stated that it is a worthwhile project with revenue potential to offset the investment. Bush agreed that he could support the use of additional county money since it could be matched by state funds if the legislature fully funds the REAP program.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Leeds to approve \$25,000 of additional general fund dollars to be added to the Conservation Department's 2012/2013 budget for construction of a twelve person cabin at Martin's Access. Motion carried with Simonsen voting nay. The additional amount in the Conservation budget will be included in an amendment of the County's 2012/2013 budget at a later date.

Brown asked for clarification of the County's employment policy requiring all new hires to complete a Physical Capacity Profile test prior to beginning work. Brown will be hiring temporary summer help and some applicants may have already completed the testing a year ago. After discussing the pros and cons of testing all potential employees, the consensus of the Board was to require complete Physical Capacity Profile testing for all new employees as a means of loss control for the County.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Bush 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.

Lisa Langlitz, Community Services Director, reviewed potential changes to the case management program and reported on progress of a 28E agreement proposed for the Sioux Rivers Mental Health Region consisting of Cherokee, Plymouth, Sioux, and Woodbury Counties. Langlitz presented copies of the Community Services Management Plan and advised that the supervisors may need to follow protocol for implementing a waiting list for mental health services if the state does not provide back fill monies to cover lost revenues. Cherokee County has never needed a waiting list in the past, but there may not be sufficient cash flow to complete the current year and provide a fiscally sound cash balance to begin the 2013/2014 budget year. The supervisors asked Langlitz to report back with projected financial numbers and options for addressing the budget shortfall.

Dave Shanahan, County Engineer, presented a utility permit for consideration.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Mongan to approve an underground utility permit for Dale Sleezer, Sr. in Section 14 of Afton Township. Motion carried.

Mongan and Leeds reported they have not been contacted by the Local 234 Union to schedule negotiating sessions. Since it appears that union contracts will not be settled before the state mandated deadline of March 15, a waiver needs to be requested by the County and Local 234 Union representatives.

Motion by Simonsen, seconded by Bush to authorize the Chairman to sign a Waiver of Mandatory Deadlines for Union Negotiations. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Chairman Leeds adjourned the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

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

Attest: _____

Mark Leeds, Chairman

Kris Glienke, County Auditor