

---

FOR THE YEAR 2020  
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK  
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA  
FEBRUARY 4, 2020

---

The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 with Dennis Bush, Rick Mongan, Gary Lundquist, Duane Mummert, and Wane Miller present. Nick Brewer, *Chronicle Times*, represented the press. William Gauthier, Sarah Tracy and Justin Pritts were also in attendance. Unless otherwise indicated, all votes were offered as follows: Ayes – Mongan, Bush, Mummert, Miller, Lundquist; Nays – none; Abstentions – none.

Chairman Lundquist called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Wane Miller, Veteran Affairs Commissioner.

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

Justin Pritts, EMA Director, asked for the prior meeting minutes to be adjusted to include the reason for his approaching the Board of Supervisors to make comments regarding accusations that he had not provided funding to fire departments in the Dakota Access Pipeline district. Pritts wanted it stated in the permanent record that a \$20,000 pipeline check he received included documentation stating the donation could be used at the discretion of the local Emergency Management Director. Pritts also requested that wording of the Emergency Management Association be changed to Emergency Management Agency so the public would understand that he is a one-person department and not a large organization.

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

Matt Todd, Cherokee County Weed Commissioner, presented a report of activities and answered questions about his approach to reducing trees, Canadian thistles, and Queen Anne's Lace in county ditches. Bush thanked Todd for presenting the information to the supervisors and discussing his plans for cleaning up county right of ways.

Motion by Mummert, seconded by Mongan to accept the 2019 Weed Commissioner's Report as presented. Motion carried.

Russ Winterhof, Soil and Water Conservation District Director thanked the supervisors for their continued support of conservation practices and for providing funds for staff in Cherokee County. Winterhof introduced Riley White, Colton Barnes and Nick Livermore who work in the local Cherokee office to design and manage conservation projects. Livermore explained that Cherokee County is a part of the Loess Hills Region with Ida, Plymouth and Monona counties. The region shares ten staff members and has received increased funding for promoting conservation practices. The supervisors currently provide an annual \$15,000 contribution from the Rural Betterment Fund to support wages of a technician position at the local Soil and Water Conservation Office.

Jerod Clyde, County Sheriff, presented a wage authorization for consideration.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Bush to approve a \$17.88 per hour wage authorization for Nichole Vondrak, Full-Time Dispatcher, effective February 13, 2020. Motion carried.

Motion by Bush, seconded by Miller to approve publication of the 2020/2021 Proposed Property Tax Levy Notice and to set a public hearing for 9:00 a.m. on February 25, 2020. Motion carried.

Audit comments from the 2018/2019 fiscal year were reviewed and responses considered.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Mummert to approve responses to fiscal year 2019 audit comments and to submit them to Hunzelman, Putzier & Co., PLC, for inclusion in the county's annual audit report. Further discussion was offered regarding responses to related party transactions. No vote was taken on the motion.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Mummert to rescind the previous motion.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Mummert to approve responses to fiscal year 2019 audit comments with the exception of a response to related party transactions which the county attorney has not provided to the supervisors. Motion carried. A response to related party transactions will be reviewed and considered at a later date when the information is provided by Ryan Kolpin, County Attorney.

The supervisors provided committee reports and reviewed meeting schedules.

Brad Beck, Beck Engineering, requested that a public hearing be opened to discuss a proposed sidewalk improvement project at the courthouse. Lundquist informed Beck that a public hearing opened during last week's meeting was never closed so that discussion could continue. Beck reported that no bids were received for the project and recommended changing the bid date and terms for a late start and completion date. Further discussion and an action item will be added to the next regular meeting agenda.

---

FOR THE YEAR 2020  
BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S MINUTE BOOK  
CHEROKEE COUNTY, IOWA  
FEBRUARY 4, 2020

---

Motion by Mummert, seconded by Bush to close the January 28, 2020 public hearing for the proposed 2020 Courthouse Sidewalk/Retaining Wall Project. Roll call vote: Mongan-aye, Bush-aye, Mummert-aye, Miller-aye, Lundquist-aye.

Motion by Bush, seconded by Mummert to go into closed session per Iowa Code Chapter 21.5(1)(c) *“To discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation.”* Roll call vote: Mongan-aye, Bush-aye, Mummert-aye, Miller-aye, Lundquist-aye. Motion carried and session closed at 10:30 a.m.

Regular session resumed at 10:38 a.m.

Motion by Mongan, seconded by Mummert to approve the tentative settlement agreement negotiated by ICAP in the matter of Johnson v. Wolf. Motion carried.

Lundquist called for comments from the public and none were offered.

There being no further business, a motion was offered by Miller and seconded by Mummert to adjourn the meeting at 10:39 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