

TIPTON, IOWA

March 15, 2022

The Cedar County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. March 15, 2022, with the following members present: Smith, Bell, Gaul, Kaufmann, and Chairperson Agne. Members of the public were also present.

The Board viewed correspondence from various agencies.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence from:
Chief Deputy Koranda submitted Notice of Voluntary Resignation from Chris Gama, Correctional Officer, effective March 18, 2022.

Auditor Dauber informed the Board last week the approved handwritten warrant payable to Windstream was not completed due to the Auditor's Office submitted payment online instead of a check.

Bambi Simpson regarding high-speed internet.

Clerk of Court submitted Fees Collected for the month of February 2022.

Attorney Renander regarding increasing wages for office staff (emailed dated 3/11/22 – 2:49 p.m.)

Attorney Blank withdrawing the request for wage increases for the office staff.

Manure Management Annual Updates submitted by:
Storjohann #68495 for a site at 1621 Vermont Ave Bennett.

It was noted the following Handwritten Disbursement was issued on 3/11/2022 to the Cedar County Treasurer for Benefits, Inc. for an electronic deposit: #430429 for \$5,154.55-self funded medical claims.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to approve the agenda.
Ayes: All

Pro-Tem Chairperson Bell addressed the public for comments. Assistant Attorney Blank introduced the new Assistant County Attorney, Derek Jones who was previously the Chief Supervising Attorney at the Iowa State Public Defender's Office with 25 years of experience. The Board welcomed him to Cedar County.

At 8:35 a.m. Pro-Tem Chairperson Bell read the notice of the appointment of the County Attorney position. Sup. Bell stated that the Assistant County Attorney Blank requested to be appointed to this position.

Moved by Sup. Agne seconded by Sup. Smith to appoint Adam Blank as the Cedar County Attorney effective immediately.
Ayes: All

Sup. Kaufmann asked Blank his thought on Renander's request to increase pay for the office staff during the last hour of his workday at Cedar County. Blank said he supports the intent, but the method was not ideal. Sup. Kaufmann stated he was very disappointed in Renander's tactics. Attorney Blank will provide an email that states to rescind the increases in wages for the office staff. Blank will contact HR Attorney Galloway to review the wages of the two positions and do it the correct way. Sup. Bell explained in the interim we are seeking the opinion from our HR attorney's whether the County Auditor needs to honor this request per Renander's email. Sup. Bell appreciates Blank's willingness to follow procedures and protecting the integrity of the office. Sup. Bell stated he (Blank) did the right thing, and Blank is not at fault with what his predecessor did.

Interim Public Health Director Caes has been asked by members of her staff to increase mileage. Caes is proposing an increase from 0.47 to 0.58 per mile to match the reimbursement rate of the State and Federal. Caes informed the Board the additional cost would be around \$200.00 each month per employee. Caes further explained the aides use county vehicles for their clients, but the nursing staff has to use their own vehicles. Bell questioned if they could use other county vehicles that are not in use, so they aren't using their own. Discussion was held on the Assessor vehicles as an option. The Board requested Auditor Dauber to email conference board members to see if they would be okay with this. Auditor Dauber will contact Caes with an update.

Moved by Sup. Smith seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve the Board Minutes of March 8, 2022.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Agne to approve Payroll Disbursements #188890-189035 for the period ending 3/5/22 and to be paid on 3/11/22. This includes a payout for Charles McVay.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Smith to approve Handwritten Warrants #430426-430428 in the total amount of \$81,517.95 to Beine & Abel Trust for three land purchases for tower placement.

The Board reported on Outreach/Committee Meetings they attended.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Smith to approve the FY2021 Cost Allocation Plan.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Smith seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve the YubiKey Acknowledgement and the replacement cost (employees) of \$50.00 if lost.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve VPN access for Kyle Colvin, Appraiser.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Smith to approve Auditor Dauber as the FY23 Fiscal Agent for Cedar/Jones Early Childhood Iowa.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Smith to approve the FY23 Library Services Contract.

Ayes: All

At 9:00 a.m. a Public Hearing was held on the FY22/23 County Budget. Chairperson Pro-Tem Bell read the proposed budget. Sheriff Wethington and Public Health Interim Director Caes were present. Auditor Dauber noted that General Supplemental and Rural levies are being reduced and the Mental Health levy will no longer exist. Discussion was held.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to adopt Resolution 2022-01 FY22/23 County Budget and Certificate of Taxes.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to adopt Resolution 2022-02 FY22/23 Elected Officials Salaries.

Ayes: All

Engineer Fangmann met with the Board, Fangmann informed them that he will need to table the agenda item; Action on the Secondary Road 5-year Construction Program and DOT budget due to revisions need made regarding the Federal Transportation Bill. Discussion was held.

Moved by Sup. Smith seconded by Sup. Gaul to approve a utility permit for Alliant Energy for work to be performed at 180th Street and the \$100 fee applies.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve expansion fiber being built out on various roads. The \$100 fee applies.

Ayes: All

At 9:30 a.m. a Public Hearing for the Disposition of Real Property was held. Pat McKeon and the Conservation Director Dauber were present. Pro-Tem Chairman Bell read the resolution.

McKeon stated that this land has been a problem for a long time and has become a safety concern. Conservation Director Dauber stated that the problem is the land is land locked, there are trespassing calls and no good way to take care of it. Sup. Bell mentioned that it would be totally different if not landlocked, it would be worth more. Conservation Dauber agreed and informed the board there is no logging value as any trees were snapped off. Sup. Kaufmann asked about the fencing and Dauber said that there is a post here and there. Sup. Bell mentioned that one person inquired regarding the price per acre.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Smith to approve the following resolution:

Resolution of the Cedar County Board of Supervisors authorizing sale of surplus real property.

WHEREAS, the County owns certain real property legally described as: Lot two (2), Lot A, Southeast quarter of Southeast quarter of section 23, Township 81 North, Range 1, West of the 5th P.M.

Said property consists of five (5) acres, more or less, and is landlocked by privately owned property.

WHEREAS, the parcel appears as public land on various hunting applications, thereby attracting hunters, trappers, and foragers, who then trespass upon the land of surrounding landowners, creating a nuisance for the adjoining landowners and a burden on the Conservation Department and the Sheriff's Office. The Conservation Board has inquired whether the property would be of value to the County by way of timber harvesting, and has been advised it would not. Further, the parcel sustained damage during the Derecho of 2020, leaving it in a potentially hazardous condition, and exposing the County to potential clean-up expenses.

WHEREAS, the Cedar County Conservation Board, during its regular meeting, voted to consider the property to be a net financial liability and surplus property, and to approach the Cedar County Board of Supervisors with a recommendation to sell the property to one or both adjoining landowners.

WHEREAS, the Cedar County Conservation Board believes selling the property to anyone other than an adjoining landowner would continue to result in trespassing issues due to the landlocked nature of the parcel.

WHEREAS, the Cedar County Conservation Director has inquired with the adjoining landowners, and only Patrick and Patricia McKeon have expressed interest in purchasing the property.

WHEREAS, the Cedar County Conservation Board voted to sell the parcel to Patrick and Patricia McKeon for a purchase price of \$10,000.00, subject to a public hearing and approval of the Cedar County Board of Supervisors.

WHEREAS, after discussion, the Board of Supervisors believes the property should be declared surplus property and disposed of pursuant to Iowa Code §331.361 for the reasons set forth above.

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Cedar County Board of Supervisors: that after a public hearing pursuant to Iowa Code Section 331.361(2), the Board of Supervisors declares the above-described property as surplus property. The above-described property shall be sold to Patrick and Patricia McKeon for the purchase price of \$10,000.00. The Cedar County Board of Supervisors Chairperson is authorized to sign any necessary title transfer documents.

Dated at Cedar County, Iowa, this 15th day of March 2022.

Ayes: All

Discussion was held regarding the distribution of ARPA money to the telephone companies. Sup. Bell suggested the board consider the amount of work that has been completed by the provider in the past and future plans of the provider for implementation. Sup. Smith preferred to equally distribute the allocation to each provider. Discussion was held on the information that had been provided to the board for consideration and the difference of the five telephone companies and Night Owl. Sup. Agne agreed with Sup. Bell. Sup. Kaufmann agreed and stated that they could revisit this next year if funds were still available.

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Agne to approve allocation of ARPA monies to the following entities:

WTC - \$100,000

Clarence Telephone - \$100,000

Liberty Communications - \$100,000


Mechanicsville Telephone - \$100,000

F&B Communications - \$100,000 Night Owl Wireless, LLC - \$50,000
Ayes: All


Sup. Gaul left the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

General discussion was held with Public Health Interim Caes and Sheriff Wethington regarding the EMS meetings. No decision was made.

Moved by Sup. Smith seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to adjourn at 10:38 a.m., to March 22, 2022.
Ayes: All



Cari A. Dauber, Auditor

 *Pro-Tem*

Jon Bell, Pro-Tem Chairperson