

The Cedar County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. January 31, 2023 with the following members present: Bixler, Gaul, Kaufmann, and Chairperson Bell. Barnhart was present via phone. Members of the public were also present.

The Board viewed correspondence from various agencies.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence from:

Environmental & Zoning Director LaRue regarding draft of Cedar County Utility-Scale Solar Energy System (US-SES) Ordinance.

Tim & Madonna Rex inquiring about a letter of support for the Downey Schoolhouse to receive a reservation.

Carol André-Michaletz letter disapproval of the proposed pipeline.

Kele First request for a 100th birthday card.

It was noted the following Handwritten Disbursement was issued on 1/27/2023 to the Cedar County Treasurer for Benefits, Inc. for an electronic deposit: #433890 for \$9,649.46-self funded medical claims.

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve the agenda.

Ayes: All

Chairperson Bell addressed the public for comments. CPC Director Tischuk asked the Board if they had any Cedar County Landmarks to add into a coloring book for children other than what she already had. Auditor Wiese informed the Board that SF181 (formerly SSB1056), if passed, will affect the Assessment Limitation (Rollback) for Residential. The rollback change will affect Commercial, Industrial, Res3+ and Ag Dwellings, as well as Railroads. The only values that will not be affected will be Ag Land and Ag Buildings.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve the Board Minutes of January 24, 2023.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve Payroll Disbursements #192342-192493 for the period ending 1/27/23 and to be paid on 1/27/23.

Ayes: All

The Board reported on Outreach/Committee Meetings they attended.

The Board placed a phone call to Mike Galloway, HR Attorney for discussion on hiring a budget director. Sup. Bell read a handout provided by Auditor Wiese on items currently being done that are not required by Code of Iowa that she will no longer be doing as of June 30, 2023. Galloway explained statutory duties that are required and not required by the Code of Iowa. Sup. Barnhart asked about the stipend the Auditor received by the Compensation Board. Galloway explained the prior Auditor listed all her extra duties at the Compensation Board meeting and they voted to give her a stipend. Sup. Gaul said the current Auditor doesn't want the extra money it's about the extra work and time she puts in. Sup. Kaufmann said the duties are enough for a part-time job and asked if we could utilize a current County employee. Galloway said we could utilize a currently employee since it is not creating a position its reassigning duties, but a current employee can't be a deputy making more than 85% of the elected officials wage. Discussion was held. No decision was made.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to go into closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 20.17(3).

Ayes All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to return to regular session.

Ayes: All

Keith Whitlatch presented the Board actual figures for projects needing done at the Old Cedar County Jail. Discussion was held. No decisions were made.

The Board recessed for five minutes.

Sup. Bell informed the Board and members of the public that on February 8, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the large meeting room of the basement an EMS public forum will be held regarding ambulance services/emergency medical services in Cedar County.

EMA Director Freet met with the Board to discuss 28E agreements and MOU for management of 911 network. Discussion was held and consensus of the Board was to have the BOS and 911 Service Board Chair both sign.

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve the hiring of Kyle Biddle for the position of excavator crew leader position with a starting wage of \$25.08 beginning February 14, 2023.

Ayes: All

Phil Waniorek met with the Board to discuss FY23/24 health plan, rates and administration. Cedar County's Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal increase is 8.3%. No changes were made to our plan. Discussion was held.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to approve and authorize Chairperson Bell to sign the Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal at 8.3%.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve and authorize Chairperson Bell to sign the Administrative Services Proposal.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Bixler seconded by Sup. Barnhart to approve and authorize Chairperson Bell to sign the agent of record for Cincinnati Life Insurance.

Ayes: All

The Board discussed Board Committee Appointments.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to approve the following changes:

Board of Health	Gaul	Barnhart
Co. Decategorization Policy Board	Gaul	Kaufmann
Community Action of Eastern Iowa	Kaufmann	Bell
County Shop	Bixler	Barnhart
Consortium	Barnhart	Bixler
Courthouse	Bell	Gaul
Crimestoppers	Bell	Barnhart
CCEDCO (2 votes)	Bell	Kaufmann
Drainage District	Kaufmann	Bell
Early Childhood of Iowa - Cedar/Jones	Bixler	Gaul
Emergency Management	Bell	Barnhart
E911 Service Board	Bell	Barnhart
Eastern Iowa Rural Utility Services	Gaul	Kaufmann
ECIA Board	Gaul	Kaufmann
Fair Board	Gaul	Barnhart
Heritage Area Agency on Aging	Barnhart	
Highway 30 Coalition	Bixler	Kaufmann
Heartland Insurance Risk Pool	Barnhart	Kaufmann
ISTEA/ECICOG	Gaul	Bell
Law Enforcement Center	Bixler	Bell
Lower Cedar Watershed	Bell	Barnhart
CEO/Workforce Development	Bell	Bixler
MH Institute Adv.	Kaufmann	Barnhart
MH/DS Regions Governing Board	Barnhart	Bixler

Pioneer Cemetery	Kaufmann	
R.E.A.P. Comm.	Kaufmann	Bixler
R.C. & D.	Bell	Bixler
River Bend Transit	Bixler	Barnhart
Safety	Bixler	Kaufmann
Seventh Judicial	Bixler	Kaufmann
Solid Waste Disposal	Kaufmann	Bell

Ayes: All

Discussion was held on FY23/24 Elected Officials salaries. No decisions were made due to the possible rollback changes, insurance changes and other factors that need to be updated on each department's budget.

General discussion was held on outside entities funding. The follow motions were made.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to increase the funding to the Cedar County Fair Association by \$4,000, which would set their FY23/24 funding to \$45,000. Discussion was held on ARPA funds requested.

Ayes: none

Nays: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bell to increase the funding to the Cedar County Fair Association by \$2,000, which would set their FY23/24 funding at \$43,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to increase the funding to County Libraries by \$5,000, which would set their FY23/24 funding at \$145,500.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bell to leave the funding the same for the Historical Society, which would set their FY23/24 funding at \$5,000. To leave the funding the same for River Bend Transit, which would set their FY23/24 funding at \$16,965. To leave the funding the same for Community Foundation of Cedar County, which would set their FY23/24 funding at \$3,000. To leave the funding the same for The Workplace Learning connection, which would set their FY23/24 funding at \$1,850.50. To leave the funding the same for C.C.E.D.C.O., which would set their FY23/24 at \$80,634.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bell to leave the funding the same for the Home Base Iowa, which would set their FY23/24 at \$7,500.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Bixler seconded by Sup Gaul to increase the funding to the Senior Center by \$1,500, which would set their FY23/24 funding to \$22,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Bixler seconded by Sup. Gaul to increase funding to Domestic Violence Intervention by \$1,000, which would set their FY23/24 funding at \$8,250.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Barnhart to increase the funding to Volunteer Services by \$500, which would set their FY23/24 funding at \$27,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Bixler to increase the funding to Limestone Bluffs R.C. & D. by \$500, which would set their FY23/24 funding at \$8,500.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to set the funding for Cedar/Jones Early Childhood of Iowa for FY23/24 to \$1,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to leave the funding the same for the Veterans Grave, which would set their FY23/24 at \$4,600.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Barnhart to leave the funding the same for the Lower Cedar Watershed, which would set their FY23/24 at \$2,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to not fund the Wilton Chamber & Development Alliance for FY23/24. If a project comes up affecting Cedar County directly, they can reach out to the Board at that time.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Bixler seconded by Sup. Gaul to set the levy rate for the Pioneer Cemetery to reflect tax dollars in the amount of \$20,000.

Ayes: All

The Board reviewed and discussed their department budget.

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve \$20,000 in ARPA funds to Senior Center for a new parking lot.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve \$10,000 in ARPA funds to Cedar County Friends of Historic Preservation, Inc. for a repairs on the Old County Jail.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve \$50,000 in ARPA funds to Cedar County Fair Board to help with renovations and repairs.


Ayes: All

Discussion was held on the Budget Director position. Consensus of the Board was to email department heads asking all employees if any current employee is interested in the part-time budget position.

Sheriff Wethington informed the Board that RAGBRAI has an overnight stop in Coralville and Davenport. Due to reasons from past years and cost Wethington asked the Board to send a letter of support showing RAGBRAI is not to use Cedar County roadways. This topic will be added to the agenda next week for further discussion.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to adjourn at 12:00 p.m., to February 7, 2023.

Ayes: All


Stephanie Wiese, Auditor


Jon Bell, Chairperson