

The Cedar County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. August 22, 2023 with the following members present: Bixler, Barnhart, Gaul, Kaufmann, and Chairperson Bell. Members of the public were also present.

The Board viewed correspondence from various agencies.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence from:
Veterans Affairs Service Officer Hamann approved August reports and July 12, 2023 meeting minutes.
Iowa Department of Revenue 2023 Tentative Equalization Notice.
Safety Committee Meeting minutes from August 15, 2023.

Manure Management Annual Updates submitted by:
TSM Farm #64970 for a site at 1419 250th Street, Tipton.

It was noted the following Handwritten Disbursement was issued on 8/18/2023 to the Cedar County Treasurer for Benefits, Inc. for an electronic deposit: #436119 for \$14,052.33-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 provided a Governing Board update.

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve the Board Minutes of August 15, 2023.
Ayes: All
Abstain: Kaufmann

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve Claim Disbursements #435956 - #436118 paid on 8/17/2023.
Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Bixler seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve a new 12-month Class B Retail Alcohol License for Pilot Travel effective 9/30/2023.
Ayes: All

The Board reported on Outreach/Committee Meetings they attended.

At 9:00 a.m. Emery Davis and Ruth McCabe, Heartland Co-Op and Mary Beth Stevenson, City of Cedar Rapids met with the Board to discuss using Cedar County to execute the Batch and Build bidding process for the Lower Cedar Watershed Authority. Auditor Wiese and County Attorney Blank were in attendance. A Batch and Build is an innovative water quality program that bring together farmers, landowners, cooperatives and realtors, farm organizations, local governments and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) to get water quality practices on the ground. The project includes multiple saturated buffers and bioreactors. McCabe reviewed the Roles & Responsibilities with Cedar County being the Fiscal Agent. This Batch and Build project will have 39 structures with 31 being in Cedar County. Consensus of the Board was to proceed with the project as they provided ARPA funds to get projects going.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Barnhart to proceed with Heartland Co-op and other entities on the Batch and Build project.
Ayes: All

At 9:48 a.m. Environmental & Zoning Director LaRue met with the Board to review Ordinance #47 An Ordinance Regulating the Placement of Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS). Discussion was held on the changes. County Attorney Blank approved the changes.

Moved by Sup. Bixler seconded by Sup. Gaul to set public hearing dates for Ordinance #47 An Ordinance Regulating the Placement of Wind Energy Conversion Systems (WECS) on September 5th and 12th at 9:00 a.m.

Ayes: All

Engineer Fangmann met with the Board at 10:00 a.m. to open bids he received for the Bridge Project L-202202—73-16. Fangmann budgeted \$500,000 for this project. Those bids were as follows:

Iowa Bridge & Culvert	\$569,719.10
Jim Schroeder Construction, Inc.	\$486,894.07
Taylor Construction, Inc	\$519,455.40
Cunningham-Reis, LLC	\$572,589.02

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Barnhart to award the bid to Jim Schroeder Construction, Inc. and authorize the Engineer to sign contracts.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Barnhart to approve and authorize Chairperson Bell to sign Iowa DOT Federal Aid Funding Agreement for County Road X54 project.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve a utility permit for a homeowner on Plato Road for a LP line and a \$100 fee applies.

Ayes: All

At 10:30 a.m. Auditor Wiese met with the Board to review the Resolution for EMS Referendum. County Attorney Blank reviewed the Resolution. Discussion was held on the wording assessed vs taxable. The Board advised Wiese to ask Blank if the wording could be changed.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Barnhart to approve the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION ORDERING A SPECIAL ELECTION ON AN AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

WHEREAS, the Cedar County Board of Supervisors has declared emergency medical services an essential service and did so in compliance with Iowa Code Section 422D.1(2)(a).

WHEREAS, the Cedar County Board of Supervisors coordinated efforts with local emergency medical services agencies to establish a county emergency medical services system advisory council to assist in research and assessing the service needs of the county and guiding implementation of services in the county within a council structure.

WHEREAS, the Cedar County Board of Supervisors is in receipt of a recommendation from the county emergency medical services system advisory council, which recommends funding at a level of \$.75 (Seventy-Five Cents) per \$1,000.00 (One Thousand Dollars), of assessed value on all taxable property within the county and said recommendation is on file with the Cedar County Board of Supervisors, and has been examined by the Cedar County Board of Supervisors, who have determined that it otherwise complies with Iowa Code Section 422D.1(2)(c).

WHEREAS, the question for the imposition of the ad valorem property tax or any other proposal incorporating any portion of it has not or will not be submitted to the qualified electors of Cedar County, Iowa, for a period of at least sixty days subsequent to the publication of the notice of the question, so as to comply with Iowa Code Section 422D.1(3)(a).

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED BY THE CEDAR COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, STATE OF IOWA:

Section I. That an election is called of the qualified electors of Cedar County, Iowa on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. The following Proposition is approved, and the Auditor is authorized and directed to submit and file the Proposition for the Ballot with the Cedar County Commissioner of Elections at least 60 days prior to the election.

PROPOSITION

Shall the Cedar County Board of Supervisors be authorized to implement a property tax, for a period not to exceed fifteen (15) years, for the purposes of creation and maintenance of an essential county-wide emergency medical service (ambulance). The amount would be \$0.75 (Seventy-Five Cents) per \$1,000.00 (One Thousand Dollars) of assessed value on all taxable property within the county. This program will enhance and strengthen our essential community ambulance service through the provision of professional, paramedic level emergency care, reduction of response times, and improvement of patient care outcomes.

[END OF BALLOT LANGUAGE]

Section 2. That the notice of the election and ballot form used at the election shall be prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Iowa Code and Iowa Administrative Rules.

Section 3. That the Election Board for the Voting Precinct or precincts be appointed by the County Commissioner of Elections, not less than 15 days before the election.

Section 4. The Commissioner of Elections for Cedar County is requested and directed to make publication of the Notice of Election at least once, not less than four days nor more than twenty days prior to the election, in a newspaper that meets the requirements of Section 49.53(2), Code of Iowa.

Section 5. That the County Commissioner of Elections for Cedar County shall prepare all ballots and election registers and other supplies necessary for the proper and legal conduct of this election.

Section 6. That the Auditor is directed to file a certified copy of this Resolution in the Office of the County Commissioner of Elections of Cedar County to constitute the "written notice" to the County Commissioner of Elections of the election date, required to be given by the governing body under the provisions of Chapter 422D, Code of Iowa.

Dated at Cedar County, Iowa, this 22 day of August 2023.

Ayes: All

Sup. Gaul left the meeting.

At 10:45 a.m. Ebony Cooksey, Nextlink phoned into the Board meeting to discuss a letter of support for NOFA #8. Cooksey informed the Board that Nextlink has four locations in Iowa with headquarters in Texas. Discussion was held. Consensus of the Board was to send a letter of support but to include they discourage duplication of services although they support areas where local companies have no plans to service.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve a letter of support with the added changes.

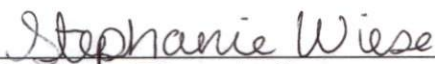
Ayes: All


Absent: Gaul

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Barnhart to adjourn at 11:12 a.m., to August 29, 2023.

Ayes: All

Absent: Gaul


Stephanie Wiese, Auditor


Jon Bell, Chairperson