

The Cedar County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. December 26, 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:
IA Dept of Health and Human Services, caseload reduction report.

It was noted the following Handwritten Disbursement was issued on 12/22/23 to the Cedar County Treasurer for Benefits, Inc. for an electronic deposit: #437416 for \$5,717.97-self funded medical claims.

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

Chairperson Bell addressed the public for comments. There were none.

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Barnhart to approve the Board Minutes of December 19, 2023.
Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve Claim Disbursements #437271 - #437415 paid on 12/22/23.
Ayes: All

The Board reported on Outreach/Committee Meetings they attended.

Sup. Bixler reported back to the board about conversations he had with Scott and Shelby counties concerning the pipeline. Discussion was held.

Sup. Barnhart left the boardroom at 8:56 and returned at 8:58.

Mike Boyle and Bill Muhs representing the Pioneer Cemetery Commission met with the Board for FY24/25 funding review. Boyle and Muhs reported on the Cemetery improvements for 2023 and reviewed the Pioneer Cemetery Commission FY24/25 budget and a listing of Cedar County Cemetery categories. Current County funding for the Pioneer Cemetery Commission is \$20,000. The Pioneer Cemetery Commission is not requesting an increase in funding. No decision was made.

Sup. Kaufmann explained to the board that Cedar County is running out of Pioneer Cemeteries in need of restoration as defined as 12 or fewer burials in the past 50 years. The legislature has expanded that definition to 24 or fewer burials in the past 50 years so that the cemetery commissions can continue to care for these areas if they so choose. These, however, are not considered a pioneer cemetery.

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Bixler to give the Pioneer Cemetery Commission the ability to use the new definition of 24 or fewer burials in the past 50 years to carry out the work they need to perform in preserving these cemeteries.
Ayes: All

Randy Zobrist, Director of River Bend Transit met with the Board for a FY24/25 funding review. Zobrist distributed River Bend Transit FY23/24 budget request which included a five-year service data of rides and service costs. Zobrist informed the Board on the changes to Cedar County transportation service, receiving a grant to erect a building to house their vehicles and installing charging stations for future use of electric vehicles. Zobrist said they will be implementing new software at the beginning of 2024 which will make the service easier to use by residents. Current County funding for River Bend Transit is \$16,965.00. River Bend Transit is not requesting an increase in funding. No decision was made.

Mike Boyle and Marsha Howe, representing the Historical Society, met with the Board to present the FY24/25 budget. Boyle gave project updates. Howe is currently working on new exhibits, programming opportunities and a new website so more residents can become engaged in their organization. Current County funding for the Historical Society is \$5,000. The Historical Society is not requesting an increase in funding. No decision was made.

Representative Bobby Kaufmann met with the Board and Senator Kerry Gruenhagen met with the Board via phone to provide a legislative update. Assessor Dauber, EMA Director Freet, Recorder Bahnsen, Treasurer Delaney, Veterans Service Officer Hamann, Public Health Director Wagaman and Auditor Wiese were in attendance. Representative Kaufmann and Senator Gruenhagen discussed the following topics: property taxes, income tax, Sheriff's deputy bill, pipeline and property rights, Area Education Agency and improving services they provide and alternative funding other than property taxes. Department heads brought concerns up to the legislators for discussion and the Board of Supervisors brought up concerns.

Sup. Gaul left the boardroom at 10:39 and returned at 10:42.

Sup. Bixler left the boardroom at 11:02.

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Gaul to approve Precinct Election Officials wages effective for all elections in 2024. PEO Chairs - \$11.00 and PEO - \$10.00 an hour for training and working at the polls on election day.

Ayes: All

Abstain: Bell

Absent: Bixler

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to adjourn at 11:06 a.m., to January 2, 2024.

Ayes: All

Absent: Bixler


Stephanie Wiese, Auditor


Jon Bell, Chairperson