

The Cedar County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. December 28, 2021, with the following members present: Smith, Bell, Gaul, Kaufmann, and Chairperson Agne.

The Board viewed correspondence from various agencies.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence from:  
Roger Pavey, Community Action provided COVID-19 Vaccination Rates to December 21, 2021.  
Mike Daley submitted an email regarding the Navigator Heartland Greenway CO2 Pipeline.  
Kelley Deutmeyer submitted an email with a follow up on the Old County Home.  
Cedar County Planning & Zoning Commission Minutes – December 15, 2021.

It was noted the following Handwritten Disbursement was issued on December 24, 2021, to the Cedar County Treasurer for Benefits, Inc. for an electronic deposit: #429548 for \$3,120.35-self funded medical claims.

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

Ayes: All

Chairperson Agne addressed the public for comments. Public Health Interim Director Caes informed the Board that the positivity rate is increasing and symptoms of a common cold after 2 – 3 days more than likely will test positive to COVID.

Moved by Sup. Smith seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve the Board Minutes of December 21, 2021.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Agne to approve Claim Disbursements #429549 - #429698 paid on December 23, 2021.

Ayes: All

The Board reported on Outreach/Committee Meetings they attended.

At 8:45 a.m. Maria Olsen, Executive Secretary for the Community Foundation of Cedar County met with the Board to request funding for FY22/23. The Community Foundation of Cedar County works with individuals, families, businesses, and organizations to establish endowment funds. In 2021 they awarded \$105,316 to 30 non-profit organizations. Discussion was held. Current County funding for The Community Foundation of Cedar County is \$3,000. The Community Foundation of Cedar County is not requesting an increase in funding. No decision was made.

At 9:00 a.m. Mike Boyle, Daisy Wingert, and Bill Muhs representing the Pioneer Cemetery Commission met with the Board for FY22/23 funding review. Wingert and Boyle reported on the Cemetery improvements for 2021 and reviewed the Pioneer Cemetery Commission FY22/23 budget and a listing of Cedar County Cemetery categories. Wingert provided pictures of cleanup in several cemeteries. A special thank you to Eric Storjohann for all his work he has done in the cemeteries. Bill Muhs spoke regarding the Fairview Cemetery. 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.

At 9:30 a.m. Mike Bixler and Mike Boyle, representing the Historical Society met with the Board to present the FY22/23 budget. Bixler gave project updates and provided the 2021 budget. Current County funding for the Historical Society is \$4,000. The Historical Society is requesting an increase of \$1,000 in funding. Bixler appreciates the work the Board of Supervisors does. No decision was made.

Representative Bobby Kaufmann met with the Board and Senator Zach Wahls, via telephone to provide a legislative update. EMA Director Freet, Recorder Bahnsen, Auditor Dauber, Treasurer Delaney, Veterans Service Officer Hamann, Mike Boyle, and Public Health Director Interim Caes were in attendance. Representative Kaufmann and Senator Wahls discussed the following topics: redistricting, EMS bill, budget, workforce and pipeline. Department heads brought

concerns up to the legislators for discussion and the Board of Supervisors brought up concerns. Representative Kaufmann stated when large bills are passed some require clean up afterwards.

At 10:30 a.m. the Board held the second public hearing for redistricting and reprecincting regarding the election precincts. Sharon Elijah, Joy Combs, and Deb Helmold were in attendance. Chairperson Agne read the legal notice. Discussion was held. Chairperson Agne asked if anyone had a comment. Combs asked why the Lowden polling site was being combined with Bennett. Auditor Dauber explained every ten years due to the Census, the Board evaluates and considers reducing, combining, or adding precincts based off the population. Elijah stated it will be a hardship for the elderly. Helmold stated the voters will not vote if you take away the voting precinct in Lowden. Sup. Kaufmann stated he worries about the seniors since they would have to drive. Sup. Bell appreciated the input from Combs, Elijah, and Helmold. The Boards consensus was to retain all election precincts with no changes. The public hearing was closed at 10:51 a.m.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bell to approve Cedar County Ordinance #63, an ordinance for the redistricting and reprecincting to establish the election precincts in Cedar County.

Aye: All

Discussion was held regarding precinct election pay, precinct election official recruitment, and election equipment.

The Board reviewed the Board and Commission listing regarding the positions that were expiring. Discussion was held.

The Board discussed the Compensation Board Recommendation Report. Sup. Bell stated he does not want to break the law. Sup. Smith asked if it was legal to ask an elected official to forgo their pay. Sup. Kaufmann stated why couldn't we ask the Sheriff? The Board took a five-minute recess. Sup. Kaufmann stated after reviewing the letter from Carl Salmons, it stated to follow the state code even though this was a mistake in the code, they should have the recommendation of the Sheriff salary separately from the other elected officials, just like the Board of Supervisors. Sup. Bell agreed although if we don't do this could end up costing more in attorney fees. Sup. Kaufmann stated that in the years to come they would reject all the compensation recommendations for increases, if they feel it is needed. Sup. Bell stated we need to move forward to accept the compensation board recommendation due to the state code does not allow us to do anything different based on the Back the Blue Bill. The Board is not happy with this, and they have asked Representative Kaufmann and Senator Wahls to change this section of the bill.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul, despite our personal disagreement with the report and despite the new law being flawed in this area of compensation we have no choice but to follow the state code and approve the Compensation Board's recommendation for all elected officials except for the Board of Supervisors.

Ayes: All

The Board will decide and vote on their recommendation of salary after all the departmental budgets have been submitted.

The Board discussed the cost of living. Sup Bell stated Mike Galloway mentioned the C.O.L. is ranging from 3 – 4%.

Moved by Sup. Smith seconded by Sup. Agne to set the C.O.L at 4% for all non-union employees and department heads.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to adjourn at 11:43 a.m., to January 3, 2022.

Ayes: All

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Cari A. Dauber, Auditor

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Steve Agne, Chairperson