

The Cedar County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. February 4, 2025 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: Kenneth Elshoff expressing gratitude for exceptional service by Cedar County Veterans Affairs office.

It was noted the following Handwritten Disbursement was issued on 2/4/2025 to the Cedar County Treasurer for Benefits, Inc. for an electronic deposit: #441363 for \$12,507.08-self funded medical claims.

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler 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 January 28, 2025.

Ayes: All  
Abstain: Bixler

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve Claim Disbursements #441264 - #441362 paid on 1/30/2025.

Ayes: All

The Board reported on Outreach/Committee Meetings they attended.

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve and authorize Chairperson Bell to sign the 2025 Maintenance Policy for Application of Dust Control.

Ayes: All

A discussion was held regarding the hiring of an EMS Director. Lonnie Koch was present and participated in the interview process. Koch believes the candidate brings a wealth of experience and will be a strong addition to the County. Barnhart mentioned that the candidate is interested in developing the program and plans to retire here. The EMS Director job description was reviewed, with a few adjustments made to the qualifications.

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to offer the EMS Director position to the candidate, contingent upon the results of a background check, with a starting salary of \$81,868 per year, a \$10,000 sign-on bonus paid over three years, and a \$10,000 relocation package.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to approve and sign the Semi-Annual Settlement Report.

Ayes: All

At 9:00 a.m. the Board held their monthly department head meeting. Those in attendance and providing an update were Assessor Dauber, CPC Director Tischuk, Public Health Director Wagaman, Treasurer Delaney, Engineer Fangmann, Auditor Welch, Sheriff Wethington, IT Director Pierce, Conservation Director Dauber, County Attorney Blank, Head Custodian Gritton and Recorder Bahnsen. Discussion was held.

The Board recessed for five minutes

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve and authorize Chairperson Bell to sign two letters for 3-year monitoring requirement for open space for grant DR4289 and DR1763.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Barnhart to approve a three-year contract extension with Anderson Larkin, including a \$2,500 increase for the annual audit.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to leave the funding the same for the Cedar County Fair Association, which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$43,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to leave the funding the same for the Senior Center, which would set their FY25/26 at \$22,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to leave the funding the same for the County Libraries, which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$145,500.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Bell to leave the funding the same for the Cedar County Historical Society, which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$4,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Bixler seconded by Sup. Gaul to leave the funding the same for Volunteer Services, which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$27,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Barnhart to not fund the Wilton Chamber & Development Alliance for FY25/26.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to leave the funding the same for River Bend Transit, which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$16,965.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Gaul to leave the funding the same for Domestic Violence Intervention, which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$10,750.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Bixler to leave the funding the same for Limestone Bluffs R.C. & D., which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$8,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Barnhart to decrease the funding for Community Foundation, which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$2,000.00.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Bixler seconded by Sup. Bell to leave the funding the same for The Workplace Learning Connection, which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$1,850.50.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to leave the funding the same for C.C.E.D.C.O., which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$75,634.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Bixler seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to leave the funding the same for Home Base Iowa, which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$5,000.00.

Ayes: All



Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to leave the funding the same for Cedar/Jones Early Childhood of Iowa, which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$1,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to leave the funding the same for Lower Cedar Watershed, which would set their FY25/26 funding at 2,000.00

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to decrease the funding for Grave Markers, which would set their FY25/26 funding at \$1,000.00

Ayes: All

Finance Director Dauber informed the Board that Phil Waniorek, Benefits, Inc heard back from Blue Cross Blue Shield and our increase for health insurance is 6% but we need to increase that percentage to increase our self-funded account.

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Kaufmann approve and authorize Chairperson Bell to sign the Blue Cross Blue Shield renewal at 6% with an overall 10% increase to increase the self-funded account.

Ayes: All

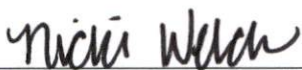
Nays: Bell

A discussion was held with the Board and Finance Director Dauber, who provided handouts outlining the budget figures. The General Fund will have a reduction of \$.06 and faces a shortfall of \$725,000. It was suggested the General Supplement Fund will rise by \$.10 and Rural Services will remain unchanged. The Board reached a consensus to ask Dauber to request that department heads reduce their budget proposals for FY25/26 and to re-estimate accordingly.

Discussion was held on the Resolution regarding pipelines in Cedar County. Consensus was to ask County Attorney Blank for the Resolution and place on agenda for next week.

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Bixler to adjourn at 11:16 a.m., to February 11, 2025.

Ayes: All



Nicki Welch, Auditor



Jon Bell, Chairperson