

The Cedar County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. March 18, 2025, with the following members present: Bixler, Barnhart, Gaul, Kaufmann, and Chairperson Bell. Minutes reported by Auditor Welch. Members of the public were also present.

Employee certificates were presented by Chairperson Bell to Kevin Morris and Derek Meyer for 5 years of service and Bobbie Conrad for 20 years of service.

The Board viewed correspondence from various agencies and acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence from:

Conservation Director Dauber, Notice of New Hire for Summer Seasonal Employment for Kaleb Nerem and Thomas Cecil Stull starting March 10, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$15.15.

Solid Waste Manager Crock, Notice of New Hire for Operator for Andrew Berkenpas starting March 18, 2025, at an hourly rate of \$22.83.

It was noted the following Handwritten Disbursement was issued on 3/14/2025 to the Cedar County Treasurer for Benefits, Inc. for an electronic deposit: #441792 for \$3,969.29-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. There were none.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve the Board Minutes of March 11, 2025.

Ayes: Kaufmann, Bixler, Bell, Gaul

Abstained: Barnhart

The Board reported on Outreach/Committee Meetings they attended.

Chairman Bell reported receiving phone calls regarding confusion with the proposed property tax mailing that went out last week.

Chairman Bell informed the Board of the plan he and Head Custodian Gritton developed to address last week's ADA compliance complaint regarding the handicap parking spaces in the south lot.

Chairman Bell received a phone call inquiring on the possibility of setting up a tent for the Class of 1965 to gather during the 4th of July parade. After discussion with the Board, Chairman Bell will advise they go through the Auditor's office to do so.

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to adopt the following resolutions presented by Treasurer Delaney:

Resolution

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Cedar County, Iowa, has received a request for the abatement of property taxes for the property described below, in accordance with Iowa Code 445.63 and

WHEREAS, Iowa Code 445.63 provides for the abatement of property taxes under specific circumstances, including situations where property is abandoned with the meaning of Iowa Code 657A.10B and

WHEREAS, the City of Tipton has acquired the property previously owned by Luva Jean Petersen Revocable Trust Dated July 13, 2011 & contract buyer Kent Tholen at 54 Walnut St. Tipton, IA 52772 Parcel #048011061840040 with outstanding regular taxes in the amount of \$ 355.00 to be abated and the June 20, 2023 Tax Sale Certificate number 2023-93 to be cancelled and refund the purchase money in the amount of \$1,308.00 to Willow Grove Investments Inc and the June 17, 2024 Tax Sale Certificate number 2024-116 to be cancelled and refund the purchase money in the amount of \$ 708.00 to ACC 1132 LLC as required pursuant to the provisions of Iowa Code 657A.10B[7].

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Cedar County Board of Supervisors, in accordance with the Iowa Code Chapter 445.63, total taxes in the amount of \$2,371.00 shall be abated.

Resolution adopted this 18th day of March, 2025

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Ayes: All

At 9:00 a.m. the Board of Supervisors, convened as a 2nd Tier Canvass Board to canvass votes cast in the Bennett Community School Special Election of March 4, 2025. Auditor Welch met with the Board. Present were Supervisors: Gaul, Bixler, Barnhart, Kaufmann and Chairperson Bell. The results were as follows:

Bennett Community School District-Director at Large-To Fill A Vacancy

Ian Bjurstrom: eighty-four (84) votes

Write-In: three (3) votes

Total: eighty-seven (87) votes

Bennett Community School Public Measure DM

Shall the Board of Directors of the Bennett Community School District, in the Counties of Cedar and Scott, State of Iowa, for the purpose of purchasing and improving grounds; constructing schoolhouses or buildings and opening roads to schoolhouses or buildings; purchasing of buildings; purchase, lease or lease-purchase of technology and equipment; paying debts contracted for the erection or construction of schoolhouses or buildings, not including interest on bonds; procuring or acquisition of libraries; repairing, remodeling, reconstructing, improving, or expanding the schoolhouses or buildings and additions to existing schoolhouses; expenditures for energy conservation; renting facilities under Iowa Code Chapter 28E; purchasing transportation equipment for transporting students; lease purchase option agreements for school buildings or equipment; purchasing equipment authorized by law; or for any purpose or purposes now or hereafter authorized by law, be authorized for a period of four (4) years, to levy annually, a voter-approved physical plant and equipment property tax not to exceed an additional Sixty-Seven Cents (\$0.67) per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) of the assessed valuation of the taxable property within the school district commencing with the levy for collection in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, or each year thereafter, it being understood that if this public measure should fail to be approved by the voters, such failure shall not be construed to terminate or restrict authority previously granted by the voters to levy and impose a special tax for any one or more of the foregoing purposes?

For Public Measure DM, there were: ninety-four (94) votes

Against Public Measure DM, there were: eighteen (18) votes

TOTAL one hundred twelve (112) votes

We therefore declare Public Measure DM to be adopted.

The board recessed until 9:15 a.m.

Community Services Director Tischuk informed the board of the uncertainty of funding for the committal services currently provided through a 28E agreement with Scott County's Mental Health Advocate. At this time five counties are provided service from Scott County's Mental Health Advocate. If the county was to be responsible for this cost, it would be weighted by the number of clients. Cedar County has approximately 14-15 commitments currently receiving services. In 2019 when the county was responsible for paying for this service the case load was a little smaller and the cost was approximately \$1100/month. Discussion was held on budgeting for this service if the county is determined to be responsible. Chairman Bell recommended waiting with the other Supervisors agreeing.

Chairman Bell left at 9:22 a.m. and the board recessed until 9:30 a.m.

Engineer Fangmann informed the board of a proposal by Iowa County Engineers Association for a secondary roads levy to create transparency for taxpayers and help correct an unintended consequence of potentially freezing farm to market funds as a result of HF718. This would not be an additional tax, it would just be breaking out the current transfer, making it a separate line item on tax statements so taxpayers can see what county funds are provided directly to the secondary road fund. He asked the board for their support in this proposal.

EMS Director Dinsch provided a request for capital purchases for approval to the board. The request included a 2024 Tahoe, (2) T1 Ventilators, (2) LUCAS Mechanical CPR, Power Load Stretcher, Power Stair Chair, Mobile Radios, and Portable Radios for a total of \$246,989.95. The mechanical CPR, stretcher and stair chair will possibly be lower by approximately \$2,000 each. Discussion was held. Sup. Gaul moved to approve the purchase request with a maximum of \$246,989.95, Sup. Bixler seconded the motion.

Ayes: All

Absent: Bell

Conservation Director Dauber gave an update on the Hoover Bridge. Work was possibly going to start in April but is now set to start in June. Conservation Director Dauber requested to move the expenses budgeted for the project in this fiscal year to the next since the expenses will not be paid until the next fiscal year. Sup. Barnhart moved to allow Conservation Director Dauber to move the \$320,000 budgeted for the Hoover Bridge Project to the next fiscal year, Sup. Bixler seconded the motion.

Ayes: All

Absent: Bell

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Gaul to adjourn at 10:23 a.m., to March 25, 2025.

Ayes: All

Absent: Bell



Nicki Welch, Auditor



Jon Bell, Chairperson