

The Cedar County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. February 24, 2026 with the following members present: Bixler, Barnhart, Gaul, Kaufmann, and Chairperson Bell. Minutes reported by Deputy Auditor Hamdorf. Members of the public were also present.

The Board viewed correspondence from various agencies.

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following correspondence from:

Noah Barclay, Correctional Officer Notice of New Hire with a starting wage of \$24.87 effective 2/25/2026.

Stacey Renee Bair-Harmon read a statement to the Board to put them on formal notice regarding the systemic corruption and obstruction currently taking place with the Cedar County Courthouse and the Sheriff's Department.

Cedar County Clerk of Court fees collected.

Crystal Grunder, Homemaker Notice of Voluntary Resignation effective 3/18/2026.

Manure Management Annual Updates submitted by:

JT Center Pork East 5 #71925 for a site at 1751 250th Street, Bennett.

PJ Farms Inc. – Site 2 #69373 for a site at 1982 250th Street, Bennett.

JT Center Pork West 1++ LLC #71883 for a site at 801 Green Road, Tipton.

Tim Kahl #62880 for a site at 2109 Hoover Highway, Lowden.

JT Center Pork 4+ LLC #71432 for a site at 1612 260th Street, Tipton.

Curt Engler #68497 for a site at 2370 190th Street, Wheatland.

Valley View Farms Inc #66070 for a site at 642 280th Street, West Branch.

John Sander Taylor Site #61913 for a site at 724 Taylor Avenue, Lowden.

Michael Lilenthal Farm #59739 for a site at 2323 290th Street, New Liberty.
for a site in Township.

It was noted the following Handwritten Disbursement was issued on 2/20/2026 to the Cedar County Treasurer for Benefits, Inc. for an electronic deposit: #445001 for \$2,335.68-self funded medical claims.

Moved by Sup. Bixler seconded by Sup. Barnhart to approve the agenda.

Ayes: All

Chairperson Bell addressed the public for comments. Public Health Director Wagaman informed the Board that a homemaker has submitted her notice of resignation, and she has posted to replace the position. Stacey Renee Bair-Harmon read an email to the Board to put them on formal notice regarding the systemic corruption and obstruction currently taking place with the Cedar County Courthouse and the Sheriff's Department. Each Board member received a copy of notice.

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve the Board Minutes of February 17, 2026.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve Payroll Disbursements #204368-204514 for the period ending 2/14/26 and to be paid on 2/20/26.

Ayes: All

The Board reported on Outreach/Committee Meetings they attended.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to set public hearing dates for recodification of county ordinances to 9:00 a.m. on 3/24/2026 and 3/31/2026.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to appoint Melissa Blank to the Tipton library board.

Ayes: All

EMS Director Dinsch provided updated job descriptions that he worked with HR Attorney Galloway for approval. Licenses/Certifications and Credentialing were updated.

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve the updated job description.
Ayes: All

Sup. Kaufmann provided an update on Veterans Graves.

Moved by Sup. Bixler seconded by Sup. Gaul to approve FY23/24 and FY24/25 project reports.
Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve P & K Midwest as the lowest bidder \$150,333.92 for the 2026 quotes for a new mower tractor. Fangman mentioned that this will be paid out of Secondary Roads fund not the General fund.
Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve the utility permit for Windstream for the City of Bennett and the \$100 fee applies.
Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve the utility permit for Alliant Energy for the Rochester Bridge project and waive the \$100 fee.
Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to approve the utility permit for Alliant Energy for the Quincy Ave, Red Star Rd, 230th St and 240th St. project and the \$100 fee applies.
Ayes: All

Finance Director Dauber provided handouts to board members with updated numbers from last week's discussion. Public Health Director Wagaman informed the Board Public Health would assume the Environmental roles with a part-time position and contract out zoning. Dauber informed the Board that the updated numbers reflect eliminating a Correctional Officer, part-time Community Service Clerk and part-time Custodial staff. Sheriff Wethington stated that if taxpayers want lower taxes giving money to entities is not mandatory and if the Board doesn't have the money, you don't give them any. Discussion was held.

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Gaul to reduce Senior Center, Domestic Violence and Volunteer Services by 10% funding Senior Center \$19,800, Domestic Violence \$9,675 and Volunteer Services \$24,300.
Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Barnhart to reduce River Bend Transit by 25% funding them \$12,723.75. This decision was decided due to Scott County not providing any funds for a service they utilize.
Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul seconded by Sup. Bixler to reduce Cedar County Libraries by \$25,000. Discussion was held and decided this wasn't enough.
Nays: All

Moved by Sup. Bixler seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to reduce Cedar County Libraries by 25% funding them with \$109,125.
Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Gaul to reduce Cedar County Fair by \$5,000.
Died due to lack of a seconded.

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to reduce Cedar County Fair by \$7,500 funding them with \$35,500.
Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to reduce Cedar Jones Early Childhood by 20% funding them with \$800. It was also mentioned that Cedar County is the fiscal agent for this entity at no cost.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to reduce Limestone Bluffs R.C.D by 25% funding them with \$6,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to reduce Workplace Learning by \$370 funding them with \$1,480.50.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to reduce Historical Society funding to \$0.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Kaufmann to reduce Lower Cedar Watershed by 25% funding them with \$1,500.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bell to reduce Community Foundation funding to \$0 as this money can be recovered by grants provided.

Ayes: All

CCEDCO was discussed and is funded at \$61,067 which is a reduction of \$14,567.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Gaul to approve up to \$4,600 to provide flag holders and flags to Veterans.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to reduce mileage for Board of Supervisors to \$0, a \$5,000 reduction.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bell to reduce salary for Board of Supervisors to \$28,717.14, a \$1,000/per board member reduction.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve Public Health to assume the Environmental role due to the upcoming retirement of Director LaRue with a cost savings of around \$91,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve the reduction of a part-time Community Service Clerk position with cost savings of around \$25,000.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to approve the reduction of a part-time Courthouse Custodian with cost savings of around \$22,435. This is being done with Department Heads understanding and agreeing to assist with duties when needed.

Ayes: All

The three stipends were discussed. The \$10,000 Finance stipend is not a part of the Auditor's Code. Consensus of the Board was to leave it. The two \$5,000 stipends for HIPAA were discussed. Community Services Director Tischuk said they eliminated the part time clerk to keep HIPAA. A full-time employee would cost more than a stipend. Tischuk will check with CAROSH to see if we can reduce the level.

Budget discussion continued with General Basic. Consensus of the Board was that budget meetings need to happen earlier, and Department Heads need to be very transparent to all employees of what's coming. The Board also would like to have all Department Heads make a

4% reduction in the budget offset by the reductions already made. The Board understands some Department Heads can't cut but will address that in the next meeting.

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Barnhart to have an additional budget meeting Friday, February 27, 2026 at 8:30 in the Boardroom.

Ayes: All

Nay: Bixler

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bell to have all Department Heads make a 4% reduction in the budget offset by the reductions already made. The Board understands some Department Heads can't cut but will address that in the next meeting.

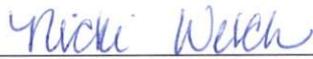
Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Barnhart seconded by Sup. Bixler to reduce both legal and minutes line items in the Board's budget by \$500 each.

Ayes: All

Moved by Sup. Kaufmann seconded by Sup. Barnhart to adjourn at 12:19 p.m., to February 27, 2026.

Ayes: All



Nicki Welch, Auditor



Jon Bell, Chairperson