The Cherokee County Board of Supervisors met in special session on Monday, April 9, 2007 with Ron Wetherell, Jeff Simonsen, Mark Leeds, Terry Graybill and Dean Schmidt. Meeting began at 12:20 p.m. for the purpose of an interview with an applicant for the County Attorney position. A closed session was not requested and the interview proceeded until 1:30 p.m. The upcoming budget amendment to finish out the 2006/2007 fiscal year was discussed until the scheduled telephone conference was held at 2:30 p.m.

Ken Ross of the *Chronicle Times* was present from the press.

Also present for the meeting were Connie Prunty, Diane Anderson, Connie Mohn, Leanne Hammer, Tom Gary, David Enderlin, Harold Glover and Jack Clark.

A conference call was taken by the Supervisors from Julie McMahn, of the State Department of Health to answer some questions they had about the role of the BOH and Supervisors.

Clarification of Diane Anderson's position as Community Health Consultant and her assisting the BOH in the Careage proposal for Public Health services. McMahn reassured the Supervisors that she is here to provide information to both the BOH and the Supervisors.

If the supervisors choose to retain their status as State Contract holder what are their responsibilities? They would decide the provider of the State program grants (about $60,000.00), and must subcontract with a nonprofit entity to provide the services. The sub contractor would be responsible for the reports that must be filed. The BOH would decide what services and provider for indigent care with up to $45,000.00 of property taxes. The County does make the decision of the total amount of property taxes that will be made available.

She was asked about the appointment of the BOH and possible removal of an appointee. As far as the code of Iowa states the appointed Board could be removed with out cause and the Supervisors can appoint qualified applicants or nominees.

McMahon suggested that a needs assessment be conducted in the county to determine any gaps of services that need to be filled by the public health. The BOH is responsible for this assessment. The public health is to meet needs where there are no other services available.

39 counties in Iowa do not currently have public health departments and contract with private or nonprofit providers.

Telephone conference ended at 3:10 p.m.

Kris Glienke, County Financial Director, asked the Supervisors how they propose to finish out the current year in regards to the public health budget. A budget amendment for grants in and out has been agreed on the last regular meeting. However, there will still be a $30,000.00 short fall due to wages and benefits. This amendment results in a $140,000.00 cost to the taxpayer and increases the total Public Health budget to $650,000.00 for current year.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

_____Attest: _____

Ronald Wetherell, Chairman **Bonnie Ebel, County Auditor**