

Dennis Ridgeway sworn in as Cerro Gordo Village President

By CHRISTY JANKOWSKI
Staff Writer

Monday, December 17 Dennis Ridgeway was officially sworn in as Village President of Cerro Gordo. Brad Williams resigned as Village President effective December 3 and during last month's meeting recommended Ridgeway take his place.

Ridgeway will remain the Village President until the election in April of 2019. Brad Williams was sworn in as a board member Monday evening.

Village Discusses Scout Hall with Scout Leaders

The current building where the Cerro Gordo Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Boy Scouts meet currently has septic issues. The village feels as if there will be more work in the future and is recommending the Scouts move their meetings to the Civic Center.

Ridgeway stated, "We have had various problems with the building and I think everyone is aware of that." Ridgeway acknowledged that the Scouts will need additional storage for

supplies. Kristina Pyles a Troop Leader stated that there were other issues besides storage, mainly scheduling. The current building supports all Scouts, with at least 11 evening meetings a month just from the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts. "Because not only do we have to schedule the Cub Scouts and Boys, you are also going to be scheduling between 2 girl scout troops. And you also use that building to rent out for parties and the craft bazaar." Adding, "We use the building practically every day."

The civic center would supply the scouts with two separate rooms, some storage in the "radio room" and would be handicap accessible. Mike Martin brought up the idea of putting a petition in the garage part of the civic center to add an additional room when needed. Martin added, "The financial part probably better to move over there because of upkeep problems, and the sewer right now, and we were going to have to put a ramp in there for you too." Many of the supplies the



Cerro Gordo Village Clerk Tina McCarty administers the Oath of Office to Dennis Ridgeway. Ridgeway was sworn in as Cerro Gordo's Village President at the Monday, December 17 meeting. He replaces Brad Williams. Photo by Christy Jankowski

Scouts use need to be accessible for meetings, and there is the scheduling issue, so the village decided they would talk with the Den Leaders in figuring out a solution. Ridgeway stated, "Go over and maybe meet with you get some of the leaders together and work to see what we can work out. We want to work with you however we can."

Water Insurance and Zoning Board of Appeals Recommendations Discussed

For the last few months the idea of adding a water insurance program has been discussed. Last month Servline presented a program. The program would possibly cost the customer from anywhere to \$1.30-\$1.50 a month, and would be an automatic "opt-in" program. The program is for leaks, similar to the program the village currently offers. However, the current program is costing the village hundreds of dollars each month in adjustments.

Ridgeway contacted three separate communities similar in size to Cerro Gordo

that have similar programs to see how it is working out for them. "They all are pretty happy with it."

Before the village can send out a survey to water customers, they have to complete their own survey

to see how much it would cost an individual. The village decided Monday evening to go ahead with both surveys to see if there is any interest. The village will have to pay for the bulk

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Hearing for Objection of Nomination Papers for Cerro Gordo Village Trustee rescheduled to January 2

By CHRISTY JANKOWSKI
Staff Writer

Thursday, December 26 the Cerro Gordo Municipal Officers Electoral Board attempted to hold a hearing for the objection of nomination papers for Tom Hyde for Village Trustee. The Hearing of Case Number 2018-1 Tim Allen vs. Tom Hyde will take place instead on January 2, 2019 at 4pm.

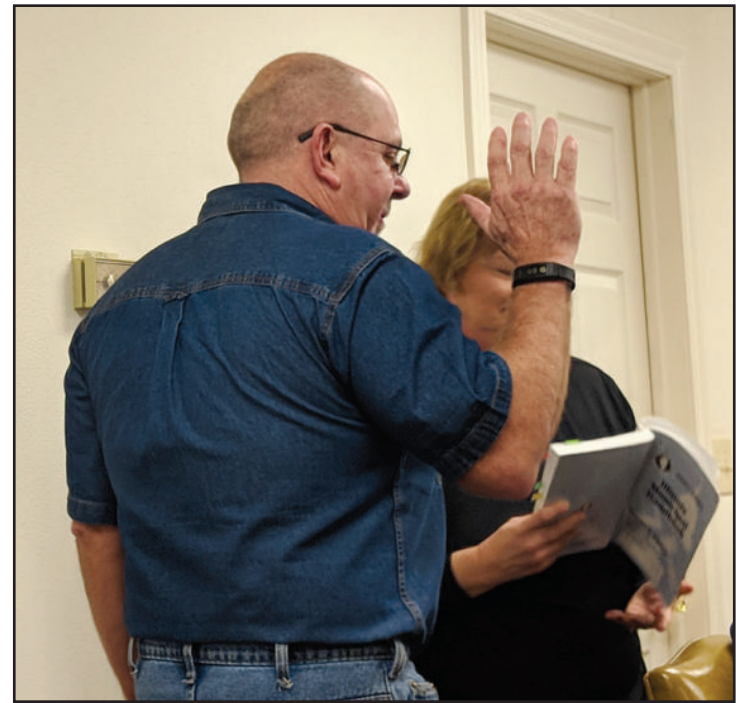
Village President Dennis Ridgeway called the meeting to order with Trustee Mike Martin, Village Clerk, Tina McCarty; and the Village Attorney, Susan Nichols. Both Trustee Tim Allen and villager Tom Hyde were

present.

Candidate Tom Hyde asked for a continuance as he did not feel he had time enough to prepare.

For local Municipal Elections in the State of Illinois, you may file from December 10-17 to seek nomination. Hyde filed on December 17 for one of the village trustee seats. Prior to this Hyde met with the Citizen's Party Caucus on December 3 to run as an independent candidate, to which the board felt it violated Election Law. The village clerk, Tina McCarty told Tom that this may jeopardize his ability

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Brad Williams takes the Oath of Office from Cerro Gordo Village Clerk Tina McCarty. Williams, former Cerro Gordo Village President, was sworn in as a Trustee for the Village at the December 17 meeting. Christy Jankowski photo

Cerro Gordo approves Volleyball Cooperative Agreement

By CHRISTY JANKOWSKI
Staff Writer

Wednesday, December 19, the Cerro Gordo School Board approved the Inter-governmental Cooperative agreement with Bement for high school Volleyball.

Principal Jeremy Rodebaugh stated, "Like I said last month there were just a few minor wording agreements that were different than last year." Adding, "I feel comfortable with that language." Only minor

changes were made to the agreement to which made the agreement similar to what both districts agreed upon last year for their other 6 cooperative sports agreements.

Adding Junior High

sports and Cross Country have also been discussed between both boards. Just a few months ago the districts held a joint meeting discussing that. Rodebaugh stated that he discussed the item with Mr. Kepely, Be-

ment High School Principal, "Third item he discussed with me that there is no further movement of junior high and cross country at this time that they are leaving that open for discussion just no further movement at this time."

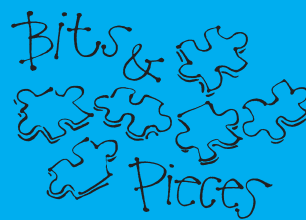
Now while there is no movement at the time, it is still "on the table" both districts state. There are a few tweaks that need to be worked out, mainly concerning supervision concerns.

Denise Strack from Bement was present for the meeting, making sure to state she is not speaking for the entire board. "As far as transportation being an issue a lot of us were concerned with what do you do with these 13, 14 year old kids." There is concern because of the time difference as to when Bement dismisses versus Cerro Gordo. There is concern that the kids may end up running across the street to Casey's in Cerro Gordo, since it is directly across from the school and there is a lag time when students practice in Cerro Gordo.

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The Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond girls basketball team finished second in their own tournament held just before Christmas. On their way to runner up at the Knights Holiday Classic ALAH defeated Blue Ridge, Shelbyville and Tuscola before losing a hard fought game against Sullivan in the championship. Pictured are front row: Jolynn Barbee, Addi Tinkle, Alexa Miller, Nisa Asghar, Emma Harris, Marissa Herschberger, Shae Slabaugh, Maddie Snyder. Back row: Kensli Eads, Asst. Coach Brianne Eads, Annie Snyder, Abby Abercrombie, Mallory Nichols, Taylor Nichols, Mackenzi Bowles, Marcy Petersheim, Shaylie Miller, Head Coach Mac Condill. Photo Marty Yeakel.



New A-H Food Pantry Hours

Beginning January 2, 2019 the A-H Food Pantry will be open once a month.

It will be the first Wednesday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

The A-H Food Pantry is located at the United Church of Atwood.

First Blood Bank of 2019

The Atwood American Legion Auxiliary will sponsor a Red Cross Blood Drive on Friday, January 4, 2019 from 2-7 p.m. at the United Church of Atwood.

Anyone who is at least 16 years old, in good health and weighs at least 110 lbs. is eligible to give blood every 56 days. Every pint of blood donated has the potential to save three lives. With all the recent natural disasters, the need for blood is greater than usual.

So drink lots of water and eat a healthy meal before coming to the church on Jan. 4 to donate blood.

To schedule an appointment please call Kathy Caraway (217) 649-1532 or email: km-caraway@gmail.com.

Senior Class Fundraiser

Los Gallos Mexican Grill in downtown Arthur will be hosting another fundraiser for the Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond High School Class of 2019 on Thursday, January 3.

Twenty percent of all bills will go to the class to help defray the cost of the annual trip to Washington DC for the seniors.

Los Gallos is located at 128 S. Vine Street in Arthur.

Families Anonymous meetings

Families Anonymous (FA) is a twelve-step support group for those concerned about their loved ones use of alcohol, drugs, or related behavior problems, whether current, suspected, or past abuse.

Meetings will be held on the first and third Wednesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the United Church of Atwood, 210 N Main St, Atwood. Enter through the door on the east side of the building.

Narcotics Anonymous meetings

Open Narcotics Anonymous meetings will be held every Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. at 521 North Illinois Street, Atwood. Pull down the alley and the building will be on the North side of the road.