

**Board of Supervisors Minutes**  
**February 24, 2025**

The Tama County Board of Supervisors met at 8:30 a.m. February 24, 2025. Present: 1st District Supervisor, Curt Hilmer; 2nd District Supervisor, David Turner; 4th District Supervisor, Mark Doland and 5th District Supervisor, Curt Kupka. Also, Tama County Auditor, Karen Rohrs, members of the public, and Sheriff Schmidt. 3rd District Supervisor, Heather Knebel joined by phone.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve the agenda. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Public comments were heard from Bill Faircloth, Karen Murty, and Richard Arp. Public comments closed at 8:35 am.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve the minutes of the February 18<sup>th</sup> regular meeting. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The Board met with Ben Daleske, Tama County Engineer, to get a road projects report. He also told the board that he is working on updating the dust control policy. Daleske also presented a Notice to Bidders for tearing down the old shop. Motion by Turner, seconded by Hilmer to approve the Notice to Bidders. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Daleske then spoke to the Board about hiring for the open motor grader position out of the Traer shed. He stated he would like to offer the job to Brady Pearson. Motion by Kupka, seconded by Turner to approve Daleske hiring Brady Pearson for the Traer shed motor grader position. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Auditor Rohrs spoke to the Board and stated a public hearing date needs to be set for the proposed property tax notice. This is a new State requirement to allow residents to see what tax levies are doing for the next fiscal year. The hearing must be done as its own meeting. Notices will be mailed out to Tama County residents on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Rohrs recommended the Board set a public hearing date for March 31<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 am. This date should allow residents enough time to receive the mailing. Motion by Knebel, seconded by Turner to set the date and time for the proposed property tax notice meeting for Monday March 31<sup>st</sup> at 8:00 am. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Hilmer, seconded by Kupka to approve posting the VA Director/General Relief position. Discussion: There was discussion on whether to post just the VA Director position and to wait posting the General Relief position and what the benefits of waiting to post the General Relief position would be. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The Board members had received calls from county employees voicing their thoughts on the severe weather policy. The Board discussed the severe weather policy again and would like to see a few changes made to the previous policy. Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve the

following severe weather policy: In the event of severe weather the County Auditor, as directed by the Board of Supervisors, may determine that it is necessary to close the courthouse or other County offices and facilities. If an employee's office is closed by the County, regular full-time employees scheduled to work during that time will be compensated at their regular rate of pay to complete their normal work hours.

For those departments that are unable to close. The employees that are required to be at work (Sheriff's Deputies, Jailers, 911 dispatchers and Secondary Roads Crew that are required to report) will be given 8 hours of BOS Bank that can be used at another time. These hours must be used in 8 hour increments within the same fiscal year that they are earned. Any hours not used within the current fiscal year will be lost. Discussion: Sheriff Schmidt asked if he had an employee come on duty within the 24 hours that the snow day affected that the employee be allowed to bank 8 hours. The Board agreed sheriff deputies, jailers, 911 dispatchers, and secondary roads crew requiring to be at work within the 24 hours of the snow day would get to bank 8 hours. All voted aye. Motion carried.

At 9:00 am the Supervisors held a public hearing to vacate part of a road between 370<sup>th</sup> and 380<sup>th</sup> St. and Railroad Tracks in Salt Creek Township. Motion by Turner, seconded by Hilmer to open the public hearing at 9:04 am. Public comments: There were two landowners present to speak in favor of vacating the road. Motion by Hilmer, seconded by Turner to close the public hearing. Chairman Doland closed the public hearing at 9:22 am. Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve the following resolution:

#### **RESOLUTION 2-24-2025A**

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held at 9:00 am on February 24, 2025, in the office of the Tama County Board of Supervisors to consider the proposal to vacate the following road:

Commencing at the SW corner SE SE of Section 24-T82N-R13W, thence North 104 rods (1,716 feet) to the point of beginning, thence N65°30'W about 27 chains (1,782 feet), to the ¼ Section Line of Section 24-T82N-R13W, thence North about 10 chains (66 feet), to a point 0.5 chains (33 feet) North of the Railroad, originally established on September 2, 1867 (See Road Calendar Book B, page 64) all lying in Section 24, T82N, R13W of Tama County, Iowa, and

WHEREAS, no objections have been received, either in writing or by persons present, and

WHEREAS, no claims for damages were received,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that previously described road be ordered vacated.

Roll Call Vote: Hilmer, aye. Turner, aye. Knebel, aye. Doland, aye. Kupka, aye. Resolution passed and adopted this 24th day of February, 2025. Mark Doland, Chairman, Board of Supervisors. Karen Rohrs, County Auditor.

Chairman Doland removed discussing and possible action to approve a letter in response to an IPIB complaint that was received on 2/14/25. He stated the attorney is reviewing the letter and that he will be speaking with the lawyer tomorrow to discuss the letter.

Doland stated the Board is moving forward with the budgeting process and wanted the Board to have an opportunity to speak about deappropriating funds to departments in front of the public. He stated the Board can approve an amount or percentage to deappropriate and that some departments could cut 1% while other departments could do a higher percentage. He stated target cuts could be

the best. Some specific items to look at could be mileage, meals, and lodging, office furniture, school of instruction, and dues & memberships. Doland stated the county doesn't have extra funds right now. The Tama County Treasurer stated the best thing to do would be to look at next fiscal year's budgets and make cuts. She stated that the county has \$13 million in the bank and is not broke. She stated that the \$13 million is not able to be used because it is in other designated funds and not the general fund. She stated the Board needs to look at the ISAC salary comparisons because some Tama County department heads are making too much. The treasurer stated with the trend of spending being decreased and tax payments slowly coming in, the county will make it to the end of the current fiscal year and be able to pay back the loan that came from the general supplemental fund. Turner recapped the conversation by saying department heads need to continue to put the brakes on their spending and look at every penny. Doland stated that the Board will be holding a budget work session today at 10:00 am to continue working on the 2026 fiscal year budget. No action was taken.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Knebel to approve the claims for payment as presented in the amount of \$ 101,300.67. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Public comments were heard from Richard Arp, Karen Murty, Bill Faircloth, and Michelle Schroeder. Public comments closed at 9:49 am.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Doland adjourned the meeting at 9:49 am.

These minutes are intended to provide a summary of the discussions and decisions made during the Board of Supervisor meeting. For the most accurate and comprehensive record, please refer to the audio recording of the meeting that can be provided upon request at the auditor's office.