

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

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Doland explained that the county had received a letter from lawyers that are representing them for the opioid settlement. The county needs to decide whether to withdraw from an amendment process. The legal council and county attorney's advice is to withdraw. Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve the county withdraw from the opioid settlement amendment process per legal council's advice. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Public comments were heard from Jim Smith, Carolyn Adolphs, Karen Murty, and Richard Arp. Public comment time closed at 8:38 am.

Motion by Knebel, seconded by Hilmer to approve the minutes of the March 17<sup>th</sup> canvass and March 17<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 presented Final Plans for STP-S-CO86(115)—5E-86, E66 paving. Motion by Hilmer, seconded by Turner to approve having the board chairman sign the Final Plans for STP-S-CO86(115)—5E-86. Discussion: Bids for the project will not be submitted until June. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Daleske also had two utility permits for the board chairman to sign. One permit is for Shannon Svoboda and the other is for Heart of Iowa Communications. Motion by Hilmer, seconded by Turner to approve the board chairman to sign the two utility permits. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Auditor Rohrs stated a public hearing needs to be set for final approval and adoption of the FY26 county budget. Rohrs recommended Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:45 am, but the board can hold the meeting at any time that they would prefer and that it doesn't have to be at a regular Monday morning meeting. Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve setting the FY26 County Budget public hearing for Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at 8:45 am. Discussion: Turner stated he would like to see what the turnout is for Tuesday night's public levy forum. If that forum draws a large number of citizens, he would like to see the board hold an additional forum on an evening for the public to give their comments on the proposed FY26 budget. All voted aye. Motion carried.

At last week's meeting representatives from AFLAC and Liberty National spoke to the board about plans their companies offer and would like the board's approval to come back to present to

employees and allow the county to do payroll deductions for those employees that sign up for their services. Hilmer stated he would like to see at least ten employees be interested in a company before allowing payroll deductions to be made. Schroeder, payroll administrator, stated she would like to see the county pick one or two companies to offer payroll deductions for and if someone would like a different company than what the county offers that employee can go sign up on their own. Motion by Knebel, seconded by Turner to allow AFLAC and Liberty National to come present to county employees. Discussion: Doland stated he felt it would be good to offer more options to employees for a more competitive pricing between companies. The board at this time did not want to act on having these companies have their deductions made from payroll. The board would like to have more discussions before allowing for payroll deductions. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Knebel, seconded by Kupka to approve a temporary liquor license for Lucky Wife Wine Slushies for an event to be held at Tama Co. Market on May 11<sup>th</sup>. Discussion: Knebel stated that the vendor providing the alcohol provides insurance to do so. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Hilmer, seconded by Turner to approve the annual liquor license renewal for Fox Ridge Winery. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Hilmer, seconded by Turner to approve re-appointing Doug Sienknecht to the Veterans Affairs Commission. This is a three-year term. Discussion: The current VA director stated that Sienknecht's term had expired last year but that his term would be renewed for three years from today if the board approves re-appointing him. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The EMS Advisory Council received notice that Ken Tanner and Dr. Polly Hineman are no longer able to serve on the council. The EMS Advisory Council found Paul McCoy and Jay Owens who would be willing to serve. Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve appointing Paul McCoy and Jay Owens to the vacant positions on the EMS Advisory Council. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

There were no hiring freeze exemptions to act on.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Hilmer to approve the claims for payment as presented in the amount of \$163,425.82. Discussion: Knebel stated the cameras on the list of claims under the board of supervisors was for the sheriff's department and that those funds are paid through the board of supervisor's department but that the funds are actually paid out of the ARPA account. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Public comments were heard from Karen Murty, Carolyn Adolphs, and Richard Arp. Public comment time closed at 9:17 am.

Chairman Doland adjourned the meeting at 9:17 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.