

Board of Supervisors Minutes
January 26, 2026

The Tama County Board of Supervisors met at 8:30 a.m. January 26, 2026. 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, and members of the public.

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: There were no comments from the public. Public comment time closed at 8:31 am.

Motion by Knebel, seconded by Hilmer to approve the minutes of the January 20th regular meeting. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The Board met with Ben Daleske, Tama County Engineer, to get a road projects report. Daleske also presented a utility permit for ITC Midwest LLC. Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to postpone approval of the utility permit. Discussion: The Board discussed postponing approval of the permit until the assistant foreman can go out and look at the ditch to see if it needs to be dug out before work can be done for the utility permit. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Daniela Morejon was present to ask the supervisors to reassign Tax Certificate #19-00203. The current amount owed is \$18,057.94. \$5,236.00 of that is actual taxes, the rest is for interest, special assessments, and miscellaneous fees. Ms. Morejon would like to offer \$2,618.00, one half the amount of the taxes owed, and plans to meet with the City of Tama to see if they would abate \$5,002.94, the amount of the special assessments. She would like the supervisors to abate the other half of the taxes owed, interest, and miscellaneous fees. Motion by Hilmer, seconded by Turner to reassign Tax Sale Certificate #19-00203 to Daniela Morejon for \$2,618.00, if the city of Tama agrees to abate the special assessments. Discussion: By allowing Ms. Morejon to pay half of the taxes owed and abating the remaining fees, the property will be returned to the tax rolls. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Turner stated the county owns land and has received a ballot in the mail to vote for a USDA representative, James E. Sandquist. Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to vote for James E. Sandquist as USDA representative and approve the chairman to sign. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Laura Wilson, Zoning Administrator, had submitted a recommendation to the Board to set public hearings to amend Ordinance 6.1, 1998 Tama County Zoning Ordinance. The Board discussed whether they should set public hearings to amend the ordinance or wait to see if there will be more updates to this ordinance or updates to other ordinances and do them all at once to save on publication costs. No action was taken.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve the claims for payment as presented in the amount of \$410,385.71. Discussion: The higher total for claims is due to the yearly landfill transfer of funds. All voted aye. Motion carried.

New Business:

Knebel stated she had gone to the Heartland meeting and that Paul Greufe, HR consultant, will be emailing out the renewals for insurance to the department heads to work on. The renewals will be due on February 22nd. Also, there will be a free 10-hour OSHA training in March that may be beneficial for the roads foreman to attend. Knebel will also be attending the county safety committee meeting on February 2nd. Hilmer stated he would like to discuss a tax abatement proposal at next week's meeting. Turner stated he had attended the Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center meeting and that a lot of positive changes have been made. Turner also informed the Board that the new phone transition will hopefully be completed this week. Doland stated that the regional mental health had met for the last time last week. Doland has drafted a potential position for a mental health advocate and law enforcement liaison with no added cost to the taxpayers. He stated that the state reimburses for mental health advocate fees and opioid funds can be used to fund the liaison portion of the position.

Public Comments: Public comments were heard from Jim Smith. Public comment time closed at 9:07 am.

The Board took a recess at 9:07 am. The Board came out of recess at 9:30 am.

At 9:30 a.m., a HomeBase Iowa Designation Ceremony was held. James Stout, HomeBase Iowa Career Planner, presented and read the designation letter officially recognizing Tama County as the 85th county to join HomeBase Iowa. Jamie Norton, Director of Veteran Workforce Services, read a letter from Governor Kim Reynolds and presented challenge coins to Supervisor Doland, Supervisor Knebel, and Auditor Rohrs. Speeches were also delivered by Trevor Killian, Tama County Detective, and Casey Schmidt, Tama County Sheriff.

Motion by Hilmer, seconded by Turner to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye. Motion carried. Chairman Doland adjourned the meeting at 9:47 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.