

June 10th, 2025

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:03 am by Chairman Heath Hansen. Present at the meeting were Heath Hansen, Don Mosinski, Kent Grabill, Chassity Musfeldt, Dennis Carter, Cindy Carter, Janet Collins, Dennis Ballou, Ethan Hansen, Kate Hargens, Corey Eberling, Gareth Stouffer, Miranda Bills, Mitch Rydl, Bruce Haag, Ben Linde, Todd Johnson, Deb Campbell, Sheri Karns, John Hansen, Meg Andersen, Craig Williams, and Mike Blum.

Motion- Grabill Second- Mosinski to approve the agenda. Vote-all in favor. Public comment was opened at 9:05 am. Kate Hargens spoke to the Supervisors regarding a potential energy/battery storage being located within Audubon County. There were many concerns voiced on the environmental effects and hazards that this could create. Corey Eberling with Coyote Willow Wind answered questions regarding energy storage. Hargens asks that Supervisors do research before approving any potential energy/battery storage facilities in the future. Chairman Hansen said he will follow up with this and call Next Era.

Supervisor Grabill discussed the postage meter and different quotes that were received. More discussion will follow next week. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to accept/file the Recorder's report of fees collected for the month of May 2025. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to approve appointing Joseph Nelson to fill the vacancy as a member of the magistrate nominating committee with a term ending December 31, 2026. Vote-all in favor.

The monthly Department Head meeting was held at 9:30 am. Several topics were discussed after recent discussions with State Auditors. County vehicles are not to be used for family/friends or non-employees. The Sheriff's Department and Conservation do follow additional procedures such as a release form or resolution in certain instances. The time frame for cashing checks needs to be done in a timely manner after receiving the check. If it is sent and received later than the issue date, it was suggested to make a note on the check or save the envelope with the mailing date for proof. Conservation Director Haag gave a cabin update. They currently have only had a couple open at a time due to the low water pressure until the well is finished. They hope to have the well fully functioning this week, and then they will have all cabins available for rent. Haag did not have a time frame when they will be posted for reservations on the My County Parks website. The hotel/motel tax on the cabins was discussed. Haag thought it was a quarterly payment to the State but needs to check on this. Supervisors would like an update on this next week. The total amount of compensation time that a courthouse employee may accrue within the fiscal year was discussed. They cannot have over 60 hours on the books at a time but may accrue unlimited time within the fiscal year as long as it stays under the 60-hour max. Supervisors suggested revising the handbook in the future. Supervisors said they will be reviewing a couple policies a week, starting with the County Wide ones. If Department Heads would like to have any input on the revisions, they are welcome to reach out to Supervisors. Wellness updates were given. Employees are encouraged to complete and have the physical and online exams submitted by the end of July. Supervisor Grabill will be removing asset tags and transferring the old window air units and a couple desks to be auctioned on Thursday.

At 10:03 am the Public Hearing was opened for the Road/Alley Vacation Division in Ross. Motion- Grabill Second- Mosinski to approve Resolutions 2025-28 for the wages of as-needed deputies starting July 1, 2025, as follows. Vote-all in favor.

Resolution 2025-28

Be it hereby resolved by the Audubon County Board of Supervisors, that the as-needed Deputy hourly rate be increased to \$30.00 as of July 1st, 2025.

Dated at Audubon this 10th day of June, 2025 with the vote thereon being as follows:

Ayes: Hansen, Grabill, Mosinski

Nays: None

Audubon County Board of Supervisors: /S/ Heath Hansen, Chairperson

Attest: /S/ Chassity Musfeldt, Audubon County Auditor Clerk

Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to approve the Secondary Roads Local Union PPME 2003 Agreement for July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2028. Vote- all in favor.

State Representative Craig Williams joined the meeting with Supervisors at 10:30 am. Williams discussed the recent session topics. Two of the major topics were the eminent domain/pipeline bill and the budget. Williams said

he would have liked to have seen a cleaner bill on the pipeline and has faith that the Supreme court will overturn and say no to eminent domain. An upcoming topic that may be surfacing will be hydrogen drilling with the potential of constructing fertilizer plants on the drilling sites. Williams said they did not see much progress regarding the property tax changes. Governor Reynolds signed over 30 bills last week. Sheriff Johnson discussed the 911 bill with Williams that was passed in the early morning hours of the session. Many concerns were voiced that if Governor Reynolds signs this it could threaten funding for local 911 services. The 911 language was included in the Senate File 659, making it mandatory to request reimbursement from each joint 911 service boards at reasonable costs, and must be paid within 30 days. The undetermined amounts are concerning for counties and have not been figured in to budgets. Reynolds does have the option to sign the remainder of the bill but to veto out specific line items such as this. Exira City Clerk Meg Andersen voiced concerns on the property taxes and felt that the smaller towns in Iowa are being punished for wanting to revitalize their properties. Iowa DOGE was discussed and the members that represent this task force. Williams would like Audubon County to prepare a list of concerning State requirements for Counties that need to be addressed.

Motion- Mosinski Second- Hansen to close the Public Hearing for the Road/Alley Vacation Division in Ross was closed at 11:51 am. No comments were received from the public. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to approve Resolution 2025-27 for the Road/Alley Vacation Division in Ross as follows.

**Audubon County
Resolution No. 2025 -27
Ross Alley Division**

WHEREAS, road vacation proceedings were conducted in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 306 with a public hearing held before the Audubon County Board of Supervisors at 9:00 a.m. June 3, 2014, following timely publication on the following-described portion of alley in the Unincorporated Town of Ross. WO #524-2: "All of the Alley (20' wide) located in block 2." The resolution vacating said alley was approved June 17, 2014.

WHEREAS, said resolution declined to specifically assign or convey portions of the vacated alley to particular adjoining landowners.

WHEREAS, there has been a request for further clarification as to the division of the vacated alley between adjoining landowners, which is necessary to allow said property to be surveyed.

WHEREAS, proceedings were conducted in accordance with Iowa Code Chapter 306, 331.361, and 354.23 with a public hearing held before the Audubon County Board of Supervisors at 10:00am on June 10th, 2025, in the Board Room at the Audubon County Courthouse, following timely publication on the above-described portion of alley in the Unincorporated Town of Ross within Audubon County.

WHEREAS, the Board finds that all objections received, either in writing or by persons present have been considered, that this portion of said alley was within the jurisdiction of the Audubon County Board of Supervisors, the same was previously vacated, and clarification of ownership is needed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Audubon County Board of Supervisors as follows:

1. The above-referenced portions of the alley were previously vacated and closed.
2. The above-referenced alley is divided equally between adjoining landowners, with each awarded half (10') of said alley next to their respective properties. This action is memorializing the intent of all parties at the time of the original action.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be in full force and effective upon publication in the official Audubon County Newspaper.

ADOPTED in Audubon County, Iowa on Tuesday the 10th day of June, 2025.

Board of Supervisors

Audubon County, Iowa

/s/Kent Grabill, Vice Chairperson

ATTEST: /s/Chassity Musfeldt, Audubon County Auditor Clerk

Motion- Mosinski Second-Grabill to approve the following annual MMP updates/changes: Vanole Inc- VanAernam Site #64747 & Clark Family Farms- Dawson #65342. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to accept/file Supervisor's May 2025 Month End Reports. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to accept/file Auditor's May 2025 Month End

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Reports. While reviewing the previous week's meeting minutes, Grabill asked if Hansen had followed up with the Audubon Library regarding the FY26 allocation cuts. Hansen said he will reach out to them following the meeting. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to approve the meeting minutes of 6-3-25 and 6-10-25. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to approve claims as submitted by various departments to be paid in the amount of \$61,875.60 and published in a separate publication at the end of the month.

At 1:00 pm Secondary Roads met with Supervisors to discuss the purchase of motor graders. After reviewing quotes and options between John Deere and Caterpillar, John Deere was the preferred option and the lowest quote. Engineer Rydl would like to have the John Deere representative meet with Supervisors next week. Financing options through John Deere were discussed. Supervisor Mosinski is going to reach out to local banks to see if they have lower interest rates available.

Motion- Grabill Second- Mosinski to approve CO#6 for the HVAC project which included the reimbursements for the trim work and the temporary heating. Vote-all in favor. ETI/Graphite have not reached out regarding the jail completion work and how much of that will be reimbursed. Supervisors reviewed County Wide policies 1 & 2. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to approve the reviewed county wide policies. Vote-all in favor. Supervisors called the State Auditors to answer questions and have a work session to compare the FY23-24 MDMA explanations on variances. Meeting adjourned at 2:33 pm.

/s/Heath Hansen
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Attest: /s/Chassity Musfeldt
Audubon County Auditor Clerk