

July 29<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:02 am by Chairman Heath Hansen. Present at the meeting were Heath Hansen, Don Mosinski, Kent Grabill, Chassity Musfeldt, Devon Gieselman, Paul Nielsen, Ben Linde, Charlie King, Mike Blum, Bruce Haag, Deb Campbell, Chris Swensen, Todd Johnson, Tyler Thygesen, Katie Madsen, Sheri Karns, Tony Buman, and Jotham Arber.

Motion- Grabill Second- Mosinski to approve the agenda. Vote-all in favor. Sheriff Johnson discussed an invoice for repair to work on the double doors by the Sheriff's Office. Supervisors agreed to split the costs 50/50 with Sheriff's Department. Devon, with Coyote Willow Wind Project, answered questions regarding battery/energy storage. He said they have no current plans for this in Audubon County. IT Director Linde discussed upcoming vacation days and will be reaching out to potential back up solutions while he is gone. Supervisors reminded Linde to email Department Heads when he is working remotely. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to approve the meeting minutes of 7-14-25 and 7-22-25. Vote-all in favor. Policy 9,10, and 11 review from last week was discussed. Hansen will be emailing the revisions to the Auditor's Office for final printing with the letter head. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to approve the policy revisions for policies 9,10, and 11. Vote-all in favor. Policies 13 and 14 were reviewed this week. Updates will be applied and approved next week. Motion- Grabill Second- Mosinski to approve the following MMP annual updates/changes: Cumberland #63970, JEM #64782 and D Lauritsen-Jensen Farm #62131. Vote-all in favor.

Charlie King met with Supervisors at 10:00 am to discuss a potential memorial dedication for Dale Christensen on the Gray Highway. Supervisors were all in favor of this idea but need to do some research and checking before moving forward. Motion- Grabill Second- Mosinski to approve claims as submitted by various departments to be paid in the amount of \$228,359.45 and published in a separate publication at the end of the month. Vote-all in favor. Window air units sold on the auction were discussed. The company had mailed the check a couple weeks ago, but it was just received today.

Conservation Director Haag met with the Supervisors to discuss the status of implementing My County Parks for the Littlefield cabin rentals. Haag said he met with Adams County, and they have agreed to come help implement and set this up in a couple weeks. Treasurer Campbell reminded Haag that she needs the numbers on cabin/camping revenues broken down accordingly with the sales taxes. Haag discussed hiring someone to do a promotional video of the cabins and will be reaching out to ACED to see if tourism can contribute to this.

Assessor Karns, Katie Madsen- Assessor Clerk, and Shelby County Assessor Tony Buman joined the meeting to discuss having a conference board meeting regarding funding for a potential reappraisal project for Audubon County. After analyzing the inconsistencies in Audubon County's data, the State of Iowa has prioritized Audubon County to have a reappraisal in 2027. The funding of this project will need to be discussed with the conference board, but the State may have options for a loan. Buman answered questions and explained the processes of the reappraisal to Supervisors. Audubon County is one of two Counties in the State that have never had this done. Several concerns were addressed regarding the service. The State does have the authority to order this done if they feel necessary. Supervisors agreed to have a conference meeting agenda posted in the month of August for more discussion.

Jotham Arber gave recent Public Health updates for the month of June. They have had a significant increase in mental health clients receiving services at the Exira location. They will be hosting a backpack drive for local schools and will be able to distribute some of these at Audubon School's open house on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025. At the open house they will be offering a wide variety of services to children. The well rehabilitation in Audubon County has increased over the last few months, providing an increase to the water supply in Audubon County. They are still offering assistance completing well rehabilitation, plugging and treatment.

Attorney Swensen and Arber explained and discussed two Opioid Settlement Agreements. Motion- Mosinski Second- Grabill to approve the submission of the Opioid Settlement Agreements. Vote-all in favor. Swensen prepared the Publication Notice for a Public Hearing placing a temporary moratorium on energy/battery storage within Audubon County. Motion- Grabill Second- Mosinski to approve the Publication for a Public Hearing Resolution 2025-43 as follows. Vote-all in favor.

PUBLIC NOTICE  
Resolution 2025-43

**A resolution setting date and time for public hearing regarding a temporary moratorium on utility-scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)**

WHEREAS, Iowa Code Section 331.302 requires a county to compile ordinances every 5 years, and the County currently does not have a specific ordinance pertaining to utility-scale Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS); and

WHEREAS, the County has an interest in protecting resident's life, health, and safety as well as safeguarding the County's infrastructure, natural resources and property rights through adequate zoning standards;

WHEREAS, the Audubon Board of Supervisors and the Planning & Zoning Commission will require time to gather information and coordinate with different agencies for the purpose of reviewing, updating or creating ordinances, policies, and procedures relative to utility-scale Battery Energy Storage Systems development;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; That a public hearing be held on August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in the Audubon County Board of Supervisors Meeting Room to hear comments from the public or other interested parties on a proposed resolution enacting a temporary moratorium on accepting or processing any applications for the construction of utility-scale Battery Energy Storage Systems, until such time as the county is able to implement appropriate zoning ordinances regulating such systems.

/s/Heath Hansen

Chair, Board of Supervisors

/s/Chassity Musfeldt

Attest, Auditor Clerk

The Planning & Zoning Director position and pay rate was discussed. Supervisors agreed that they would like this to be an hourly wage position in order to track time accordingly and pull from the correct budget for those hours worked. After talking with Engineer Rydl, he averaged about 30-35 permits per year, with each permit taking around 3-5 hours. This number can change according to each month/year. Supervisors will approve an hourly rate next week and offer the position to interested parties. It is to be re-evaluated after 3 months to analyze the hours worked, and see if there needs to be reconsideration on the pay to reflect those hours. EMA Director/Fire Chief Thygesen reviewed the firework permits and documents for the upcoming T-bone Fireworks show and after a few updates, he said they met the requirements to pass. Motion- Grabill Second- Mosinski to approve the firework permit for August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025. Vote-all in favor. The HVAC warranty date was discussed. Supervisors will need to check with ETI to get the actual date the warranty begins. This discussion stemmed from a lot of recent work being done to wiring that was incorrectly installed by the subcontractors and needing fixed. Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm.

/s/Heath Hansen

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

/s/Chassity Musfeldt

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_

Audubon County Auditor Clerk