

February 24th, 2026

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:01 am by Chairman Kent Grabill. Present at the meeting were Kent Grabill, Don Mosinski, Heath Hansen, Chassity Musfeldt, Anna Schleimer, Monte Dreher, Todd Johnson, Gareth Stauffer, Corey Eberling, Jotham Arber, Mike Blum, Mitch Rydl, Peggy Smalley, Bruce Haag, Nathan Wahlert, and Tiffany Henkle.

Motion- Mosinski Second- Hansen to approve the agenda. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve all DNR MMP Annual Updates/Changes for the following: Randy Bruch #58536; Handlos-Rudolph #57972; Handlos-Wegner #64333; Lauritsen #62651; South Fork #63613 & Jensen Farm Pork #62686. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve the meeting minutes of 2-17-26. Vote-all in favor.

Public Comment was opened at 9:15 am. Anna Schleimer with the National Guard spoke about a community engagement event hosted by the National Guard that will be held on April 24th, 2026. This will be the first time Audubon has been able to host an event like this. Major General Osbourne will be providing a business leader event/program and luncheon and would like to invite Supervisors to attend. This event will provide an overview of what the National Guard does for the Community. Monte Dreher spoke to Supervisors about an issue in Hamlin. Dreher had major concerns about two dogs that are attacking livestock, killing pets, and running unattended. Dreher showed a visual of the recent pet cat that was killed in front of him. Sheriff Johnson explained the State Code on disposing of problematic animals. Sheriff Johnson spoke with the County Attorney and said a resolution can be drawn up and passed by Supervisors regarding the vicious dogs. Discussion has been held several times with the owners of the dogs. Updates will be on next week's agenda. Corey Eberling with APEX discussed the Community Grant they just awarded to Audubon County Emergency Management for a drone project. The drone will be used and highly effective for many situations as it will have thermal imaging. The aerial views that the drone can provide will be beneficial in emergency situations. Eberling said they had many great applicants this round. March 10th will be the next landowner meeting. Gareth Stauffer said they will start reaching out to some of the owners farther north that have inquired about the possibility of turbines in their area.

Jotham Arber gave Public Health updates on the January services provided in the area. They have been busy with a lot of new referrals from area hospitals. They have been providing immunizations and many CPR classes recently. They will be adding "stop the bleed" training to the CPR training. They are in the process of working with the Assessor to get the septic systems attached to the beacon website. Free Clinics will start once a month in the Exira office soon.

At 10:07 am the Public Hearing was opened for the extension of the temporary moratorium on battery and energy storage within Audubon County. Engineer Rydl gave construction and maintenance updates. Rydl discussed a project in which the County would need to purchase some right of way from landowners to complete the project. Motion- Mosinski Second- Hansen to approve the compensation estimate for landowners. Vote-all in favor. Public Hearing was closed at 10:35 am.

Conservation Director, along with Board members Peggy Smalley and Nathan Wahlert, met with Supervisors at 10:45 am to discuss FY27 budget updates. The Conservation Board met yesterday for their monthly meeting and went through the budget to try to find any possible areas to reduce. Conservation made several cuts from the initially proposed FY27 budget. Updates will be submitted to the Auditor.

Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve Resolution 2026-12 to extend the temporary moratorium on battery and energy storage within Audubon County as follows. Vote-all in favor.

Resolution 2026-12

A resolution authorizing an extension to the 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;

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WHEREAS, the Audubon Board of Supervisors and the Planning & Zoning Commission will require additional 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 BESS development;

WHEREAS, a public hearing on and reading of a resolution imposing a temporary extension moratorium on utility-scale BESS was held at 10:00 a.m., on February 24th, 2026, in the Audubon County Board of Supervisors Meeting Room;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; by the Board of Supervisors of Audubon County, Iowa, that Audubon County now imposes a temporary moratorium on accepting or processing any applications for the construction of utility-scale BESS, effective immediately and until May 1, 2026; or until passage of a permanent Utility Scale BESS Development ordinance.

/s/Kent Grabill

Chair, Board of Supervisors

/s/Chassity Musfeldt

Attest, Auditor Clerk

Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve the building of the IT Server room at Secondary Road's location. Vote-all in favor. Planning and Zoning Director Tiffany Henkle discussed a Board of Adjustment variation for an approval of a front yard setback for a remodel to a house. The Board of Adjustment approved the request for the addition to be in the ROW. Henkle updated that she had not heard from the resident inquiring about a memorial sign on the Gray Highway. Motion- Mosinski Second- Hansen to set a separate meeting date/time for a Public Hearing for the FY27 Proposed Property Tax Levy on March 24th, 2026 at 1:00 pm. Supervisors have contacted the County Attorney regarding the vicious dog incident and will be working on a solution moving forward. The 28E agreement with SWI Juvenile Emergency Services was discussed. It did not appear to have any major changes. Supervisor Hansen represents Audubon County on that board and can provide a yes or no vote when that meeting is held. Motion- Mosinski Second- Hansen to approve claims as submitted by various departments to be paid in the amount of \$45,671.38 and \$20.00 submitted by County Attorney to be published at the end of the month in a separate publication. Vote-all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 12:27 pm.

/s/Kent Grabill

Chairman, Board of Supervisors

/s/Chassity Musfeldt

Attest: Audubon County Auditor Clerk