

April 14<sup>th</sup>, 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, Todd Johnson, Clark Borkowski, Rob Welch, Todd Nelsen, Kate Hargens, Lisa Frederiksen, Mike Blum, Cally Christensen, Dave Hansen, Deb Campbell, Clint Fichter, Austin Christensen, Chris Swensen, Tiffany Henkle, Miranda Bills, Tyler Thygesen, Ashley Nielsen, Todd Johnson, Mitch Rydl, Diana Much, and Ben Linde.

Motion- Mosinski Second- Hansen to approve the agenda. Vote-all in favor. Sheriff Johnson presented a resignation letter for a member of the Civil Service Board, as he is going to be joining the Compensation Board. Motion- Mosinski Second- Hansen to accept/file the resignation letter of David Thompson. Vote-all in favor. Sheriff discussed and gave a recommendation for the open position and presented a Resolution to pass if the Board would like to approve the appointment. Supervisor Hansen said he thinks the Board needs to think about it and see if there are any other options. Motion- Mosinski Second- Hansen to approve the following DNR MMP Annual Updates/Changes: Handlos-Zaiger North #61951; Handlos-Home West #61965; Floyd B Klocke and Lisa M Klocke #63745 and H & S Farming #70066. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Hansen Second-Mosinski to accept/file the Clerk of Court's Report of Fees Collected for March 2026. Vote-all in favor.

Public comment was opened at 9:13 am. Kate Hargens asked for an update on the Battery & Energy Storage in Audubon County. Todd Nelsen inquired about the current moratorium, how long it has been set for, and what research has been done on it. Supervisor Hansen discussed the potential hazards that can arise from Battery & Energy Storage Systems. Hargens had concerns regarding Iowa being behind on regulations, and the issues that arise by approving projects such as BESS and Data Centers, without having regulations in place. Supervisors had asked Next Era to attend today's board meeting to discuss the BESS and be able to ask questions/voice concerns, but Next Era declined to attend a Public Meeting. They agreed to meet one on one with a Supervisor, but the Supervisors declined that as they want to meet as a quorum in a Public Meeting.

Chairman Grabill gave an update that the current moratorium on Battery and Energy storage is expiring on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Grabill will email the County Attorney to start the process of extending the moratorium. They would also like to find out if it is possible to end the temporary moratorium before the expiration date.

Auditor Frederiksen gave updates on the proposed FY27 Budget. She has updated the recent cuts from the Sheriff's Department. The Department of Management and Auditor spreadsheet were updated to all balance out. The Primary Election ballots came in last week. The Pre-Test was completed on Friday and the Public Test will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Data Storage within the County was discussed. There are concerns about the effects that can happen after these are built. The questions that arose on Data Storage Centers included what the benefits to the County would be, and would it create jobs? The potential of a temporary moratorium on the data storage centers was discussed. This would allow the County time to collect more information. One of the biggest concerns was the amount of water that would be used for the data centers, especially as the County is already having water shortages.

Supervisors gave recent updates from meetings attended. Chairman Grabill has a Transfer Station meeting tonight. Supervisor Hansen said New Opportunities was business as usual. Hansen is going to check if the SWI Juvenile Detention has signed the 28E agreement that had been discussed by Supervisors at a previous meeting. Supervisor Mosinski had an ACED meeting last Friday. They will be reviewing the final draft and should be getting back to Mosinski soon. Mosinski also attended Region XII meetings last week.

Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to accept/file the Sheriff's Quarterly Report for January-March 2026. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve the meeting minutes from April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Vote-all in favor. Debbie Campbell joined the meeting to discuss the requested information regarding the tax revenues from the Wind Turbines. Campbell's data has come up with a total of \$7 Million in revenue from 2014 to current date. Audubon County currently has 139 Wind Turbines. Supervisors would like another update regarding what the funds were used for/what department/project.

The City of Brayton met with Supervisors to discuss the repayment from the Brayton Road Project. Supervisors inquired about a payment plan moving forward. Mayor Christensen presented a summary of all the expenses Brayton has paid toward the project. Brayton City had concerns regarding the amount they paid and it

being taken into consideration with the repayment amount. Supervisors will talk to Engineer Rydl and get a total amount owed. Fichter will start working on a draft agreement. Brayton had further questions regarding what the County is responsible for maintaining on the farm-to-market roads. Supervisors will reach out to Brayton to set up another meeting soon.

Supervisors discussed an invoice with IT Director Linde regarding utilizing the government cloud for Microsoft 360. Linde gave recent schedule updates, server room updates, and website updates. Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve claims as submitted by various departments to be paid in the amount of \$49,858.56 and published in a separate publication at the end of the month. Vote-all in favor. Chairman Grabill gave update on the open Custodian position. Interviews can be held during a Public Meeting, with or without a closed session, or by forming a committee to pass on recommendations to the Supervisors. Grabill discussed the generator that runs every Wednesday, and the log that needs completed. Courthouse mowing duties were discussed. Grabill will mow this week, Hansen next week, and Mosinski the following. Following today’s meeting, Grabill will show the other Supervisors the basics of the Custodial duties.

The April Department Head meeting was held at 11:30 am. Chairman Grabill discussed the Custodian position and asked Department Heads if they had input on the hiring process. Department Heads agreed to form a committee with one Supervisor to hold the Custodian interviews and provide a recommendation back to the Board of Supervisors. Custodial duties during the absence of a Custodian were discussed. Sheriff provided an update regarding the upcoming Ragbrai ride that will be going through Exira in July.

Engineer Rydl gave Secondary Roads construction and maintenance updates. Motion- Mosinski Second- Hansen to approve the utility permit for MidAmerica Energy Gas, Eastside Drive, Section 3, Exira Township. Vote-all in favor. Crews are out rocking and blading roads. The Brayton Road project payment was discussed.

Attorney Swensen discussed the ACED agreement and spreadsheet. ACED does not feel comfortable providing check numbers as it poses a security risk but will be happy to provide the amount of interest earned on County Funds. Motion- Mosinski Second- Hansen to approve the Quit Claim deed for the Ross Road Vacation. Court Appointed Attorney Fees were explained. Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve Resolution 2026-18 as follows. Vote-all in favor.

Audubon County  
RESOLUTION 2026 -18

Resolution Setting Compensation for Court Appointed Attorneys

WHEREAS, the Iowa Legislature has set reasonable compensation for court appointed attorneys, for all juvenile and criminal cases not involving felony criminal charges, at \$78.00 per hour.

WHEREAS, Iowa Code sets the terms and conditions under which the Court appoints attorneys at county expense.

WHEREAS, Audubon County is required by statute to pay for attorneys appointed at county expense, and the Audubon County Board of Supervisors is authorized to establish an hourly rate by which such appointed attorneys are to be compensated.

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of Audubon County to set its court appointed attorney fee schedule, in situations where the County may be held responsible for these costs, to be consistent with the updated version of Iowa Code section 815.7.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the reasonable compensation for Court appointed attorneys shall be set at \$78.00 per hour, in situations where the County may be held responsible for those costs.

AYES:

NAYS:

WHEREUPON the Resolution was declared duly adopted this 14th Day of April, 2026.

/s/Kent Grabill

Kent Grabill  
Chair, Board of Supervisors

/s/Diana Munch

ATTEST:

Diana Munch, Deputy Auditor

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Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve the Additional Opioid Settlement Agreement. Vote-all in favor. Chairman Grabill showed Hansen and Mosinski the areas of the Courthouse that need to be checked regularly while the Custodian/Maintenance position is open. The boiler and generator were reviewed. Corey Eberling with APEX Wind Energy called and followed up with an earlier question on Wind Turbine revenue. Meeting was adjourned at 1:51 pm.

/s/Kent Grabill

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Chairman, Board of Supervisors

/s/Chassity Musfeldt

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Attest: Audubon County Auditor Clerk