

Board of Supervisors Minutes
July 28, 2025

The Tama County Board of Supervisors met at 8:30 a.m. July 28, 2025. 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, members of the public, and Sheriff Schmidt.

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: Public comments were heard from Karen Murty. Public comment time closed at 8:33 am.

Motion by Knebel, seconded by Kupka to approve the minutes of the July 21st regular meeting. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The Board met with Ben Daleske, Tama County Engineer, to get a road projects report. He also had seven utility permits for the board chairman to sign. The permits are for TIP Rural Electric Cooperative. They are located on 275th St., 290th St., B Ave, C Ave, D Ave, F Ave, and II Ave. Motion by Kupka, seconded by Turner to approve the board chairman to sign the utility permits. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Daleske had an additional utility permit for the board chairman to sign for Iowa Regional Utilities Association. This permit is located on West Center St. in Garwin. Motion by Kupka, seconded by Turner to approve the board chairman signing the utility permit. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Knebel, seconded by Hilmer to approve the annual liquor license renewal for Dysart Recreation, Inc. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve a temporary liquor license for the annual Double D Rodeo. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

In November 2024, ISAC (Iowa State Association of Counties) membership approved an amendment to the Articles of Incorporation to position the organization for an updated tax status with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). To clarify to the IRS that it is the counties that control, act, and vote on ISAC matters, the Articles of Incorporation were amended to have the boards of supervisors designate voting delegates through a resolution. Motion by Turner, seconded by Knebel to approve the following resolution. Discussion: None.

RESOLUTION 7-28-2025A

To Designate Voting Representatives for the Iowa State Association of Counties

WHEREAS, Tama County (“County”) is a member of the Iowa State Association of Counties; and

WHEREAS, the ISAC Articles of Incorporation were updated in November 2024 to require the County to designate, through resolution by its Board of Supervisors, its County Voting Representatives; and

WHEREAS, only the designated County Voting Representatives have the power to vote on behalf of the County at ISAC; and

WHEREAS, the County Voting Representatives must be either elected county officials or the principal officer for each county department represented by an Affiliated Association of ISAC.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tama County Board of Supervisors, effective immediately, hereby designates the following persons as County Voting

Representatives for ISAC:

Iowa State Association of County Supervisors: **Curt Hilmer, Curt Kupka, David Turner, Heather Knebel, Mark Doland**

Iowa State Sheriffs’ and Deputies’ Association: **Casey Schmidt**

Iowa County Attorneys Association, Inc.: **Brent Heeren**

Iowa State Association of County Auditors: **Karen Rohrs**

Iowa State County Treasurers Association: **Amanda Kriegel**

Iowa County Records Association, Inc.: **Amelia Kemper**

Iowa County Engineers Association: **Ben Daleske**

Iowa State Association of Assessors: **Wesley Ray**

Iowa Community Services Association: **Libby Reekers**

Iowa Emergency Management Association: **Ryan Goodenbour**

County Conservation Directors Association of Iowa: **Curtis Behrens**

Iowa Environmental Health Association, Inc.: **Chris Behrens**

Iowa Counties Public Health Association: **Stacy Koeppen**

County Zoning Officials of Iowa: **Laura Wilson**

Iowa Counties Information Technology Organization: **David Turner**

Iowa Association of County Commissioners and Veterans Service Officers, Inc.: **Chad Weaver**

The County shall forward a copy of this Resolution with the names of the designated County Voting Representatives to support@iowacounties.org.

Roll Call Vote: Hilmer, aye. Turner, aye. Knebel, aye. Doland, aye. Kupka, aye. Resolution passed and adopted this 28th day of July, 2025. Mark Doland, Chairman, Board of Supervisors. Karen Rohrs, County Auditor.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Knebel to approve the board chairman signing a contract with Aureon to provide internet services to Tama County. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

A report was given by Turner from the negotiation committee regarding Salt Creek Wind LLC vs. Tama County. Motion by Turner, seconded by Doland to approve and authorize execution of the Settlement Agreement, Resolution 7-28-2025A (Exhibit A), Withdrawal of Revocation Petition (Exhibit B), and Joint Dismissal with Prejudice (Exhibit C), and direct the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board. The Board opened public comment time. Public comments were heard from Bob Vokoun, Laura Wilson, Richard Arp, Andrea Dvorak, Craig Sash, Kimberly Dickey, Karen Murty, Carolyn Adolphs, and Patrick C. Supervisor Turner also read an email that the Board had

received from Linda Moeller. Public comment time closed at 9:20 am. Each supervisor was given time to give their comments. Curt Hilmer and Heather Knebel both agree there is a risk to allow this project to move forward and it may be an issue in the future, but the prior Board of Supervisors left the county out of money in the General Basic Fund, so we have no choice but to settle on Phase 1. Motion by Turner to call the question, seconded by Knebel. All voted aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 7-28-2025B

Tama County

WHEREAS, Salt Creek Wind LLC (“Salt Creek”) is the owner of a Commercial Wind Energy Conversion (“C-WECS”) project in Tama County (the “Project”);

WHEREAS, the Project has prompted much public debate;

WHEREAS, the Project has resulted in numerous lawsuits involving Salt Creek, many directly involving Salt Creek, Tama County, the Tama County Board of Supervisors, and the Tama County Board of Adjustment; and

WHEREAS, Tama County, the Tama County Board of Supervisors, and Salt Creek wish to resolve these disputes and the differences between them.

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED by the Tama County Board of Supervisors of Tama County, Iowa, that:

- Salt Creek possesses a Conditional Use Permit for the Project that was lawfully issued pursuant to the Tama County Ordinances; Salt Creek made substantial expenditures pursuant to the Conditional Use Permit and each of the related zoning certificates before December 15, 2024, and that Salt Creek has vested rights in the lawfully issued Conditional Use Permit, its related zoning certificates, the Tama County C-WECS Ordinance, Article XX.
- Salt Creek substantially began construction pursuant to all 61 of its Zoning Certificates on or before December 15, 2024.
- Salt Creek will have established use within the meaning of Tama County’s ordinances for all 61 of its Zoning Certificates upon completion of vertical erection of a wind turbine generator at any one zoning certificate site, provided the vertical erection occurs on or before September 15, 2025.
- The Moratorium enacted on January 6, 2025 (Resolution 1-6-2025B) does not apply to Salt Creek’s Project;
- The April 7, 2025 Resolution (Resolution 4-07-2025A) is hereby rescinded;
- As Salt Creek has established use of its Zoning Certificates, the Zoning Administrator is directed to take no further action against Salt Creek’s Zoning Certificates;
- The Board of Supervisors will withdraw the petition submitted to the Board of Adjustment regarding Salt Creek’s conditional use permit with prejudice by submitting a Withdrawal of Appeal to the Board of Adjustment and Zoning Administrator;
- That neither Tama County, nor the Board of Adjustment, have jurisdiction to revoke, rescind, withdraw or modify the Conditional Use Permit issued to Salt Creek on December 8, 2020 or the related zoning certificates issued to Salt Creek on September 16, 2024; and
- The Board of Supervisors hereby approves, and authorizes the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to execute, the attached Settlement Agreement with Salt Creek Wind, LLC, on behalf of Tama County and the Tama County Board of Supervisors.

Roll Call Vote: Hilmer, aye. Turner, aye. Knebel, aye. Doland, aye. Kupka, aye. Resolution and motions passed and adopted this 28th day of July, 2025. Mark Doland, Chairman, Board of Supervisors. Karen Rohrs, County Auditor.

There was discussion regarding a proposal with Center Associates. It was stated that there are other providers coming to the county and stepping up to help fill the void after the closure of Center Associates and they have not asked for financial support from the county like Center Associates has. It was stated that Prairie Ridge is doing a wonderful job helping the county out. No action was taken.

Motion by Tuner, seconded by Kupka to approve the claims for payment as presented in the amount of \$160,775.40. Discussion: The higher amount is due to two new patrol vehicles for the sheriff's department. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Public comments were heard from Laura Wilson, Karen Murty, Richard Arp, and Lynn Chizek. Supervisor Doland thanked everyone for their comments. Public comment time closed at 10:18 am.

Chairman Doland adjourned the meeting at 10:19 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.