

Board of Supervisors Minutes
October 13, 2025

The Tama County Board of Supervisors met at 8:30 a.m. October 13, 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, Sheriff Schmidt, and members of the public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Knebel to approve the agenda. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Public comments were heard from Karen Murty, Stan Upah, Nancy Smith, Kendall Jordan, and Jim Smith. Public comment time closed at 8:36 am.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve the minutes of the October 6th regular meeting. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The Board met with Ben Daleske, Tama County Engineer, to get a road projects report. Daleske also had a resolution to establish a stop sign on 310th Street. Board members stated they had received phone calls from county residents stating they did not want to see a stop sign on 310th Street and that more enforcement of the speed limit should be done. No action was taken on the resolution.

Daleske also revisited with the Board regarding a request he had received from a resident, Doug DeMeulenaere, who would like to have his gravel road upgraded to pavement to his driveway on S Avenue North of Hwy E66. Daleske stated per the Road Improvement Request Policy the county would be responsible to maintain the road 5 years after the road improvement is done but that the landowner would be willing to maintain the road instead of the county. Daleske stated he would talk to the landowner and possibly draw up a contract for the county and landowner to sign stating the landowner would be responsible for maintaining the road after the improvement for the life of the road.

At 9:00 am the Board held a public hearing regarding a road vacation on V Avenue. Motion by Hilmer, seconded by Knebel to open the public hearing at 9:00 am. Roll Call Vote: Hilmer, aye. Turner, aye. Knebel, aye. Doland, aye. Kupka, aye. There were no written public comments. There were comments heard at the hearing from two landowners. One landowner stated he would not be able to access his property if the road became vacated. The other property owner stated he would like to draw up and record an easement so that the first property owner would have access to his land once the road became vacated. Both landowners will work with Daleske to get an easement recorded and then come back to the board of supervisors to vacate the road. Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to close the public hearing at 9:08 am. Roll Call Vote: Hilmer, aye. Turner, aye. Knebel, aye. Doland, aye. Kupka, aye.

Motion by Hilmer, seconded by Turner to approve the Eastern Iowa Workforce Development Area Shared Liability Agreement upon the County Attorney approving the agreement. Discussion: Turner stated he would like the county attorney to look at the agreement. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve the Sheriff's Quarterly Report. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Knebel, seconded by Hilmer to approve the board chairman to sign ABMDI Recertification documents for assistant medical examiner DalLynn Hotchkiss-McEltree. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Hilmer to approve changing the County Farm bidding process to include live bidding. Discussion: Maintenance Director Henle would also like a stipulation added to the contracts to have the renters put nutrients back into the soil. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve the claims for payment as presented in the amount of \$204,039.36. Discussion: None. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Doland to approve the following resolution. Discussion: Turner read a statement he had prepared. Kupka asked why a resolution was needed. Doland stated his intent is to avoid a lawsuit and that this gives direction on a neutral statement to be made in order to avoid litigation. Hilmer stated he had never worried about Laura being by the law. Knebel stated Laura sometimes follows the ordinances too much. Which can be the other way around. There are different ways it can be interpreted. Our ordinances are just so old.

RESOLUTION 10-13-2025A

A Resolution Directing the Zoning Administrator Regarding Conditional Use Permit Applications Related to the Salt Creek Wind II Project

WHEREAS, Tama County, Iowa, and Salt Creek Wind II, LLC ("SCWII") have entered into a Development Agreement resolving disputes related to the development of the Salt Creek Wind II Project ("the Project");

WHEREAS, the Development Agreement affirms the County's obligation to enforce its ordinances and to process applications for Conditional Use Permits ("CUPs") in accordance with the Tama County Zoning Ordinance, including the Wind Energy Conversion System Ordinance adopted in 2010;

WHEREAS, the Board of Adjustment is the designated body to review and act upon CUP applications for wind energy projects, based on recommendations and interpretations provided by the Zoning Administrator;

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Board of Supervisors to ensure that the Zoning Administrator provides neutral, ordinance-based guidance to the Board of Adjustment, free from political or external influence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TAMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. **Direction to Zoning Administrator:** The Zoning Administrator shall provide neutral, ordinance-based recommendations to the Tama County Board of Adjustment when reviewing CUP applications related to the Salt Creek Wind II Project.

2. **Evaluation Criteria:** The Zoning Administrator shall advise the Board of Adjustment to:
 - Approve the CUP application if it substantially meets all provisions of the Tama County Zoning Ordinance;
 - Deny the CUP application if it does not meet and cannot reasonably be amended to meet the ordinance requirements;
 - Approve with Conditions the CUP application if it does not currently meet all ordinance provisions but can be brought into compliance prior to construction.
3. **Transparency and Recordkeeping:** All recommendations and findings by the Zoning Administrator shall be documented in writing and made available to the public as part of the Board of Adjustment's official record.
4. **Effective Date:** This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Roll Call Vote: Hilmer, nay. Turner, aye. Knebel, aye. Doland, aye. Kupka, nay. Resolution passed and adopted this 13th day of October, 2025. Mark Doland, Chairman, Tama County Board of Supervisors. Karen Rohrs, County Auditor.

At 9:33 am a public hearing was held regarding proposed changes to the zoning ordinance fees. Motion by Kupka, seconded by Turner to open the public hearing. Roll Call Vote: Hilmer, aye. Turner, aye. Knebel, aye. Doland, aye. Kupka, aye. There were no written public comments. There were no comments heard at the hearing from the public. Motion by Hilmer, seconded by Knebel to close the public hearing at 9:35 am. Roll Call Vote: Hilmer, aye. Turner, aye. Knebel, aye. Doland, aye. Kupka, aye.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Kupka to approve the second public hearing of the Zoning Ordinance Fees Amendment to the Tama County Zoning Ordinance of July 7, 1998 VI.I and to waive the third hearing and to approve the following resolution to include the Zoning Ordinance Fees Amendment to the Tama County Zoning Ordinance of July 7, 1998:

RESOLUTION 10-13-2025B

WHEREAS, that the Tama County Board of Supervisors have held two public hearings on the Zoning Ordinance Fees Amendment to the Tama County Zoning Ordinance of July 7, 1998 and waived the third hearing,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tama County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts said amendment to the Tama County Zoning Ordinance of July 7, 1998 and directs the County Auditor to publish a summary of the amendment in official newspapers for Tama County. The effective date of the change to the ordinance will be the date the summary is published.

Roll Call Vote: Hilmer, aye. Turner, aye. Knebel, aye. Doland, aye. Kupka, aye. Resolution passed and adopted this 13th day of October, 2025. Mark Doland, Chairman, Tama County Board of Supervisors. Karen Rohrs, County Auditor.

Public Comments: Public comments were heard from Karen Murty, Carolyn Adolphs, and Jim Smith. Public comment time closed at 9:40 am.

Motion by Turner, seconded by Hilmer to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye. Motion carried. Chairman Doland adjourned the meeting at 9:41 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.