

- The Board of Supervisors (BOS) of Sioux County, IA, met at 9:00 AM with chairperson Jerry Muilenburg presiding. Members present were Muilenburg, Craig Hoftzyer, John Degen, Dan Altena & Carl Vande Weerd.
- Agenda for the 03/17/26 meeting submitted. Motion to approve by Degen supported by Vande Weerd. Unanimous.
- All rise with Pledge of Allegiance recited.
- Minutes of the 03/10/26 meeting presented. Motion to approve by Vande Weerd supported by Hoftzyer. Unanimous.
- County Auditor Joe E Van Tol gives a presentation of the overall FY2027 county budget. The tax rate is 5.27880, decreasing from 5.36972 with total FY2027 levy dollars at \$13,068,039. Projected cash balances have declined over the past few years, and Van Tol proposes a county budget committee of the County Auditor and 2 board members to discuss solutions. He recommends having Muilenburg and Hoftzyer as immediate members. Motion made by Altena supported by Degen to establish this committee. Unanimous. Members will be reviewed annually at the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting in January.
- EMA Director Ryan DeKruyf updates on the use of opioid funds. The \$200,000 in funds approved was nearly all spent as 10 local emergency services agencies were able to upgrade their approved life saving devices. Also updates on a grant application for a drone and other EMA items.
- Discussions on courthouse and annex elevator upgrades that were previously approved. There will be some additional preparatory work costs (smoke detectors, updated wiring, additional lighting etc.) with total cost estimates being collected. Further discussions at the next board meeting.
- Resolution 2026-19 Supporting the Designation of the LCPL William J, “B. JAY” Leusink Memorial Bridge is presented. Motion to approve by Vande Weerd supported by Hoftzyer. Voices Votes (All yes).
- Committee Reports:
  - o Vande Weerd-Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC) meetings attended, noted grant writing and other issues discussed while there
  - o Altena-ISAC attended
  - o Degen-ISAC attended
  - o Hoftzyer-Boyden community club meeting attended
  - o Muilenburg-NW IA Solid Waste Agency (landfill) meeting attended
- County Engineer Joel Sikkema notes upcoming 10 AM bid letting. Presents utility agreement for Northern Natural Gas. Motion to approve by Degen supported by Hoftzyer. Unanimous. Updates on South Dakota land sale with closing 03/20/2026, discusses 320<sup>th</sup> street grading project with a letter to be mailed to landowner summarizing steps going forward with a deadline of March 30, 2026 for action or condemnation is to begin. Notes items and dates related to B40 concrete overlay project. 10 AM Bid letting is opened for 2 projects
 

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| 1. 320 <sup>th</sup> Street Culvert (L-804- -73-84) | 2. Harrison Ave Concrete Paving (L-818- -73-84) |
| Graves Construction \$277,511.40                    | DeLoss Construction \$700,480.16                |
| Cleveringa Excavating \$205,105.95                  | Vander Pol Excavating \$616,208.93              |
|   | Godbersen-Smith Construction \$584,181.62       |
|   | Croell \$572,661.97                             |

Motion to award low bidder subject to county engineer review for 320<sup>th</sup> Street Culvert made by Vande Weerd supported by Hoftzyer. Unanimous. Motion to award low bidder subject to county engineer review for Harrison Ave Concrete Paving made by Altena supported by Degen. Unanimous.

Sikkema begins discussions on proposed Secondary Roads departmental pay adjustments. Operators will currently be paid \$33.40 per hour effective 07/01/26. New proposal is to go to \$34.70 with related adjustments to most other Secondary Roads personnel. The proposal reflects the performance standards and efficiency of current staff. Estimates put the cost of a new employee (including benefits) at \$108,000 annually with the cost of this proposal at \$84,000 annually. Supervisors say that the process of overall wage review has been completed for FY2027 and that other departments may see this overall proposal as unfair. A notation is made that an individual salary adjustment may need to be made for Engineer primarily due to the 66<sup>th</sup> salary ranking in the state with a county road system that is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest in the state. A motion is made by Vande Weerd to disallow this overall adjustment for FY2027. No support is received. Final discussions note great appreciation for the Secondary Roads staff with no action taken. Supervisors are accepting of reviewing a new or similar proposal next fiscal year. Further discussion on the Engineer salary held with additional information that current wage is

the lowest of all Engineers in the Northwest Iowa region. The proposal does include a suggested wage of \$162,500. Motion is made by Hoftyzer to go to \$155,000 effective 07/01/26 with support from Vande Weerd. Motion fails by a vote of 2 – 3 with Hoftyzer and Vande Weerd for and all others against. Motion is then made by Altena to go to \$160,000 effective 07/01/26 with support from Degen. Unanimous.

- County Planning & Zoning Director Shane Walter discusses a Community Block Development Grant – Disaster Recovery (CBDG-DR) he is writing that relates to the county properties to be purchased as a result of the 2024 flood. To complete the grant the county needs to develop a land use and long-term maintenance plan for these properties. Further discussions will be held at future board meetings.
- Motion to adjourn by Altena supported by Degen. Unanimous. Adjourned at approximately 11:30 AM.

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/s/ Jerry Muilenburg, Chairman, Sioux County Board of Supervisors

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
/s/ Joe E Van Tol, Sioux County Auditor

Complete resolutions and ordinances available at <https://siouxcountyia.gov>  
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