

July 29, 2025

The Benton County Board of Supervisors met in regular session with Supervisors Seeman, Tippet and Volz present. Chairman Seeman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. at the Benton County Service Center. Members of the public are invited to join in during open session or watch the livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/bentoncountyiowa>. *Full Resolutions will be available in the Auditor's office and at: www.bentoncountya.gov*

Volz moved/Tippet seconded: To approve the agenda. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Tippet moved/Volz seconded: To approve minutes from July 22, 2025. All members voting aye. Motion carried.

Tippet moved/Volz seconded: To approve EMS Trust Fund claims numbered 254577 through 254583 for the following:

Klocke's Emergency-North Benton Ambulance-\$204,235.00

Karl Chevrolet, Inc. -Blairstown EMS Chevy Tahoe-\$77,847.74

Chase Decals-Blairstown EMS Decals for Tahoe-\$2,061.64

Stryker Sales, LLC-Norway Medical Supplies-\$17,100.00

Belle Plaine Area Ambulance-reimbursement for supplies-\$1,120.42

Urbana Polk Township Fire-vehicle supplies-\$277.98

Belle Plaine Area Ambulance-reimbursed for supplies \$216.15 and \$393.42

Norway Area Firefighters-Norway First Responders-\$248.00 for a total of \$303,500.35. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Tippet moved/Volz seconded: To approve 3 hours vacation carryover for Grace Schmidt. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Tippet moved/Volz seconded: To approve 80 hours of vacation carryover for Rick Wood to be used by November 28, 2025. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Tippet moved/Volz seconded: To approve Resolution #25-61, Designating Voting Representatives for the Iowa State Association of Counties (ISAC). Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Resolution #25-61

To Designate Voting Representatives for the Iowa State Association of Counties

WHEREAS, Benton 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 Benton County Board of Supervisors, effective immediately, hereby designates the following persons as County Voting Representatives for ISAC:

Iowa State Association of County Supervisors: **Tracy Seeman, Ronald J. Tippet, Bruce Volz,**

Iowa State Sheriffs' and Deputies' Association: **David Upah**

Iowa County Attorneys Association, Inc.: **Ray Lough**

Iowa State Association of County Auditors: **Hayley Rippel**

Iowa State County Treasurers Association: **Melinda Schoettmer**

Iowa County Records Association, Inc.: **Lexa Speidel**

Iowa County Engineers Association: **Myron Parizek**

Iowa State Association of Assessors: **Larry Andreesen**

Iowa Emergency Management Association: **Dean Vbra**

County Conservation Directors Association of Iowa: **Shelby Williams**
Iowa Environmental Health Association, Inc.: **Barbara Fetzer**
Iowa Counties Public Health Association: **Grace Petrzelka**
County Zoning Officials of Iowa: **Matt Even**
Iowa Counties Information Technology Organization: **Ben Turnis**
Iowa Association of County Commissioners and Veterans Service Officers, Inc.: **Courtney Long**

Approved on this 29th day of July, 2025.

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

Ronald Tippet

Bruce Volz

ATTEST:

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor

Volz moved/Tippet seconded: To approve Resolution #25-62, Repealing Resolution#12-36A and #13-11, Establishing Parameters for Gifting or Loaning Local Option Sales and Services Tax Money (LOSST). Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried

RESOLUTION #25-62

RE-ESTABLISHING A REVOLVING LOAN FUND AND PARAMETERS FOR GIFTING LOCAL OPTION SALES AND SERVICES TAX MONEY FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES EQUIPMENT BY REPEALING RESOLUTION #12-36A AND #13-11

WHEREAS, the Benton County Board of Supervisors ("Board") adopted Resolution #12-36A, Establishing a Revolving Loan Fund and Parameters for Gifting Local Option Sales and Services Tax Money for Emergency Services Equipment on August 12, 2012; and

WHEREAS, the Board adopted Resolution #13-11, Amending Resolution #12-36A and Readopted Resolution #12-36A to include Benefited Fire Districts as those eligible to request funds; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to repeal Resolutions #12-36A and #13-11; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to re-establish a Revolving Loan Fund and Parameters for Gifting Local Option Sales and Services Tax Money for Emergency Services Equipment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board to adopt the following:

1. That the amount of funds received from the Local Option Sales and Services Tax (LOSST) for the purchase of emergency services equipment shall be determined by the Board of Supervisors on, at the minimum, an annual basis. The amount of LOSST to be dedicated for said purpose shall be at the sole discretion of the Benton County Board of Supervisors.

2. Only townships or benefited fire districts may request funds on behalf of emergency service providers for the purchase of emergency service equipment from the Board of Supervisors. The requests shall be made in writing or at a board meeting of the Benton County Supervisors.
3. Emergency Service Equipment may include construction and equipping of facilities needed to house emergency service equipment.
4. All gifts and loans are limited to services providing direct emergency services to rural residents in Benton County, and excludes hospitals, doctor's offices, city facilities (other than fire stations, ambulance garages, etc.). The list of exclusions is not all-inclusive and the Board of Supervisor reserves all rights and authority to determine if an emergency provider meets the intent of this resolution.
5. Benton County may provide funds to emergency service providers whose principal domicile is outside of Benton County but who provides emergency services to Benton County rural residents. The provision of funds, if any, is at the sole discretion of the Board of Supervisors. The amount of funds may be reduced from the 10% depending on the number of residents and/or area served by said emergency service provider.
6. That the amount of said funds provided to townships, benefited fire districts and/or the townships' or benefited fire district's designee(s), may be in the form of a gift or loan at the sole discretion of the Board of Supervisors and contingent upon available funds.
7. Gifts to townships or benefited fire districts and/or their designee(s) shall not exceed 10% of the cost of the equipment.
8. Funds provided under this resolution may be paid directly to the organization providing the emergency services.
9. Terms of loans made pursuant to this resolution shall be as follows:
 - a. Amount of loans shall be determined and at the sole discretion of the Board of Supervisors
 - b. The interest rate shall be 1.5% above the current money market rate being paid to the county.
 - c. Loans are contingent upon the availability of funds allocated for said purpose.
 - d. Repayment schedule for loans shall be determined by the Board of Supervisors.
 - e. There will be no penalty for early re-payment.
 - f. Proceeds received from the repayment of loans shall be deposited into an interest-bearing special revenue fund. Said fund is to be used for future financing of emergency equipment requested by townships or benefited fire districts.
10. No application for gifts or loans shall be considered when the price of the item(s) in the application can be purchased in its entirety from other funds that were created by a Benton County Public Measure.
11. The Benton County Board of Supervisors retains all right to approve or deny any and all requests for gifts and/or loans, in part or in full.

Signed this 29th day of July, 2025

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

Ronald J. Tippet

Bruce Volz

ATTEST:

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor

Tippet moved/Volz seconded: To approve Resolution #25-63, Hiring Full-time Communication Specialist at the Sheriff's Office. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #25-63
Hiring a Communication Specialist at the Sheriff's Office

WHEREAS, applications for the position of Communication Specialist have been reviewed, interviews conducted, and background checks completed;

WHEREAS, the Sheriff has recommended the hiring of Cheyanne Packer as a full-time Communication Specialist,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Benton County Board of Supervisors that Cheyanne Packer is hereby employed in this union position at an hourly rate of \$30.81, effective August 13, 2025.

Signed this 29th day of July, 2025.

Tracey Seeman, Chairman

Ronald Tippet

Bruce Volz

ATTEST:

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor

Volz moved/Tippet seconded: To approve Fireworks Permit for Karen Petersen for Bloomsbury Farms for August 2, 2025. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.
Barbara Fetzer requested her employee evaluation be in closed session.

Tippet moved/Volz seconded: To enter closed session pursuant to Iowa Code 21.5(1)i: to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and the individual requests a closed session. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried at 9:26 a.m.

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To exit closed session at 10:25 a.m. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To give a verbal warning and take no other action on Barbara Fetzer's employee evaluation. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Tippett moved/Volz seconded: To adjourn meeting at 10:33 a.m. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor