

**January 6, 2026**

The Benton County Board of Supervisors met in regular session with Supervisors Seeman, Tippet, Seeman and Volz joined remotely. 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](http://www.bentoncountya.gov)*

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

**Volz moved/Tippet seconded:** To approve the January 5, 2026 and January 6, 2026 minutes. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

**Volz moved/Tippet seconded:** To approve the following: 1/1/2026 payroll checks numbered 143982 through 143985, ACH Deposits 63799 through 63954, EMS claims 256095 through 256099 vendor checks 256100 through 256105 and claims 256106 through 256266. 1/15/26 payroll checks numbered 143986 through 143993, ACH Deposits 63955 through 64107 and vendor checks 256267 through 256273. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

**Tippet moved/Seeman seconded:** To approve the Auditor's Quarterly Report ending December 31, 2025. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

**Tippet moved/Seeman seconded:** To approve the Sheriff's Quarterly Report ending December 31, 2025. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

**Tippet moved/Seeman seconded:** To approve the Recorder's Quarterly Report ending December 31, 2025. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

The Board acknowledged that the Treasurer's office will be closed for training on Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

**Tippet moved/Seeman seconded:** To approve the Treasurer's Semi Annual Report ending December 31, 2025. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

**Tippet moved/Tippet seconded:** To appoint Steve Runyan to the Benton County Land Use Adjustment Board. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

**Seeman moved/Tippet seconded:** To rescind action on the appointment of Kuch's to Big Grove Clerk and trustee Seeman, Tippet and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

**Seeman moved/Tippet seconded:** To appoint Randy Janssen to Big Grove Township Trustee and Catherine Janssen as the Big Grove Township Clerk. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Committee Reports: Volz has the Heartland insurance meeting Thursday. Seeman had the Conservation Board meeting last night.

Ryan Bevins, with Assured Partners remotely presented the FY27 Renewal Data for the Health Insurance, Dental, Vision and other employee benefits that are available to the county employees.

The Engineer presented bids on a motor grader as follows:

Martin Equipment-770 John Deere with warranty-\$392,100

Altorfer Caterpillar-150 Tandem Drive with warranty-\$369,811

Altorfer Caterpillar -150 AWD with warranty-\$394,287

**Seeman moved/Volz seconded:** To approve the purchase from Altorfer for the 150 Tandem Drive Caterpillar for \$369,811. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

**Tippet moved/Volz seconded:** To approve 75 hours of vacation carryover for Myron Parizek to be used by May 31, 2026. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

**Tippet moved/Volz seconded:** To approve Resolution #26-4, Hiring Barbara Norton as an office manager at Secondary Roads effective January 12, 2026. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTION #26-4 Hiring Office Manager at Secondary Roads**

WHEREAS, the Benton County Secondary Roads Department has a need to fill the Office Manager position in the county engineer's office due to upcoming retirement, and

WHEREAS, the engineer has advertised and conducted interviews for said full-time position, and

WHEREAS, after careful consideration, the engineer has recommended Barbara Norton be hired to fill this position,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Benton County Board of Supervisors that Barbara Norton be hired to fill the position at an annual salary of \$47,500 per year effective January 12, 2026, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Benton County Board of Supervisors that the salary for this position be evaluated again in July 2026 and January 2027 with another \$1000 increase being considered each time.

Signed this 13<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2026.

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Tracey Seeman, Chairman

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Ronald Tippet

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Bruce Volz

ATTEST:

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Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor

Lexa Speidel, Benton County Recorder presented her 2027 Budget. Speidel also shared a summary of Activity for the fiscal year 2024-2025. Speidel respected the no wage increase and left her budget asking the same as last fiscal year. The Recorder's office is one of few who actually can bring in revenues to the county to help offset their expenses.

Shelby Williams and Cecelia Dirks presented the Conservation Departments FY27 Budget Request. National Turkey Grant for a tractor purchase. Williams explained that she took zero increase in wage and put in for her employees to have increases. There is also a need for some building expenses at Rodgers Park.

The Board unanimously felt that there should be zero raises and to go back and adjust the budget accordingly.

The Weed Department a/k/a Iowa Roadside Vegetation Management (IRVM) FY 27 budget was also presented by Shelby Williams. The Board asked about snow removal help from the weed department for the Sheriff's office, how to help the costs to the budget. The weed building adjoins the sheriff office. The last snow removal cost the county \$2,500. The Board is looking at all ways to cut spending and there needs to be discussions. Williams said they are there to help but needs to know the level of expectation and what is asked of them. The board also said to adjust this to have zero wage increases.

**Volz moved/Tippet seconded:** To adjourn meeting at 11:34 a.m. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

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Tracy Seeman, Chairman

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor