

June 9, 2026

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 8:45 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*

Tippett moved/Volz seconded: To approve the agenda. All members voting aye. Motion carried.

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To approve the minutes of Tuesday, June 2, 2026. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Volz moved/Volz seconded: To approve the 6/04/2026 payroll checks numbered 144086 through 144090, ACH Deposits 65547 through 65716 and vendor checks 257556 through 257562 and claims numbered 257563 through 257706. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To approve 16 ½ hours of vacation carryover for Grace Schmidt, to be used withing 6 months. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye.

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To approve Resolution #26-48, Wage and Classification change for Charles Betterton. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #26-48

WHEREAS: Benton County has an employee that has been employed by Benton County for six months, and

WHEREAS: Upon the completion of the probationary period the base wage is to be increased from the starting wage

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Benton County Board of Supervisors that the hourly base wage of Charles Betterton be set at \$29.30 effective June 15, 2026. This position carries a Labor Grade IVB classification.

Signed this 9th day of June, 2026.

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

Ronald Tippett

Bruce Volz

ATTEST:

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To approve Resolution #26-49, Temporary Road Closure for RCB Culvert Construction on 59th St. Dr. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #26-49

BE IT RESOLVED by the Benton County Board of Supervisors that the following described Secondary Road be closed for CONSTRUCTION effective from June 10, 2026, through the completion of the project.

From US Hwy 218 thence westerly approximately 1.0 mile to 22nd Avenue Drive along 59th Street Drive in Taylor Township.

Signed this 9th day of June, 2026.

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

Ronald Tippett

Bruce Volz

ATTEST:

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor

Engineer Myron Parizek wanted to discuss SF 378 regarding the modification to speed limits on paved roadways effective July 1, 2026, the speed limit will increase from 55 mph to 60 mph. Benton County does not put signs in all areas as there are no requirements to post the statutory speed limits. Parizek asked if we want to keep 55 mph limits in certain areas? If so we need to do an ordinance to do so. The cost per sign, post and anchor is around \$100. Stickers can be used as a temporary measure until signs can be replaced.

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To replace the signs to reflect the new 60 mph speed limit. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To acknowledge the successful post-election audit of the Big Grove-Union-Van Horne precinct from the June 2, 2026 Primary Election, that all 204 ballots that were hand counted matched the machine count report. All members voting aye. Motion carried.

Gina Edler, Elections Deputy read aloud the 2026 Primary Election Canvass by precinct.

Tippett moved/Volz seconded: To approve Resolution #26-50, 2026 Primary Election Canvass. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #26-50

WHEREAS, the PRIMARY ELECTION was held as prescribed by law on June 2, 2026, and:

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors and *ex officio* Board of Canvassers have canvassed the vote of said election in accordance with §43.49 and §50.24 of the *Code of Iowa*, now therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED that we, the undersigned members of the Board of Supervisors and *ex officio* Board of Canvassers of Benton County, Iowa, do hereby certify the following TURNOUT REPORT and RESULTS in the PRIMARY ELECTION, held on June 2nd, 2026, and that no obvious clerical errors were identified during the canvass.

3528 people voted at the polls on election day.

420 absentee ballots were accepted for counting.

One (1) provisional ballots was not accepted for counting (included in absentee total).

A total of 3,948 people voted.

CANDIDATES NOMINATED FOR COUNTY OFFICES:

Board of Supervisors (District 2) :

-Bethany Hantz, Republican Party

County Treasurer:

-Melinda Schoettmer, Republican Party
County Recorder:
-Lexa S. Speidel, Republican Party
County Attorney:
-Ray Lough, Republican Party

COUNTY OFFICES WITHOUT A PARTY NOMINEE:

Democratic Party: Board of Supervisors (District 2), County Attorney, County Treasurer
Republican Party: None

APPROVED this 9th day of June 2026, with the vote thereon being as follows:

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

Ronald Tippett

Bruce Volz

ATTEST:

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor

Henry Bratten, Cedar Valley Ranch Director wanted to discuss renewing the lease agreement. Benton County and Cedar Valley Ranch currently have a 3 year term which ends June 30, 2026. As it reads now, the daily average tenant is multiplied by \$75 to reach the amount of rent due at the beginning of the next month. With all the changes to HHS and re-districting, Bratten asked that they honor the same conditions for another three years. The tenant will still have the financial responsibility for care and maintenance of premises, and provide inventory of all furniture, equipment, vehicles and consumable goods at the start of each new year.

Seeman moved/Tippett seconded: To approve renewing the lease agreement under same conditions \$75 per resident/month between Benton County and Cedar Valley Ranch, effective July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2029. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Supervisor Tippett reported on his Board of Health meeting Friday. Supervisor Volz attended the County Wellness committee meeting. They are still trying to encourage participation and hopes that each department head can talk of the importance to their staff. Chairman Seeman had a Conservation Board meeting and also reported on the Save Morgan Valley meeting he attended last week. The next one will be held on June 30, 2026.

Tippett moved/Volz seconded: To adjourn meeting at 9:47 a.m. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor