

September 15, 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 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*

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

Volz moved/Tippet seconded: To approve the minutes of Tuesday, September 8, 2026. All members voting aye. Motion carried.

Tippet moved/Volz seconded: To approve the Class C Liquor License for Cedar Ridge Vineyard, LLC for an event at Bloomsbury Farm on October 16, 2026. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Volz moved/Tippet seconded: To set public hearing date of Tuesday, October 13, 2026 at 9:30 a.m. for FY27 Budget Amendment. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Seeman moved/Tippet seconded: To approve and sign letter to mail to the Linn County Public Health and Linn County Board of Supervisors disapproving the construction of the Morgan Valley Energy Center.

Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Reports:

Supervisor Volz reported on last week's insurance seminar put on by Heartland Insurance. It was well attended and good information. He also has another Heartland meeting this week.

Supervisor Tippet reported that Cassie Ruth from Central Iowa Juvenile Detention coming to next week's board meeting to discuss the proposed 28E and answer any questions that we have.

Supervisor Seeman attended the Conservation Board meeting last night.

Public Comments from Rob Hursh in regards to the letter, they asked if they could also send a copy to the Department of Natural Resources and the Iowa Utilities Commission.

Seeman moved to amend his original motion to include those two entities to receive a copy of the letter as well. Tippet Seconded. All members voting aye. Motion carried.

Gabe McGowan, secondary roads employee met with the board to discuss the new safety glasses policy and how it recently affected him and what he had to pay full price for two pairs of glasses. He said the policy needs re-vamped or asked that it go back to where it was, and more affordable.

Alisha Burmeister, Deputy Auditor presented more information on various plans for safety glasses.

Burmeister felt this also needs to state a limit on how much the county pays and reflect that in the policy.

Supervisor Seeman suggested county pay up to 75% of the costs. Burmeister will bring back more on this topic after she hears back from another vendor.

Volz moved/Tippet seconded: To table acting on an amended Safety Glass Policy. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Courtney Long couldn't attend, but the sheriff reported that he took care of their security questions that she and her Veterans Affairs Commissioners had.

Discussion regarding the County Recycling and bins located throughout the county was had between the Supervisors and Benton County Engineer Myron Parizek. The County owns the bins and hires out for them to be serviced and emptied. The reason for installing cameras at a few of the locations was from things being dumped that shouldn't be. They also discussed the importance of breaking down the boxes to save on space. Supervisor Seeman reported that it costs the county more money to recycle than it does to bury it. Cardboard and glass aren't worth anything, and he hoped someday it would be. Engineer Myron Parizek brought some history behind the county recycling and named where all the locations were throughout the county. Parizek wasn't sure what the commercial businesses in Vinton were doing with their recycling. The Vinton site in particular by the courthouse is emptied twice a week, typically Monday and Fridays. The others are just once a week. The other sites Parizek mentioned were: Garrison, Watkins, Van Horne maintainer shed, Belle Plaine at the grocery store, and Shellsburg on the edge of town by the maintainer shed. These bins were intended for rural residents, whom can't participate in the city's garbage/recycling pick-ups.

Tippet moved/Volz seconded: To adjourn at 10:01 a.m. All three voting aye. Motion carried.

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor