

September 22, 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.bentoncountyiowa.gov*

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

Cassie Ruth, Central Iowa Juvenile Detention provided an update to the Board Benton County is a former member, we currently don't have a voting right. If we join again, we could vote again by approving their 28E at a board meeting or a \$1 per person per census data which would cost about \$25,000. Ruth explained that even if we don't join, we are locked in at the member rates as long as the 28E doesn't change in the future. Attorney Ray Lough asked questions regarding the past communications and outstanding invoices sent out. The county has many of our invoices relating to medical bills that were higher than a regular day rate. Ruth explained how things are moving forward in a more positive direction, including a full-time nurse, and better structure for school and other activities including church services. They will continue to send all copies of every invoice to the Auditor moving forward, so that we don't get blind sided with a large outstanding amount of invoices. Originally there were about 35 member counties and currently have 24. The Detention Center understands our concerns and assured us they are moving in a better direction. No action was taken.

The time of 9:15 a.m. having arrived, and this being the time and date set for a land use hearing for John and Leslie Fessler in part of the NW ¼ of the NW ¼ of 35-86-10. Matt Even presented the technical information with the Benton County Agricultural Land Use Preservation Ordinance. Fessler's would like to change 5.05 acres for non-agricultural use. They would like to excavate the property and build a single family dwelling. This site has a CSR of 60, and the parcel used to be an old farmstead. This site has two existing driveway entrances, one off of 26th Ave. which was approved by Secondary Roads Department and the one off HWY 150 is permitted as a class C driveway per Iowa DOT. This request will need a new septic system and private well that will be permitted by the department. Official notices were sent out and published in the newspaper, the department didn't hear anything before today. One concerned neighbor was present to ask if this would have a bunch of livestock, and the answer was no. This request has been found to be consistent with the applicable policies of Benton County Land Preservation and Use Plan. Hearing no other further comments, the public hearing was closed.

Tippet moved/Volz seconded: To approve the non-agricultural use for John and Leslie Fessler in part of the NW ¼ of the NW ¼ of 35-86-10. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

The time of 9:30 a.m. having arrived, and this being the time and date set for a land use hearing for Dan Wirtanen in part of the NE ¼ of the SE ¼ of 15-83-9. Matt Even presented the technical information with the Benton County Agricultural Land Use Preservation Ordinance. Wirtanen would like to change 3.5 acres for non-agricultural use. Put in a campground with up to 16 spots and a possible shop. This site has a CSR of 47. A newly installed driveway was reviewed and approved by Secondary Roads Department. The proposed initial development of five sites will require a septic system permitted by the department. Any future expansion beyond those five sites will require reevaluation of the wastewater treatment system and depending on the extent of the expansion, may be required to utilize a public onsite treatment system subject to permitting through the Iowa DNR. Poweshiek Water Association has currently agreed to provide the water service, but due to the water supply limitation and how many sites, it is subject to confirmation. Official notices were sent out and published in the newspaper, the department didn't hear any comments before today's hearing. Adjacent land owners, Gardemann's and Wilhelmi's were present to voice their concerns about the water and seepage bed, traffic control, trash and how their farming might be a concern to the residents camping. Farming in the dark may point lights into the campers and the noise it can cause. Wirtanen responded that these are Data Center employees who will be residents there and that he could draft up contracts and include verbiage to describe what could take place. Supervisor Tippet asked if there would be a storm shelter requirement. Supervisor Volz was concerned with the water and also asked if the camping pads would be cement and Wirtanen said they would be. This request has been found to be consistent with the applicable policies of Benton County Land Preservation and Use Plan. Hearing no other further comments, the public hearing was closed.

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To approve the non-agricultural use for Dan Wirtanen in part of the NE ¼ of the SE ¼ of 15-83-9. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To approve vendor check 258706 through 258833, 09/24/2026 payroll checks numbered 144196 through 144205, ACH Deposits 66907 through 67074, vendor checks 258834 through 258841. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To approve the minutes of Tuesday, September 15, 2026. All members voting aye. Motion carried.

Tippett moved/Volz seconded: To acknowledge the resignation of Josh Svoboda from secondary roads effective. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To approve hiring Andrew Allsup for a part time mechanic at \$24 an hour effective September 21, 2026. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Tippett moved/Volz seconded: To approve Resolution #26-76, Hiring full time clerk in the Auditor's Office. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #26-76

APPROVE HIRE OF AUDITOR CLERK

WHEREAS, the Benton County Auditor has a position to fill in the office; and

WHEREAS, the auditor has advertised and conducted interviews for said position, including all veterans who applied; and

WHEREAS, after careful consideration, the auditor has recommended that Jacob Golstine be hired to fill the position,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Benton County Board of Supervisors that the hire of Jacob Golstine as clerk in the auditor's office, at an annual salary of \$45,000.00, effective October 5, 2026 and after 6 months' probation an increase up to \$50,000, is hereby approved.

Dated this 22nd of September, 2026.

Tracy Seeman Chairman

Ronald J. Tippett

Bruce Volz

ATTEST:

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor

Sheriff Upah presented an amended 28E with City of Urbana law enforcement. They have offered to exchange equipment, such as a 2022 Tahoe, firearms and other things such as previous evidence will all be transferred over to Benton County's possession. The equipment will

Seeman moved/Tippett seconded: To approve Resolution #26-77, Amended law enforcement contract with the City of Urbana. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #26-77

AGREEMENT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES

WHEREAS, Benton County adopted Resolution #26-14 entering into 28 E Agreements for law enforcement with the Cities of Atkins, Blirstown, Garrison, Keystone, Luzerne, Mt. Auburn, Newhall, Norway, Shellsburg, Urbana and Van Horne are all public agency's as is defined by Section 28E.2 of the Code of Iowa, and

WHEREAS, the City of Urbana has proposed a \$50,000 transition and property transfer value; \$40,560 for Fiscal Year 2027 and a remaining \$9,440 credit toward future FY services;

WHEREAS, it is proposed, that Benton County Sheriff's Office is willing to provide law enforcement services under the terms set forth within the amended 28E agreements with the city;

IT IS NOW AGREED that Benton County will enter into an amended agreement with the City of Urbana pursuant to Chapter 28E of the Code of Iowa, Effective September 22, 2026.

Approved on this 22nd day of September, 2026.

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

Ronald Tippet

Bruce Volz

ATTEST:

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor

**** SEE 28E AGREEMENT****

Volz moved/Tippet seconded: To approve authorizing Hayley Rippel, Gina Edler and Mark Erickson to be authorized users on the Nicolet National Bank account. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Tippet moved/Volz seconded: To approve and authorize filing the 2025-2026 Annual Urban Renewal Report with the state. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Volz moved/Tippet seconded: To amend the date for use of the courthouse lawn for the Vinton Cruise Party for the postponed cruise to take place on September 26, 2026. Tippet, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Supervisor Volz had a Heartland Insurance Meeting. Chairman Seeman had a landfill meeting and reported that there has been more dirt hauled from Linn County for the flood wall. Seeman and Auditor Rippel attended the EMS advisory council meeting Monday night. Supervisor Tippet mentioned a phone call he received regarding a parcel that the Belle Plaine Schools sold, and the new owner didn't think he should be responsible for the full year's taxes. Auditor Rippel has been working on resolving this issue with the Assessor and Treasurer. So there may need to abatement of partial taxes on a future agenda.

Volz moved/Tippet seconded: To adjourn at 10:41 a.m. All three voting aye. Motion carried.

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor