

January 13, 2026

Meeting at 9:00 AM of the Clayton County Board of Supervisors at 600 Gunder Road NE, Elkader, Iowa.

Present: Steve Doeppke, Ray Peterson, and Doug Reimer

Guests: Garrett Baumgartner, Shawn Wirkler, Josie Fettkether, Kaitlyn Kuehl-Berns, Brent Ostrander, Caytee Jones, Ken Zichal, Jessica Goltz, Deana Hageman, Linda Jones, Paul Berland, Andy Loan, Gary Bowden, Justin Williams, Randy Williams, Jenna Van Meeteren, Casey Stickfort, Bart Burgin, Tiffany Johansen, and Jennifer Garms

Doeppke moved, Reimer seconded to approve the meeting minutes for January 6, 2026. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Reimer moved, Doeppke seconded to approve the claims as presented totaling \$118,070.94. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Garrett Baumgartner provided an Information Technology departmental update.

A contest was held pursuant to Iowa Code 349.4 to determine the three papers with the most paid subscribers in Clayton County. Reimer moved, Doeppke seconded to designate Times-Register, Guttenberg Press, and Press Journal as official county newspapers for 2026. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried. The Monona Outlook did not get designated.

Reimer moved, Doeppke seconded to authorize the chair to sign a Letter of Understanding clarifying provisions related to holiday pay with the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Reimer moved, Doeppke seconded to approve and place on file the report of fees for October through December 2025 for the following: Auditor, \$4,249.35; Recorder, \$35,786.10; Sheriff, \$12,935.24. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Jessica Goltz provided a program update and made a FY2027 funding request for Seva Health.

Ken Zichal with the Motor Mill Foundation shared that people have inquired about expanding the holiday lighting of the Motor Mill Bridge to include the higher portions and have volunteered to assist. Reimer moved, Doeppke seconded expanding the holiday lighting of the Motor Mill Bridge if liability insurance and safety concerns are met. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Deana Hageman and Linda Jones provided a program update and made a FY2027 funding request for the Northeast Iowa Retired and Senior Volunteer Program.

Paul Berland provided a program update and made a FY2027 funding request for Northeast Iowa RC&D.

Paul Berland provided a program update and made a FY2027 funding request for the Turkey River Watershed Management Authority.

Chairperson Peterson opened a public hearing regarding bids and lease for county-owned real estate. One bid was \$100/acre for the Sandpit Road Site from Anthony Heitman. The public hearing was closed. Doeppke moved, Reimer seconded to approve the bid for \$100/acre for the Sandpit Road Site from Anthony Heitman. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Recorder Josie Fettkether provided a departmental update and reviewed the FY2027 budget request with the Board.

Caytee Jones provided a departmental update and reviewed the FY2027 budget request with the Board for Environmental Health and Zoning.

Justin Williams and Randy Williams provided a departmental update and reviewed the FY2027 budget request with the Board for Building Maintenance and Grounds.

There were multiple bids/options received for furnace repair or replacement in the Clayton County Office Building. The bid for primary heat exchanger repair included: Central Plumbing and Heating - \$874.00. The bids for primary and secondary heat exchanger repair included: Central Plumbing and Heating - \$2,840.00 and Northeast Iowa Mechanical - \$2,120.32. The bids for replacement included: Central

Plumbing and Heating - \$3,755.00, Joe and Matt's Plumbing - \$3,178.04, Northeast Iowa Mechanical - \$3,708.76, and Northeast Iowa Mechanical - \$3,803.99. Peterson moved, Reimer seconded to approve the bid for furnace replacement from Central Plumbing and Heating for \$3,755.00. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Reimer moved, Doeppke seconded to approve resolution #6-2026 "Gambling Operations Annual Audit." Roll Call Vote: Doeppke-aye, Peterson-aye, Reimer-aye. Motion carried.

**RESOLUTION #6-2026
GAMBLING OPERATIONS ANNUAL AUDIT**

WHEREAS, on April 19, 2004, the Iowa Legislature passed House File 2302, which the Governor signed into law on May 6, 2004.

WHEREAS, House File 2302 amends Iowa Code 99F.13 (2003) and provides that the Board of Supervisors of each county where gambling operations are conducted must select a certified public accountant licensed within the State to conduct the annual audit of certain licensed gambling establishments within the county, specifically providing,

"99F.13 Annual audit of licensee operations.

Within ninety days after the end of the licensee's fiscal year, the licensee shall transmit to the commission an audit of the licensee's total gambling operations, including an itemization of all expenses and subsidies. All audits shall be conducted by certified public accountants authorized to practice in the state of Iowa under Chapter 542 who are selected by the board of supervisors of the county in which the licensee operates."

WHEREAS, the certified public accounting firm of Deloitte & Touche LLP, is experienced in performing audits of gambling operations, is registered and or licensed to perform such services in the State of Iowa.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Clayton County Board of Supervisors hereby appoints Deloitte & Touche LLP accounting firm to conduct the annual audit for the licensee, Casino Queen Marquette LLC dba Bally's Marquette.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that this appointment of Deloitte & Touche LLP shall remain in effect and automatically renew each year until the Board of Supervisors receives a request from the licensee, Casino Queen Marquette LLC dba Bally's Marquette, to appoint another certified public accounting firm to perform the annual audits contemplated under Iowa Code 99F.13.

The Board was presented with multiple sections for an updated draft handbook that would be included for comment and final approval at a later date. The proposed sections are on file with the Auditor's Office for retention with the minutes for one year or until a handbook pertaining these sections is approved/adopted, whichever is later, noting that additional changes to the wording of the sections may occur throughout county handbook discussions.

Peterson moved to insert list "Option B" into the draft handbook section "8.4 Bereavement Leave". The motion died for lack of a second.

Reimer moved, Doeppke moved to insert list "Option A" into the draft handbook section "8.4 Bereavement Leave". Ayes: Doeppke, Reimer; Nays: Peterson. Motion carried.

Reimer moved, Doeppke moved to insert the proposed wording into the draft handbook section "2.17 Emergency Closing / Inclement Weather/ Other". Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Reimer moved, Doeppke moved to insert the proposed wording into the draft handbook section "8.8 Volunteer Emergency Leave". Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Peterson moved, Reimer moved to insert the proposed wording into the draft handbook section "10 Separation of Employment" and "10.4 "Unused / Accrued Time Off (Vac, Sick, Comp)". Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Peterson moved, Reimer moved to insert the proposed wording into the draft handbook section "11.1 Employee Performance Evaluations". Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried.

Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to deny the recording and/or live streaming of Board of Supervisors meetings by the county. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson; Nays: Reimer. Motion carried.

The Board worked on the FY2027 County Budget.

/s/ Ray Peterson, Board of Supervisors Chair
Attest: Jennifer Garms, Clayton County Auditor