Courthouse
Emmetsburg, Iowa
January 20, 2026, 8:00 a.m.

The Palo Alto County Board of Supervisors met in regular session. Members present: Linus Solberg, Chair; Keith Wirtz, Ron Graettinger, Craig Merrill, Roger Faulstick. Present: Diane Weiland, Reporter/Democrat; Jordan Morey, Auditor's Office; Amanda Hansen, Auditor's Office.

Unless otherwise indicated, all of the motions offered at this meeting were carried with the following vote: Ayes: Faulstick, Merrill, Graettinger, Wirtz, Solberg. Nays: None. Abstentions: None.

Linus Solberg, Chair, called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Wirtz, 2nd by Graettinger to approve the agenda for January 20, 2026. Motion Carried.

Motion by Faulstick, 2nd by Graettinger to approve the minutes for January 13, 2026. Motion Carried.

Travis Squires, Financial Advisor, met with the Board by conference call. Travis reviewed the debt obligation of the county and the proposed TIF revenues for FY26.

No one was present for public comment.

Committee Reports: Keith—safety/wellness.

John King, County Sheriff, met with the Board. John met with the Board to request a salary increase for FY27. John also met with the Board to request salary increase for FY27 for Dispatcher Administrator & Jail Administrator that are not part of the union. John requested a 6% increase for FY27. John requested the same wage increase for the Dispatcher Administrator & Jail Administrator as the wage increase the union settled on.

Jacob Hagan, AgriVia, and Tyler Buman, met with the Board for an informational meeting to discuss the outlet of Drainage District 61. Present: Gary Armstrong, Drainage Attorney; Jordan Morey, Auditor's Office; James E. Montag, David M. Zaugg, Aaron Montag, Kregg Schafer, Dave Gerber, Carl Gerber. Jacob presented a scaled back version of the 2017 downstream drainage improvements. The proposal is for removing trees along the bank, pull side slopes back 2:1, and remove islands. The estimated project costs are $404,625. Gary Armstrong, Drainage Attorney, explained annexation of acres to Drainage District 61 or the option to form their own district south of DD 61 main open ditch. No action taken.

Aletha King, Zoning, met with the Board.
Motion by Merrill, 2nd by Graettinger to approve the master matrix for Summit Pork LLP, in Vernon Township, Section 2. Motion Carried.

Motion by Wirtz, 2nd by Faulstick to approve the master matrix for Ample Farms LLP, Brink Site in Ellington Township, Section 32. Motion Carried.

Carmen Moser, Auditor, met with the Board for budget presentations for multiple departments and reviewed with the Board fund balances and proposed tax revenues.

Motion by Wirtz, 2nd by Merrill to adjourn. Motion Carried.

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Linus Solberg, Chairman Carmen Moser, Auditor