Courthouse
Emmetsburg, Iowa
January 27, 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; Anne Quail, County Attorney; Randy Loomis.

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 Faulstick, 2nd by Wirtz to approve the agenda for January 27, 2026. Motion Carried.

Motion by Merrill, 2nd by Graettinger to approve the minutes for January 20 & 21, 2026. Motion Carried.

The Board considered the wage increase for the elected officials and employees for the FY27 budget. Present: Sue Ruppert, County Recorder, Robin Jamison, County Treasurer, John King, County Sheriff; Jody Jergens, Assessor.

Motion by Wirtz, 2nd by Merrill to approve a 3% increase for the county employees (excluding Sheriff Association) effective July 1, 2026. Motion Carried.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Wirtz to approve a 3% increase for the county supervisors effective July 1, 2026. Nays: Solberg. Motion Carried.

Motion by Merrill, 2nd by Graettinger to approve a 3% increase for the County Auditor, County Treasurer, County Recorder, County Attorney effective July 1, 2026. Motion Carried.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Wirtz to approve a 4% increase for the County Sheriff effective July 1, 2026. Motion Carried.

Motion by Faulstick, 2nd Merrill to approve a 3% increase plus $1.75 per hour for the Dispatch Administrator and the Jail Administrator. Motion Carried.

No one was present for public comment.

Committee Reports: Keith—Early Childhood.

Jonathan Moe, CEO, Palo Alto County Hospital, met with the Board of Supervisors for an update on the hospital. Jonathan updated the Board on the facility condition assessment and informed the Board that the new clinic building in Graettinger is open. Jonathan discussed Public Health and statewide cancer updates.

Carmen Moser, County Auditor, will present the proposed budget amendments for the current fiscal year next week at the meeting. Carmen will present the proposed budget for FY27 with the salary increases that were approved to review at the meeting next week.

Aletha King, Zoning, met with the Board. Aletha updated the Board on the zoning discussion regarding the draft battery storage ordinance.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Merrill to introduce and approve Resolution 1-27-2026 for waiver for permit for Summit Pork I, LLP, in Vernon 2 Site.
Ayes: Faulstick, Merrill, Wirtz, Graettinger, Solberg. Resolution Passed.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Merrill to introduce and approve Resolution 1-27-2026(A) for waiver for permit for Ample Farms LLP, Brink Site, Ellington 32. Ayes: Faulstick, Merrill, Graettinger, Wirtz, Solberg. Resolution Passed.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Merrill to approve the county claims for January 27, 2026. Motion Carried.

General Basic Fund		
Access Systems	Office & Data Processing	3262.13
Amazon Capital Services	Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc	24.07
Canon	Office & Data Processing	245.64
Stephanie J. Early	Legal/Ct-Related Ser/Tran	28.00
Emmet Co Public Health	Postage & Mailing	4033.06
E.M.U.	utilities	3313.48
Farm & Home Publishers	Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc	465.60
IA Attorney General Office PAT	Legal Research Service	28.00
IA Lakes Electric Coop	Electric Light & Power	1311.00
Iowa Lakes Regional Water	Water & Sewer	281.60
IA Law Enforcement Academy	Education/Training/Hotel	250.00
IDEMIA Identity & Security	System Building&Sustainab	2819.00
Iowa Trust & Savings Bank	Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc	226.73
J.W. Repair	Minor MV Parts & Access	13.20
Loffler Companies - 131511	Office & Data Processing	225.54
Louscher Family Dentistry	Acute & Emergency Treat.	628.00
Mail Services, LLC	Postage & Mailing	400.58
ANDY MANWARREN	Agric/Hort. Services	166.00
MidAmerican Energy	electricity	2865.49
Northwest Communications	Telecommunications Serv.-	144.95
NW IA Youth Emergency Services	Crisis Stab Comm Based Se	3373.25
Palo Alto Co Comm Health Ser	Board of Health	4954.08
Palo Alto Co Sec Road	Fuels	372.46
Parallel Ag	Minor MV Parts & Access	46.01
QS LAWN AND SPRINKLER	Buildings	585.00
Quill Corporation	Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc	89.97
Ruthven Coop Oil Co	Fuels	2108.20
Solutions Inc, Harris Local Go	services	450.00
Spencer Office Supplies JCL So	Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc	139.47
STATE HYGIENIC LABORATORY	Engineering Services	187.50
Swanson Hardware	Fuels	51.52
VISA	Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc	196.18
Windstream	phone	508.87
General Supplemental Fund		
Amazon Capital Services	Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc	22.98
E.M.U.	utilities	442.81
MidAmerican Energy	electricity	40.89
Jail Special Revenue Fund		
MEDIACOM LLC	Protection/Security Serv.	266.60
Rural Services Basic Fund		
Emmetsburg Ford	Motor Vehicle Equipment	69.15
IA Lakes Electric Coop	Electric Light & Power	692.00
KRISTAT AUTO PARTS LLC	Equipment	70.23
Parallel Ag	Equipment	71.02
River Valley Telecommunication	Telecommunications Serv.-	763.45
Rouse Tire and Repair, LLC	Equipment	1113.20
Shamrock Recycling, Inc	Sanitation & Disposal Ser	2370.00

Wessels Oil Co Inc	Fuels	65.84
Whittemore Truck & Trailer	Equipment	1124.06
Secondary Road Fund		
Abel Drainage & Excavating,Inc	Engineering Services	6459.00
Alliant Energy	Engineering Services	28.37
Amazon Capital Services	Engineering Services	116.33
Bomgaars	Engineering Services	197.39
Cintas	Engineering Services	41.08
E.M.U.	Engineering Services	1242.80
Fareway	Engineering Services	74.98
Fleet Pride Truck & Trailer	Engineering Services	119.67
Forge & Build	Engineering Services	320.21
Graettinger Hardware	Engineering Services	157.64
HOLIDAY INN	Engineering Services	806.40
IA Concrete Paving Assoc	Engineering Services	470.00
IA Lakes Electric Coop	Engineering Services	278.68
Jack's OK Tire	Engineering Services	586.58
J.W. Repair	Engineering Services	120.80
KRISTAT AUTO PARTS LLC	Engineering Services	172.89
Martin Marietta Agg	Engineering Services	13897.76
MEDIACOM LLC	Engineering Services	58.42
Menards	Engineering Services	16.96
MidAmerican Energy	Engineering Services	649.40
MSC INDUSTRIAL SUPPLY CO	Engineering Services	48.38
Murphy Tractor & Equipment	Engineering Services	179.55
New Century FS	Engineering Services	7205.73
NEW Cooperative, Inc.	Engineering Services	2210.52
Newman Traffic Signs	Engineering Services	1955.76
Retriever LLC	Engineering Services	4285.00
Rockmount Research & Alloys	Engineering Services	948.24
Rouse Tire and Repair, LLC	Engineering Services	390.00
Staybridge Suites Ames	Engineering Services	288.96
Swanson Hardware	Engineering Services	46.96
City of West Bend	Engineering Services	473.92
West Bend Red Power	Engineering Services	7.51
Justin Williams	Engineering Services	56.00
Ziegler Inc	Engineering Services	5667.39
Emergency Mgmnt Agency		
IA Emergency Mgmnt Association	Dues & Memberships	225.00
E911 Surcharge Fund		
Ayrshire Farmers Mut Telephone	Engineering Services	158.99
Century Link	Engineering Services	33.95
Northwest Communications	Engineering Services	158.99
Palo Alto Co Emergency Mgmt	Contrib to Other Gov & Or	20000.00
Windstream	phone	358.05
WINDSTREAM IA Comm Inc	phone	161.51

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

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Linus Solberg, Chairman Carmen Moser, Auditor