Courthouse
Emmetsburg, Iowa
June 9, 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; Kent Malm.

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 Faulstick to approve the agenda for June 6, 2026. Motion Carried.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Merrill to approve the minutes for May 26, 2026. Motion Carried.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Wirtz to approve the Veteran Affair's monthly report for May 29, 2026. Motion Carried.

Motion by Faulstick, 2nd by Wirtz to approve the Recorder's monthly report ending May 31, 2026. Motion carried.

Motion by Wirtz, 2nd by Faulstick to approve the Spring Hils Country Club class C liquor license and outdoor service effective June 22, 2026, for 12 months. Motion Carried.

No committee reports.

Pat Madsen was present on conference call and John Banwart was present for public comment. Pat & John discussed downed trees in the Cylinder Creek from the tornado that occurred in May. They expressed concerns about the downed trees stopping the flow of water in the Cylinder Creek.

Walter Davis-Oeth, County Engineer, met with the Board. Walter discussed the new 60 mph speed limit law signed by the Governor.

Motion by Wirtz, 2nd by Graettinger to approve a utility permit for Iowa Lakes Electric Coop. in Section 12, 13, & 24 of Great Oak Township. Motion Carried.

Motion by Merrill, 2nd by Wirtz to approve the Fairfield lease agreement with Dexter Knobloch for 2026. Motion Carried.

The Board canvassed the tally lists from the Primary Election held on June 2, 2026.

Motion by Graettinger, seconded by Faulstick to approve the canvass of votes for the Primary Election held on June 2,2026. Motion Carried. Official canvass results are on file at the Auditor's Office. Following is the list of candidates nominated for county offices to appear on November 3, 2026, General Election Ballot.

Board of Supervisors District 1-Republican: Keith Wirtz
Board of Supervisors District 2-Republican: Craig Merrill
Board of Supervisors District 5-Republican: Aaron Dietrich
Board of Supervisors District 5-Democratic: Linus J. Solberg
County Treasurer-Republican: Robin Jamison
County Recorder-Republican: Susan Ruppert
County Attorney-Republican: Anne Quail

No candidates were nominated by voters of the Democratic Party for the following offices: Board of Supervisors District 1, Board of Supervisors District 2, County Treasurer, County Recorder, & County Attorney.

Motion by Faulstick, 2nd by Merrill to approve the drainage levies due and payable on September 30, 2026. Motion Carried.

| Fund/Ditch | % Levy | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| DD 6 | 67.00% | $4,096.81 |
| DD 14 | 5.00% | $327.77 |
| DD 23 Lat 12 | 4.00% | $1,236.63 |
| DD 23 Lat 19 | 2.00% | $1,186.46 |
| DD 71 | 20.00% | $1,901.92 |
| DD 80 Lat F Open | 4.00% | $4,238.05 |
| DD 103 | 57.00% | $1,892.01 |
| DD 116 | 6.00% | $952.80 |
| DD 117 | 36.00% | $2,747.18 |
| DD 148 | 6.00% | $37.32 |
| DD 15S Main Open | 1.00% | $1,214.43 |
| DD 61 North-Trustee | 5.00% | $28,654.16 |
| DD 180 Lat A Open | 1.00% | $1,216.75 |
| DD 98 Lat A | 6.00% | $1,987.98 |
| DD 154 | 74.00% | $2,649.76 |
| DD 32-Trustee | 8.00% | $7,976.17 |
| DD 23 Main Tile | 4.00% | $6,145.66 |
| DD 17 Main Tile | 24.00% | $14,142.02 |
| DD 11 | 2.00% | $332.42 |
| | | |
| DD Jt 63 Br 1 Tile | 25.00% | $552.21 |
| DD Jt 63 Br 2 Tile | 59.00% | $5,321.58 |
| DD Jt 22 Br 19 Open | 5.00% | $575.00 |
| DD Jt 22 Br 19-9 Tile | 35.00% | $1,121.68 |
| DD Jt 22 Br 19-101 | 335.00% | $5,442.76 |
| DD Jt 52 | 20.00% | $1,413.20 |
| DD Tri Jt 84 | 0.50% | $644.35 |
| DD Tri Jt 84 Lat 37S | 1015.00% | $2,537.51 |
| DD Jt PAK 1 Lat 48 | 479.00% | $1,033.03 |

Sarah Strohman, Public Health Director, met with the Board to provide an update on the Public Health Realignment.

The Board held a conference call with Kossuth County Board of Supervisors.

Motion by Kyle Stuecker, Kossuth County 2nd by Craig Merrill, Palo Alto County, to approve change order #4 on repairs on drainage district Jt. 1 PAK Main open ditch. Ayes: all. Motion Carried.

Motion by Kyle Stuecker, Kossuth County, 2nd by Ron Graettinger, Palo Alto County, to approve pay estimate #3 for $118,722.20 to Reutzel Exc. For repairs on Jt 1 PAK Main Open Ditch. Ayes: all. Motion Carried.

Diana Elbert met with the Board to provide an update on the financials for the Senior Center.

Motion by Faulstick, 2nd by Wirtz to approve $4,000 to the Multipurpose Senior Center. Motion Carried.

Motion by Merrill, 2nd by Graettinger to approve the septic grant application for Bill Geelan. Motion Carried.

Motion by Faulstick, 2nd by Merrill to introduce and approve Resolution No. 6-9-2026 Authorizing Appointment of Township Officials question to appear on November ballot.
Ayes: Faulstick, Merrill, Graettinger, Wirtz, Solberg. Resolution passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 6-9-2026 AUTHORIZING APPOINTMENT OF TOWNSHIP TRUSTEES AND CLERKS IN LIEU OF GENERAL ELECTION

Whereas, Iowa Code Chapter 39.22 permits individual township trustees and clerks to be appointed by the Board of Supervisors after the selection process has been approved at the next general election by each township; and,

Wherefore, Palo Alto County Board of Supervisors resolves the process for selection for township trustees and township clerks shall be by appointment from the Board of Supervisors of the now tenured and presently serving township trustees and clerks in lieu of general election; and,

Wherefore, the following townships of Ellington, Emmetsburg, Fern Valley, Freedom, Highland, Nevada, Rush Lake, Vernon, and Walnut approved the appointment process at the General Election on November 5, 1996; and Booth, Great Oak, Independence, Lost Island at the General Election on November 5, 2002;

BE IT RESOLVED, this appointment method for selection of trustees and clerks shall be submitted for approval by a vote in Fairfield, Silver Lake, and West Bend townships on November 3, 2026.

/s/LJ Solberg, Chairman, Palo Alto County Board of Supervisors
/s/Attest: Carmen Moser, Palo Alto County Auditor

**Sample Ballot (printed accordingly by township)**

Shall the following public measure be adopted?
Should the Palo Alto County Board of Supervisors fill the offices of Trustee and Clerk of Fairfield (Silver Lake, West Bend) Township by appointment as the terms of the office of the incumbent township officers expires?

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Wirtz to approve abatement of drainage tax assessment on Drainage District 69. Motion Carried.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Merrill to appoint Gerald Fuerstenau as Nevada Township Trustee to fill the unexpired term till December 31, 2026. Motion Carried.

Motion by Graettinger, 2nd by Wirtz to approve the county claims and drainage claims for June 6, 2026. Motion Carried.

**General Basic Fund**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amazon Capital Services | Custodial Supplies | 891.85 |
| Ronald Barber | Engineering Services | 5000.00 |
| Big Language Solutions | Other | 148.77 |
| BLUE LAKE WEBSITES ANITRA LARS | Data Processing Services | 162.98 |
| Boji Powersports | Miscellaneous Repair | 122.53 |
| CAASA Centers Agnst A & S Assa | Contrib to Other Gov & Or | 3000.00 |
| Michael & Tracey Carlson | Engineering Services | 5000.00 |
| Central Iowa Distributing Inc | Custodial Supplies | 302.00 |
| Terry Chamberlain | Bus | 282.00 |
| Creative Stitches | Conservation Board | 80.00 |
| Emmet Co Public Health | Postage & Mailing | 3637.63 |
| Emmetsburg Ford | Minor MV Parts & Access | 843.33 |
| Emmetsburg Publishing Co. | Board Proceedings | 1886.50 |
| Estherville Printing Co | Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc | 497.28 |
| Fareway | Food & Provisions | 2813.30 |
| Jane M. Fitzgerald, CSR | Legal/Ct-Related Ser/Tran | 2049.50 |
| HEARTLAND SECURITY SERVICES | Office & Data Processing | 327.50 |
| Vincent H. Heller | Bus | 48.00 |

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|---|---|---|
| IA County Attorneys Case Mgt | Data Processing Equipment | 10400.00 |
| Ia Dept of Public Safety | Contract Carriers | 1150.20 |
| IA State Assn of Counties | Education/Training/Hotel | 275.00 |
| IA STATE COUNTY TREAS ASSOC % | Dues & Memberships | 250.00 |
| IACVS Shelby County VA | Misc Expense | 50.00 |
| Jere Kay Gravel | Permanent Landscaping | 1400.00 |
| Aletha King | Engineering Services | 361.87 |
| KRISTAT AUTO PARTS LLC | Minor MV Parts & Access | 397.68 |
| Lentz Funeral Homes | Medical & Health Services | 690.00 |
| Samuel Lyon | Employee Mileage & Meals | 74.40 |
| Mainstay Systems of Iowa LLC | Contract Carriers | 367.35 |
| Mallard Gun Shop | Education/Training/Hotel | 104.00 |
| MEDIACOM LLC | Telecommunications Serv.- | 486.93 |
| Victoria Merwald | Misc Expense | 514.68 |
| MidAmerican Energy | electricity | 1290.80 |
| Midwest Pest | Contract Carriers | 150.00 |
| Midwest Technology Service | Telecommunications Serv.- | 610.54 |
| New Century FS | Chemicals & Gases-Herb. | 1866.07 |
| Northwest Communications | Telecommunications Serv.- | 249.90 |
| NW Iowa Planning & Development | Dues & Memberships | 1558.05 |
| Palo Alto Co Extension Office | Buildings | 246.57 |
| Palo Alto Co Recorder | Planning/Mngmnt Consultan | 18.00 |
| Palo Alto Co Sec Road | Fuels | 3346.68 |
| Palo Alto Co Sheriff | Legal/Ct-Related Ser/Tran | 610.15 |
| Parallel Ag | Operating/Construction Eq | 844.28 |
| Plumbing & Heating Wholesale | Buildings | 115.01 |
| PRIA PROPERTY RECORDS INDUSTRY | Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc | 60.00 |
| Anne J. Quail | Employee Mileage & Meals | 74.40 |
| RELX Inc. DBA LexisNexis | Legal Research Service | 219.00 |
| RESERVE ACCOUNT | Postage & Mailing | 850.00 |
| Rick's Septic Service | Sanitation & Disposal Ser | 1850.00 |
| River Valley Telecommunication | Buildings | 2788.79 |
| Rooney's Auto & Custom Exhaust | Tires & Tubes | 2307.96 |
| Dr. David Ruzicka | Medical & Health Services | 2000.00 |
| Richard Sample | Bus | 90.00 |
| Schneider Geospatial, LLC | Misc Expense | 6349.20 |
| HOWARD SMITH | Bus | 505.20 |
| Solutions Inc, Harris Local Go | services | 15268.95 |
| Spencer Office Supplies JCL So | Custodial Supplies | 898.59 |
| STATE HYGIENIC LABORATORY | Engineering Services | 750.00 |
| Swanson Hardware | Custodial Supplies | 1205.09 |
| U.S. Postal Service | Postage & Mailing | 430.00 |
| VISA | Fertilizer & Seed | 3403.58 |
| Wells Fargo Financial Leasing | Contract Carriers | 155.52 |
| West Bend Ford | Minor MV Parts & Access | 1295.49 |
| Willow Tree | Buildings | 254.98 |
| Windstream | phone | 822.51 |
| **General Supplemental Fund** | | |
| Robbin Bird | Election Officials | 100.00 |
| Barb Brennan | Election Officials | 249.00 |
| Jane Brown | Election Officials | 225.00 |
| Joan Cate | Election Officials | 239.40 |
| Diane Dahlhauser | Election Officials | 253.80 |
| ELECTION SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE | Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc | 497.32 |
| Emmetsburg Publishing Co. | Official Pub & Legal Noti | 132.30 |
| Suzanne Faulstick | Election Officials | 225.00 |
| Janet Fehr | Election Officials | 253.80 |

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|---|---|---|
| Melanie Flynn | Election Officials | 249.00 |
| Rhonda Frambach | Election Officials | 231.00 |
| Judy Frieden | Election Officials | 252.00 |
| Phil Geelan | Election Officials | 14.40 |
| Barb Goodlaxson | Election Officials | 25.00 |
| Mike Hartman | Election Officials | 15.60 |
| Kathy Helmich | Election Officials | 225.00 |
| Judy Hersom | Election Officials | 225.00 |
| Deb Hite | Election Officials | 237.00 |
| Dianne Hough | Election Officials | 225.00 |
| IA Secretary of State | Data Processing Services | 45.65 |
| Deb Jones | Election Officials | 229.20 |
| Karen Kauffman | Election Officials | 239.40 |
| Aletha King | Election Officials | 22.80 |
| Jody Leuer | Election Officials | 249.00 |
| Loffler Companies - 131511 | Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc | 81.30 |
| Donna Mason | Election Officials | 239.40 |
| Becky Masters | Election Officials | 225.00 |
| Anna McDevitt | Election Officials | 240.60 |
| Margaret McNally | Election Officials | 85.00 |
| Kathy Mehan | Election Officials | 232.20 |
| PATRICIA MOLITOR | Election Officials | 244.20 |
| Jordan Morey | Employee Mileage & Meals | 15.60 |
| Mary Moser | Election Officials | 225.00 |
| Danita E. O'Leary | Election Officials | 225.00 |
| JUDY RICHARDSON | Election Officials | 85.00 |
| Lisa Riesenberg | Election Officials | 267.00 |
| Debra Rouse | Election Officials | 275.40 |
| Penny Rubel | Election Officials | 257.40 |
| Jeanelle Stokes | Election Officials | 240.60 |
| Lisbeth J. Zeigler | Election Officials | 228.60 |
| **Opioid Settlement Special Rev** | | |
| Palo Alto Co Health System | Other Treatment, Prev, Ot | 271.00 |
| **Rural Services Basic Fund** | | |
| Emmetsburg Ford | Motor Vehicle Equipment | 151.89 |
| KRISTAT AUTO PARTS LLC | Misc Expense | 197.42 |
| Mid-Iowa Growth Partnership Li | Contrib to Other Gov & Or | 500.00 |
| Northwest Communications | Telecommunications Serv.- | 95.90 |
| Palo Alto Co Sec Road | Fuels | 525.65 |
| Parallel Ag | Equipment | 406.61 |
| River Valley Telecommunication | Telecommunications Serv.- | 108.19 |
| Rouse Tire and Repair, LLC | Miscellaneous Repair | 2327.95 |
| City of Spencer | Sanitation & Disposal Ser | 25165.31 |
| Swanson Hardware | Misc Expense | 727.32 |
| **Special Revenue-SheriffReserve** | | |
| Mallard Gun Shop | Education/Training/Hotel | 118.00 |
| **Secondary Road Fund** | | |
| Amazon Capital Services | Engineering Services | 385.50 |
| Arnold Motor Supply ATT: Sue | Engineering Services | 128.77 |
| Cintas | Engineering Services | 82.16 |
| Crysteel Truck Equipment Inc | Engineering Services | 1735.21 |
| City of Cylinder | Engineering Services | 55.00 |
| Emmet County Engineer | Engineering Services | 9301.43 |
| Emmetsburg Ford | Engineering Services | 299.07 |
| Evora Energy | Engineering Services | 350.43 |
| Forge & Build | Engineering Services | 4.98 |
| Graettinger Mun. Utilities Gra | Engineering Services | 323.78 |

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|---|---|---|
| Iowa Lakes Regional Water | Engineering Services | 104.15 |
| Jack's OK Tire | Engineering Services | 1000.28 |
| K.C. Nielsen Ltd | Engineering Services | 323.36 |
| KRISTAT AUTO PARTS LLC | Engineering Services | 2116.26 |
| Lawson Products Inc | Engineering Services | 242.54 |
| City of Mallard | Engineering Services | 100.06 |
| Midwest Technology Service | Engineering Services | 127.25 |
| Murphy Tractor & Equipment | Engineering Services | 955.02 |
| New Century FS | Engineering Services | 26648.50 |
| Newman Traffic Signs | Engineering Services | 5789.65 |
| NUSS TRUCK & EQUIPMENT | Engineering Services | 875.05 |
| Palo Alto Co Auditor | Engineering Services | 33.26 |
| Rick's Septic Service | Engineering Services | 345.09 |
| Rouse Tire and Repair, LLC | Engineering Services | 35.00 |
| Swanson Hardware | Engineering Services | 310.39 |
| TMobile | Engineering Services | 909.02 |
| Truck Center Companies | Engineering Services | 3178.78 |
| U.S. Postal Service | Engineering Services | 614.00 |
| Vander Haags Inc. | Engineering Services | 801.35 |
| Visual Edge IT Veit LLC | Engineering Services | 807.86 |
| Ziegler Inc | Engineering Services | 4799.50 |

**E911 Surcharge Fund**

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|---|---|---|
| Electronic Specialties | Equipment | 5776.00 |
| Ia Dept of Public Safety | Miscellaneous Repair | 255.60 |
| River Valley Telecommunication | Engineering Services | 701.77 |
| Windstream | phone | 358.05 |

**Drainage Claims**

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|---|---|---|
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 106-Spraying | 892.65 |
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 18-Spraying | 1224.60 |
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 29 Main-Spraying | 326.40 |
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 3 Main-Spraying | 2389.05 |
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 48 Main-Spraying | 5490.00 |
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 61 Main-Spraying | 2475.45 |
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 62-Spraying | 954.90 |
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 84-Spraying | 643.50 |
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 923 Lat 2 Open-Spray | 1137.90 |
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 923 LAt 1 Open-Spray | 532.50 |
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 923 Main-Spraying | 397.50 |
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 98 sub 1-Spraying | 1041.00 |
| B & W Control Specialists | DD 98 Main-Spraying | 6113.20 |
| D D 80 Lat Q-4 | Transfer DD 80 Lat Q | 590.37 |
| Emmetsburg Publishing Co. | DD 5 Lat 1-Pub Exp | 74.78 |
| Emmetsburg Publishing Co. | DD 62-Pub Exp | 104.97 |
| Jacobson-Westergard&Assoc,Inc. | DD 62-Eng Exp | 10700.65 |
| Jacobson-Westergard&Assoc,Inc. | DD 69-Eng Exp | 934.40 |
| KENT MALM | DD 117-Inspection | 80.00 |
| KENT MALM | DD 180 Lat 30 tile-inspec | 80.00 |
| KENT MALM | DD 98 Main Open-Inspect | 100.00 |
| Rouse Excavation&Construction | DD 117-Repair | 600.00 |
| Rouse Excavation&Construction | DD 180 Lat 30 Tile-Repair | 1263.60 |
| Rouse Excavation&Construction | DD 98 Main Open-Repair | 4712.08 |

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

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Linus Solberg, Chairman Carmen Moser, Auditor