

GUEST COLUMN

Flying high on the Fourth of July

BY PAT KINNEY

As I cool off on a quiet but hot Fourth of July afternoon after a morning workout, I'm a little saddened.

I'm hearing some muffled misgivings by some folks about flying the flag on the day of our nation's birth.

Some folks are afraid if they fly their nation's colors they'll be misinterpreted as being of one political persuasion or another. Or they're just down on the way things have gone lately.

I don't begrudge anyone their feelings, but personally, that just makes me want to fly the flag more — for what we aspire to be as a people and hope for our nation, with all our shortcomings.

I can't speak for others but flying the flag reminds me of home, of family, of security and of love — things worth preserving and what I wish for everyone.

When I was a kid, not one, not two, but three flags flew from the Kinney house on our big corner lot. Dad, who was a World War II veteran, saw to that and instilled it in us.

We had one on the porch, one on the corner of the house and one on a makeshift flagpole on a corner fencepost in the backyard.

With Dad's encouragement, as a little boy I would parade that flag down the sidewalk, climb up the slope to the fencepost and set that flag, fastened to two eyelets screwed into a wooden pole like a long broom handle, into a lead pipe crimped at one end and wired to the fencepost.

It was my little Iwo Jima flag raising. I'm pretty sure Dad was pleased.

So, when Dad died in 1990, and we were presented with his casket flag at graveside, my big brother George, who accepted it, turned around later and gave it to me. And my sister said maybe I could parade it around the house

like I did when I was little. It gave us a great laugh amid the tears.

I still have Dad's casket flag. And now I have the flags of two of my mom's recently deceased brothers, my Uncle John, who served in the Navy in World War II, and my Uncle Adrian, who served in the Army in the Philippines during that war.

My mom worked in a defense plant during World War II. My big brothers Mike and George both served in the Air Force and Navy in the 1960s. I have a great nephew in the Louisiana National Guard who served a year's deployment in the Middle East. I have a niece whose husband is a fighter pilot in the U.S. Air Force and believe me, families serve together.

My step grandfather served during World War I. My maternal great-great grandfather served in Company D, 47th Iowa Infantry in Missouri and Arkansas in 1864 during the Civil War. And our cousin who served in the Marines in Vietnam lost his life to PTSD suicide in 1991.

So the colors run deep in my family and the flag flies high. And that's all there is to it.

It's a gesture of love — love of my family, love of everything that's good about this land, a symbol of what it aspires to be and a prayer of hope for the future.

That flag flies on these special days as long as I have air in my lungs and blood in my veins.

As Woody Guthrie wrote, this land is your land. And this flag is your flag.

Pat Kinney is a freelance writer and former longtime news staffer with the *Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier* and, prior to that, several years at the *Ames Tribune*. He is currently an oral historian with the *Grout Museum District in Waterloo*. His "View from the Cedar Valley" column is part of "Iowa Writers Collaborative."

MAGISTRATE COURT

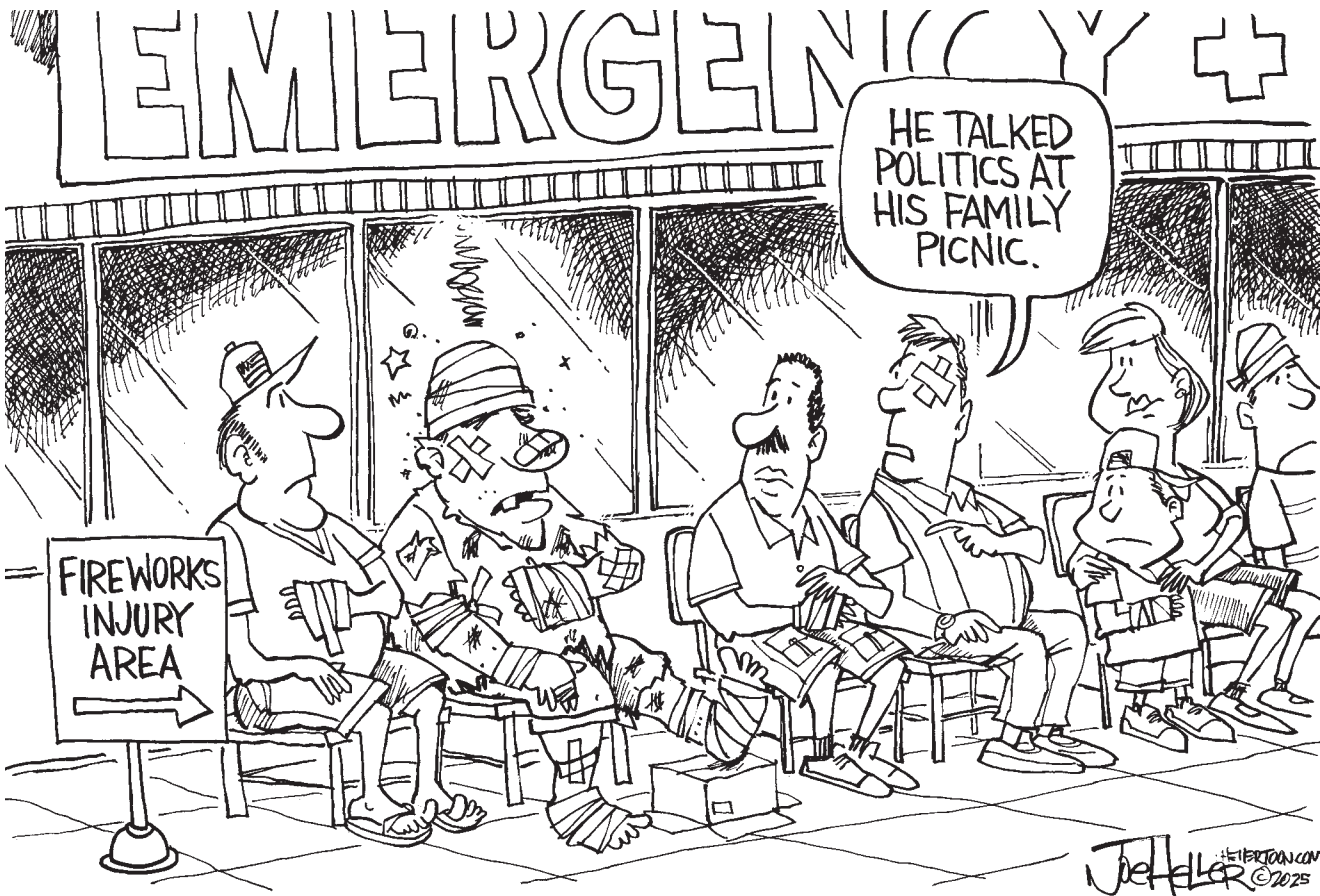
John Joseph Connolly, Dubuque, was found guilty to a charge of speeding. Connolly was fined \$55 plus court costs.

Janne Mary Schlemme, Cascade, was found guilty to a charge of speeding. Schlemme was fined \$145 plus court costs.

Kira Laurine Olin, Anamosa, pleaded

guilty to a charge of OWI. Olin was given a deferred judgment, placed on probation for one year and assessed a \$625 civil penalty.

Eric Alex Taylor, Clinton, was found guilty to a charge of fifth-degree theft. Taylor was fined \$105 plus court costs.



MINUTES

SPRINGVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS – MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
06/25/2025 06:00 PM
SPRINGVILLE CSD DISTRICT OFFICE/PRESCHOOL BUILDING
602 MILL AVENUE
SPRINGVILLE, IA 52336

Attendees
Voting Members
Amy Hosek, Board Member - ABSENT
Patrick Hoyt, Board Member – (via ZOOM)

Albert Martin, Vice President - ABSENT
Kate O'Brien-May, Board President
Amy Stuessel, Board Member
Non-Voting Members
Stacey Matus, Business Manager/
Board Secretary
Autumn Pino, Superintendent
Shannon Robertson, Elementary Principal

NOTE: These minutes are unofficial until approved by the Board at the next regular meeting
I. Regular Meeting Opening
Regular Board Meeting Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 6:00 pm located in the Springville CSD District Office/Preschool Building located at 602 Mill Avenue.

1. Call to Order
Kate O'Brien-May called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.
2. Roll Call for Determination of Quorum
Board Secretary/Treasurer Stacey Matus took roll call: Stuessel, present; Hoyt, present (via Zoom); O'Brien-May, present. Also present were Superintendent Autumn Pino, Elementary Principal Shannon Robertson, and Board Secretary Stacey Matus. Directors Hosek and Martin were absent.

3. Recognition of Visitor and Public Comments
No comments were made.
4. Board Comments
No comments were made.
5. Approve Agenda
Motion to accept the recommendation to adopt the June 25, 2025 agenda as presented.
Motion made by: Hoyt
Motion seconded by: Stuessel
Voting: Unanimously Approved

II. Action Items
1. Approve 25-26 Master Contract and Certified Employee Handbooks
Motion to accept the recommendation to approve the 25-26 Master Contract and 25-26 Certified Employee Handbook as presented.
Motion made by: Stuessel
Motion seconded by: Hoyt
Voting: Unanimously Approved

2. Approve 25-26 Equipment Breakdown Policy
Motion to accept the recommendation to approve the 25-26 renewal proposal from Specialty Underwriters Insurance

Company for Equipment Maintenance Program premium as presented.
Motion made by: Hoyt
Motion seconded by: Stuessel
Voting: Unanimously Approved

3. Approve 25-26 Tech Svc Agreement GWAEA
Motion to accept the recommendation to approve the 2025-26 Grant Wood AEA Technology Services Agreement as presented.
Motion made by: Stuessel
Motion seconded by: Hoyt
Voting: Unanimously Approved

4. Approve 25-26 GWAEA SubCentral Agreement
Motion to accept the recommendation to approve the 2025-26 Grant Wood AEA SubCentral Agreement as presented.
Motion made by: Hoyt
Motion seconded by: Stuessel
Voting: Unanimously Approved

5. Approve GWAEA Contract Transfer of State Funding
Motion to accept the recommendation to approve the Contract for the Transfer of State AEA Special Education Funding between the Springville Community School District and Grant Wood Area Education Agency as presented.
Motion made by: Stuessel
Motion seconded by: Hoyt
Voting: Unanimously Approved

6. Approve 2025-26 Milk Bids
Motion to accept the recommendation from Foodservice Director, Michele McCoy, to accept the bid from Prairie Farms for the 2025-26 school district for milk as presented.
Motion made by: Hoyt
Motion seconded by: Stuessel
Voting: Unanimously Approved

7. Approve Resolution to Participate in the SPF 28E Agreement
Motion to accept the recommendation to adopt the following resolution: To Participate in the Storm Protection Fund, an Iowa Code Chapter 28E Entity and Chapter 670 Risk Pool as presented. Roll call vote as follows: O'Brien-May, aye; Hoyt, aye; Stuessel, aye. Directors Hosek and Martin, absent. All ayes, motion carried.
Motion made by: Stuessel
Motion seconded by: Hoyt
Voting: Unanimously Approved

8. Approve 2025-26 EMC Liability Insurance Policy
Motion to accept the recommendation to approve the property/casualty insurance policy from EMC/Jester Insurance Services through the Lang Insurance Agency for 2025-26, for a total of \$204,197.39.
Motion made by: Stuessel
Motion seconded by: Hoyt
Voting: Unanimously Approved

9. Approve Construction Project Change Order-Restroom Remodel
Motion to accept the recommendation to approve the following change

order #050 from Estes Construction as presented for a total of \$60,403.00.
Motion made by: Hoyt
Motion seconded by: Stuessel
Voting: Unanimously Approved

10. Approve Contractor Pay Application - Nelson Electric Company
Motion to accept the recommendation to approve the payment application from Estes Construction to Nelson Electric Company for \$6,152.40 as presented.
Motion made by: Stuessel
Motion seconded by: Hoyt
Voting: Unanimously Approved

11. Approve Change Orders
Motion to accept the recommendation to approve the change orders as presented.
o Estes CO 005 - \$22,359.00
o Estes CO 006 - \$115,047.00
o Kraus Plumbing & Heating CO 004 - (\$7,500.00)
o Nelson Electric CO 007 - (\$8,898.00)
o Point Builders CO 009 - (\$2,167.00)
o Point Builders CO 010 - (\$115,047.00)
Motion made by: Hoyt
Motion seconded by: Stuessel
Voting: Unanimously Approved

12. Approve Contractual Items
Motion to accept the recommendation to approve the following contractual items: Resignation from Sabrina Bormann, Elementary Teacher, Student Council Advisor, and Elementary Yearbook Advisor, effective end of 2024-25 school year; Resignation from Carol Thumma, Foodservice, effective end of 2024-25 school year. 2025-26 Teacher Leadership Positions/Stipends: Meleah Jones - 2025-26 Curriculum & Instruction Leader/Induction Coach; Ek ended 15 day contract plus \$10,000 annual stipend (Curriculum & Instruction Leader); \$5,000 annual stipend (Induction Coach); Austin Neuendorf - 2025-26 Instructional Coach/Student Progress Coordinator; Ek ended 15 day contract plus \$6,000 annual stipend; Hope Brown - 2025-26 Lead Teacher; \$3,500 annual stipend (additional 5 days); Alyssa Fangmann - 2025-26 Lead Teacher; \$3,500 annual stipend (additional 5 days); Josh Stoll - 2025-26 Lead Teacher; \$3,500 annual stipend (additional 5 days); Rachelle Zehr - 2025-26 Lead Teacher; \$3,500 annual stipend (additional 5 days); Wyatt O'Connor - 2025-26 Math Strategist; \$1,500 annual stipend (additional 3 days); Samantha Fox - 2025-26 Secondary Literacy Strategist; \$1,500 annual stipend (additional 3 days); Sandy Hoogland - 2025-26 Elementary Literacy Strategist; \$1,500 annual stipend (additional 3 days); Joe Martin - 2025-26 Secondary PBIS Lead; \$1,500 annual stipend (additional 3 days); Jade Rowell - 2025-26 Elementary PBIS Lead; \$1,500 annual stipend (additional 3 days).

Motion made by: Hoyt
Motion seconded by: Stuessel
Voting: Unanimously Approved

13. Acceptance of Donation from the Springville Presbyterian Church
Motion to accept a generous donation in the amount of \$2,366.00 given by the Springville Presbyterian Church for students' negative lunch account balances.
Motion made by: Stuessel
Motion seconded by: Hoyt
Voting: Unanimously Approved

14. Approve Open Enrollment Applications
No applications were submitted.
III. Discussion Items

1. Strategic Plan Discussion - Facilities
Superintendent Pino updated the board on discussions with Estes Construction regarding flawed doors.

2. Reports
a. Activities Director Report
The board reviewed Activities Director O'Brien-May's written report.
b. Elementary Principal Report
Elementary Principal Shannon Robertson reviewed the following: Summer school and TK programs.
c. Secondary Principal Report
The board reviewed Secondary Principal Nick Merritt's written report.
d. Superintendent Report
Superintendent Autumn Pino reviewed the following: Used bus purchase; Complimented summer school program staff; Future buildings and grounds projects.

e. Board President Report
Kate O'Brien-May and PJ Hoyt reported on the IASB Student Summit they attended.

3. Review Next Meeting Dates
Regular Board Meeting, Wednesday, July 16th at 6:00 pm
Regular Board Meeting, Wednesday, August 20th at 6:00 PM - tentative change to Thursday, August 21st @ 6:00 pm

IV. Consent Agenda
Motion to accept the recommendation to approve the consent agenda to include: Minutes from the May 21, 2025 Regular Board Meeting; Presentations and Approval of Financial Reports; Presentation of Bills and Claims.
Motion made by: Hoyt
Motion seconded by: Stuessel
Voting: Unanimously Approved

V. Adjourn
President O'Brien-May adjourned the meeting at 5:40 pm.
Board President, Kate O'Brien-May
Board Secretary, Stacey Matus
PLEASE NOTE: Official minutes of this meeting are available in the Board Secretary's office upon board approval.

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