

Reynolds will not run for governor

By **ROBIN OPSAHL**
Iowa Capital Dispatch

Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds will not seek reelection in 2026, she announced in a video April 11.

Reynolds has served as governor since 2017, when she was appointed to the position after serving as lieutenant governor under former Gov. Terry Branstad, who left the position to serve as U.S. ambassador to China during President Donald Trump's first term. Reynolds was elected to serve a full-term as governor in 2018 and was reelected in 2022.

Reynolds, the first woman to serve as Iowa governor, said in a video posted on social media that deciding not to run "wasn't an easy decision," but she planned to focus on her family after completing her current term in office.

"As Iowans know, family is everything," Reynolds said. "And through the years, my parents and my husband Kevin, our daughters and our grandchildren, have stood by my side, supporting me through every challenge and every victory. And now it's time for me to be there for them, to help them through the next stage of life, to watch every track meet and basketball game, to see them grow before they're all grown."

The governor's husband, Kevin Reynolds, was diagnosed with lung cancer in 2023. In 2024, Gov. Reynolds said that her husband was in remission after radiation and chemotherapy treatments and was able to return to activities like hunting, fishing and spending time with the couple's family. The couple has three daughters and



GOV. KIM REYNOLDS

11 grandchildren.

During her time as governor, Reynolds has pushed for a flat income tax and lowering tax rates, enacting the Education Savings Account program to provide public funds for private K-12 school tuition and associat-

ed costs, and making changes to Iowa's Area Education Agencies that provide special education and other services to Iowa schools. This year, Reynolds signed into law a measure repealing civil rights protections on the basis of gender identity under the Iowa Civil Rights Act.

Despite her decision to not run again in 2026, Reynolds says she is not "slowing down just yet" and will continue for her remaining time in office to work on issues she said will help improve Iowans' lives.

"We have important work ahead, keeping our economy strong, supporting our families and farmers, defending our freedoms and ensuring that every Iowan has the opportunity to succeed," Reynolds said. "I'm more energized than ever to finish what we started, and to leave Iowa in the strongest possible position for the future."

Who will run in 2026?

It has yet to be determined who might run as the Republican nominee for governor in the upcoming 2026 general election.

One Republican, Brad Sherman, a former GOP state representative, announced in February his bid for the position, but others are expected to join the race. Iowa Attorney General Brenna Bird has been put forward as a potential contender — Trump said Bird would be a good governor for the state following his victory in the 2024 Iowa caucuses.

In a statement April 11, Bird thanked Reynolds for her work as governor and for her "unwavering support" during the 2022 election, when she was first elected after defeating longtime Democratic Attorney General Tom Miller. Bird said she and her husband "will pray and consider what this decision means for our future" following the governor's announcement, suggesting she is weighing a gubernatorial run.

"I appreciate the calls of encouragement I've already received," Bird said. "I am committed to continuing my work on behalf of Iowans and to support President Trump as he works to Make America Great Again."

Iowa GOP Chair Jeff Kaufmann said in a social media post that the governor has put Iowa in a strong position moving forward.

"Gov. Reynolds has been a generational leader for our state and party," Kaufmann wrote. "Under her bold, conservative leadership, Iowa now sits as one of the best states in the entire country. Taxes are low, cash reserves are full, our freedoms defended, and Iowa's future has never been brighter."

After Reynolds' announcement, Democrats criticized the results of Reynolds and Republicans' trifecta control at the Iowa Statehouse.

House Minority Leader Jennifer Konfrst said in a statement "Iowans are ready to turn the page on Kim Reynolds' legacy of division and politics."

"After a decade of failed leadership, there's a reason Reynolds is the least popular Governor in America: Iowans are worse off than they were a decade ago," Konfrst said. "It's time for a governor who will build an economy that works for everyone. It's time for a governor who knows that public money is for public schools. It's time for a governor who will bring balance and common sense back to Iowa."

Iowa Auditor Rob Sand, the only Democrat to currently hold statewide elected office in Iowa, is expected to run for governor. The Des Moines Register reported Sand had raised more than \$8 million in 2024, raising expectations for a 2026 gubernatorial bid. Sand wished Reynolds and her family well in a social media post.

Iowa Democratic Party Chair Rita Hart said in a statement April 11 the 2026 election will give Iowans a chance to show their displeasure with controversial policies supported by Republicans.

"Iowa Republicans' decade in control of state government has left Iowa 49th in economic growth and with a \$900 million budget deficit thanks to taxpayer hand-outs to special interests and vouchers for wealthy families who already send their kids to private schools," Hart said. "In 2026, voters will get to hold them accountable for taking our state in the wrong direction. It's time to vote for a Governor who will put Iowans to work, lower costs and support our rural areas."

LEGALS

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Great Western Supply Co, Custodial Supplies	1,350.65
Hamilton, Cole A, Meal Reimb	21.55
Handcuff Warehouse, Restraints	5,149.90
Hands Up Holdings, Services	472.50
Harry's Farm Tire Inc, Tires and Tubes	145.85
Home Depot Credit Services, Paint/ Supplies	378.76
Hughes & Trannel P.C., Services	132.00
Huginin Sewer and Plumbing, Service Call	300.00
ISACA, Registration	425.00
International Academies of Emergency Dispatch	140.00
Iowa American Water Co, Service	1,364.80
Iowa Communications Network, Services	452.00
Iowa Dept of Public Health State Med. Exam	8,583.00
Iowa Law Enforcement Academy, Registration	535.00
ITsavvy LLC, Wireless Mouse	126.00
Jackson, County of, Sheriff, Services	56.60
Jim Trimble Apts, Rent Assistance	275.00
Johnson Co Medical Examiner, MEI Services	398.41
Johnson, Lori J, Meal Reimb	8.11
Kennedy Ivory, Kehly M, Mileage Reimb	274.07
Kiesler Police Supply Inc, 50 Glock Magazines	1,025.00
Krafka, Heidi Dba Weston Reporting, Services	1,233.00
KRM Stenography, LLC, Services	525.00
Kroening, Emily, Transcripts	38.50
Kunau Implement Co Inc, Parts	141.90
Kwik Trip Inc, Fuel	625.08
L & S Arms LLC, Light/Mount	450.00
Lange, Zachary W, Meal Reimb	46.79
Lawson Products Inc DBA Kent Automotive	1,931.52
Lemke Funeral Homes LLC, South Chapel	1,500.00
Lexis-Nexis, Services	309.00
Lincolnway Automotive LLC, Vehicle Maint	97.10
Little Shepherd Christian Preschool, Scholars	900.00
Lost Nation, City of, Farm to Market 3/31/2025	2,402.81
Lost Nation-Elwood Telephone, Service	733.08
Louisa, County of - Sheriff, Sheriff Services	76.80
Lovaas, Jenna, Stipend	500.00
Low Moor Volunteer Fire Dept, Reimb	880.00
Low Moor, City of, Farm to Market 3/31/2025	2,233.40
Lutheran Services in Iowa Inc, NPP	9,003.59
Made in the Shade Eastern Iowa, Payment	15,420.00
Maidak, Lisa R, Expense Reimb	275.00
Maquoketa Valley Electric Cooperative, Serv	1,035.99
Martin Equipment of Illinois Inc, Filters	350.20
Mastercard, March Payment	75.71
McHugh, James M, Expense Reimb	275.00
MCI Communications Services, Service	108.16
Mediacom Communications Corp, Service	280.81
Menard Inc, Equip Repair/Park Supplies	227.53
Menard Inc, Landscaping Materials/Hardware	263.10
Meyer Pest Control LLC, Services	65.00
MidAmerican Energy Company, Service	1,338.21
Mid-American Research Chemical, Parts Sup	513.79
Midland Radio Corporation, Weather Radios	5,830.00
Midwest Wheel Companies Inc, Filters Parts	179.88
Motorola Solutions Inc, Spare Radios	23,811.06
Mulgrew Oil Co, Fuel	1,060.42
NAPA Auto Parts - 2725, Parts/Supplies	1,672.25
National Management LLC, Rent Assistance	600.00
Navigate Wellbeing Solutions, Wellness Prog	3,892.75
Osmun, Michael F, Expense Reimb	99.71
P & K Midwest Inc, Parts	2,387.20
Pape Funeral Home Inc, Cremation Assist	1,500.00
Parts Authority LLC, Vehicle Parts	67.20
Pest Control Consultants, Services	160.00
Pillers and Richmond, Services	1,110.00
Preston Ready Mix Corp, Rock	4,063.35
Quality Concrete Co Inc, Rock	240.00
Quill Corporation, Desk Chairs/Office Supplies	3,027.55
R & R Timber LLC, Parts	750.00

Randy's Neighborhood Market, Program Supplies	32.79
RCM Data Corporation, Toner	463.78
Republic Services, Services	1,668.52
Reserve Account, Metered Postage	14,800.00
River Valley Cooperative, LP	110.88
RK Dixon, Copier Maint	469.74
Rolfstad, Patricia, Services	387.50
Rolyan Buoys, Buoys/Caps	421.73
Roto Rooter Sewer Cleaning, Service Call	450.00
SEAT Treasurer, Registration	65.00
Sacramento Superior Court, Records Request	44.00
Sacred Heart Preschool, Scholarships	400.00
Sandholdt Concrete Inc, Rent Assistance	350.00
Scott County Health Department, I-Smile	1,873.00
Securetech Systems Inc, Dures Alarms	880.00
Sivright, Christopher J, Meal Reimb	108.98
SJ Smith Co Inc, Welding	171.53
Snell Zornig Funeral Home, Cremation Assist	3,000.00
State Chemical Solutions, Chemicals	3,063.60
State Hygienic Laboratory, Services	325.00
Strausser, Robin, Expense Reimb	275.00
Stroehle, Michelle L, Services	17.50
Sunshine Learning Center, Scholarships	500.00
The Garage Inc, Vehicle Maint	301.09
The Master's Touch LLC, Services	2,787.63
The Observer, Publication	34.25
The Shredder, Services	444.00
Theisen's of DeWitt Inc, Parts Oil Material	920.26
Thiltgen, Donald, Mileage Reimb	30.80
T-Mobile USA Inc, Service	95.62
Toronto, City of, Farm to Market 3/31/2025	820.69
Total Maintenance Inc, Walk in Cooler	2,238.45
Tri City Electric Co of Iowa, Service Call	2,186.10
Tri State Fire Control Inc, Annual Inspection	312.00
Troester, David, Mileage Reimb	281.40
Truck Country of Iowa, Parts	27.18
Turner Electric Co Inc, Parts	99.99
United States Postal Serv., Postmaster, Stamps	219.00
US Cellular, Service	199.68
Valley Construction Co, Project Payment	126,057.64
Veach Diesel & Auto Repair, Parts/Labor	858.90
Verizon Wireless, Service	673.82
Wimactel Inc, Pay Phone	91.50
Windstream Iowa Communications Inc, Service	39.76
Wolf, Michael L, Expense Reimb	319.94
Xerox Financial Services LLC, Copier Lease	207.24
Grand total:	\$559,196.65
Fund	Expense Amount
General Basic	\$288,982.82
American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)	8,235.48
Rural Services Basic	2,125.44
Secondary Roads	58,576.30
Commissary	1,399.73
Capital Projects Fund	117,822.16
Emergency Management Services	13,124.27
E911	36,553.35
County Assessor	154.77
School Ready	25,517.05
Early Childhood Iowa	2,062.53
Clinton County Benefit Trust	4,642.75
Grand total:	\$559,196.65
Roll Call: Srp: Yes; Irwin: Yes; George: Yes.	
Motion carried.	
I, David Troester, Clinton County Auditor, do hereby certify this to be a complete and accurate list of all claims presented to the Clinton County Board of Supervisors on this date. Signed: David Troester, Clinton County Auditor	
The Board of Supervisors adjourned to meet at 9 a.m. on Monday, April 7, 2025.	
Erin George, Chairperson	
David Troester, County Auditor	

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