

# SHERIFF'S NEWS

SUBMITTED BY THE CLAYTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT  
ALL SUBJECTS LISTED AS CHARGED ARE INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY IN A COURT OF LAW.  
TIP LINE: 245-1234, ALL CALLS ARE ANONYMOUS.

On Feb. 2, 2025 at approximately 12:45 a.m. Clayton County Deputies were on routine patrol near the area of Evergreen Rd. and 295th St. While patrolling, deputies witnessed an ATV driving in and out of roadside ditches then would accelerate up to 65 MPH. While following the ATV deputies also witnessed the ATV fail to yield at a stop sign and continued the erratic driving. At this point, Deputies activated their emergency lights and sirens in an attempt to conduct a traffic stop. The ATV then accelerated onto Hazel Rd taking Deputies on a pursuit. Deputies pursued the ATV for approximately a mile and a half before the vehicle proceeded to drive off-road into a field. Deputies followed at a safe distance while in the field before looping back onto Hazel Rd. Once on Hazel the vehicle lost control and drove itself into a roadside ditch. The driver became uncompliant with Deputies commands. The driver identified as Jacob Steger (46) was placed into custody and showed numerous signs of impairment. Steger was arrested and charged with Operating While Intoxicated 2nd offense, Felony Eluding,

Reckless Driving, Interference With Official Acts, as well as a plethora of traffic violations. No one involved in the incident suffered any injuries. On March 19, 2025 a Clayton County Recycling Truck was traveling south on Hwy 13 near 270th Street Elkader when the driver Chris Bruce of Waukon lost control due to the weather conditions. The Semi entered the west ditch, going through a fence and coming to rest in a pasture. No one was injured in result of the accident. The Clayton County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Elkader Fire Department, Three Rivers FS, Mar-Mac Police Department, Clayton County Emergency Management. On March 23, 2025, at approximately 12:42 a.m., a Clayton County deputy conducting stationary patrol on Great River Road near Ridge Avenue (rural North Buena Vista) observed a vehicle committing several traffic violations. A traffic stop was initiated on the vehicle on Waupeton Road on the Dubuque County line. Upon making contact with the operator, the deputy observed several signs of impairment. An investigation was conducted, and it

was found that the operator was impaired. Steven Denlinger (59) of Sher-rill, Iowa, was taken into custody and transported to the Clayton County Jail where he was charged with O.W.I. 1st Offense. Denlinger was additionally cited for speed (66 in a 55 zone) and driving on the wrong side of a two-lane highway. The Clayton County deputy was assisted at the traffic stop by a deputy with the Dubuque County Sheriff's Office. On March 28, 2025, at approximately 4:18 p.m. the Clayton County Sheriff's Office received a report of a two-vehicle accident near the intersection of Highway 18 & Golden Avenue. Deputies responded and found Darrin T. Palmer (57, Mc Gregor) was traveling East on Highway 18 in his 2006 Chevy Silverado with his pickup camper. There were severe winds at this time. The severe winds displaced the pickup camper from Darrin's truck causing it to land in the West bound lane of Highway 18. Abraham A. Cordero (44, Postville) was traveling West on Highway 18 in his 2020 GMC Sierra 1500. Abraham struck the pickup camper causing disabling

damage to his vehicle. Both the GMC Sierra 1500 and pickup camper were a total loss. The Clayton County Sheriff's Office was assisted by the Monona Fire Department, Monona Ambulance, Monona Police, and Reggie's Towing. On March 29, 2025, at approximately 3:56 a.m., Clayton County Deputies responded to 33587 Highway 13 for a vehicle in the ditch. The reporting party advised a male had knocked on their windows and doors asking for help to get his vehicle out of the ditch. The subject left prior to Deputies arrival and were unable to locate the male after a search of the area. At approximately 6:30 a.m., a citizen reported a male was walking South on Highway 13 near the area of the original call. Deputies made contact with the subject at approximately 6:51 a.m. The male subject was identified as Braxton L. Schlueter (24, Greeley). Deputies administered the standardized field sobriety testing on Braxton and he showed signs of impairment. Braxton was arrested for Operating while intoxicated 1st offense. Braxton was also cited for failure to maintain control & open container (driver).

On March 30th, 2025, at approximately 5:15 p.m., a Clayton County deputy initiated a traffic stop on a vehicle on Highway 52 near Jolly Ridge Road (Guttenberg) for a speed violation. The operator of the vehicle was found to have a suspended driving status with multiple withdrawals in effect. Travon Hayes (20) of Dubuque was arrested and charged with Driving While License Suspended. Hayes was additionally cited for speed (72 miles per hour in a posted 55 zone).

On March 31st, 2025, the Clayton County Sheriff's Office took Allen Dlouhy (74) and Jennifer Gamerdinger (46), both of rural Edgewood, into custody on active arrest warrants stemming from charges filed by the Iowa Department of Agriculture. Both were charged by the state with Fraudulent Practice in the 3rd Degree for allegedly operating a meat or poultry establishment without first obtaining a license from the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. Both individuals posted bond and were released.

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### CLAYTON RIDGE COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS PUBLIC HEARING April 23, 2025

The Clayton Ridge Community School District Board of Directors held a Public Hearing regarding the proposed FY26 budget on April 23, 2025 at 5:30 PM in the High School Library, Guttenberg, Iowa. President Jessica Bittner opened the hearing at 5:30 PM. Other members in attendance were Sam Brandt, Mike Finnegan, Ellen Johnson, Dan Kregel, and Shelly Mommer. TJ Pierce was absent. Also present were Superintendent Shane Wahls, Principal Terri Thompson, and Board Secretary / Business Manager Logan Taylor. There were 12 other guests present. There were no comments from the public. The hearing was closed at 5:40 PM. Logan Taylor, Board Secretary

Jessica Bittner, Board President

### CLAYTON RIDGE COMMUNITY SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL MEETING April 23, 2025

The Clayton Ridge Board of Directors held a special meeting on April 23, 2025 at 5:40 pm in the High School Library, Guttenberg. **Call to Order/Roll Call** President Jessica Bittner called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm. Other members in attendance were Sam Brandt, Mike Finnegan, Ellen Johnson, Dan Kregel, and Shelly Mommer. TJ Pierce was absent. Also present were Superintendent Shane Wahls, Principal Terri Thompson, and Board Secretary / Business Manager Logan Taylor. There were 12 other guests present. **Welcome & Public Forum** Public comment was given by 1 community member. **Approval of Agenda** Item 1. Amend FY25 Budget was struck from the posted agenda. Motion by Finnegan and second by Johnson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously. **New Business** 1. FY26 Budget. Motion by Mommer and second by Kregel to approve the FY26 Budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously. 2. Four-Day Week (No School Day). Discussion was held regarding the designated day off for the 2025-26 Four-Day week academic calendar. Motion by Mommer and second by Finnegan to approve Monday as the designated day off for the 2025-26 four-day week academic calendar. Motion carried unanimously. **Adjournment** Motion by Mommer and second by Kregel to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting Adjourned at 6:08 pm Logan Taylor, Board Secretary

Jessica Bittner, Board President

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### Clayton County Board of Supervisors Minutes April 15, 2025

Meeting at 9:30 AM of the Clayton County Board of Supervisors at 600 Gunder Road NE, Elkader, Iowa. Present: Steve Doeppke, Ray Peterson, and Doug Reimer Guests: Garrett Baumgartner, Jenna Van Meeteren, Tiffany Johansen, Destiny Kapler, Patti Ruff and Peggy Lane Information Technology Help Desk Technician Garrett Baumgartner provided a departmental update. Doeppke moved, Peterson seconded to approve the meeting minutes for April 8, 2025. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried. Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to approve the claims as presented totaling \$121,698.08. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried. Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded authorizing Clayton County Conservation Director Jenna Van Meeteren to apply for a Historic Resource Development Program grant for Motor Mill to address an erosion problem around foundation pylons. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried. Doeppke moved, Peterson seconded to schedule an Emergency Management tabletop exercise for June 17, 2025, at a time to be determined. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried. Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded a wage certification of \$16.79 per hour for Laura Elsinger as part-time cook at the law enforcement center effective April 7, 2025. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried. Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to approve a Class C Retail Alcohol License with Outdoor Service for Heron Hill Events, LLC, DBA The Barn on Heron Hill. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried. Peterson moved, Doeppke seconded to approve a Class C Retail Alcohol License for Iowa Stores Inc, DBA FastTrak Convenience Store. After discussion the motion was rescinded. Reimer moved, Doeppke seconded to table the approval pending proof of insurance. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried. Doeppke moved, Peterson seconded to approve and place on file the report of fees for January through March 2025 for the following: Auditor, \$4,431.80; Recorder, \$31,254.45; Sheriff, \$14,083.00. Ayes: Doeppke, Peterson, Reimer. Motion carried. Reimer moved, Doeppke seconded to set the wage for the Part-time Environmental Health and Zoning Administrative Assistant to \$15.00 - \$17.00 per hour for 20 hours a week. Ayes: Doeppke, Reimer. Nays: Peterson. Motion carried. The Board worked on the FY2026 County Budget. /s/ Doug Reimer, Board of Supervisors Chair Attest: Peggy Lane, Clayton County Deputy Auditor Publish April 30, 2025

## PUBLIC NOTICES

| NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - AMENDMENT OF CURRENT BUDGET<br>City of GUTTENBERG<br>Fiscal Year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025  |    |   |                      |   |
|---|----|---|----------------------|---|
| The City of GUTTENBERG will conduct a public hearing for the purpose of amending the current budget for fiscal year ending June 30, 2025  |    |   |                      |   |
| Meeting Date/Time: 5/12/2025 06:00 PM   |    | Contact: Jamie Blume                            |                      | Phone: (563) 252-1161 ext: 200          |
| Meeting Location: 502 S. First Street, Guttenberg, IA   |    |   |                      |   |
| There will be no increase in taxes. Any residents or taxpayers will be heard for or against the proposed amendment at the time and place specified above. A detailed statement of: additional receipts, cash balances on hand at the close of the preceding fiscal year, and proposed disbursements, both past and anticipated, will be available at the hearing. Budget amendments are subject to protest. If protest petition requirements are met, the State Appeal Board will hold a local hearing. For more information, consult <a href="https://dom.iowa.gov/local-gov-appeals">https://dom.iowa.gov/local-gov-appeals</a> . |    |   |                      |   |
| REVENUES & OTHER FINANCING SOURCES  |    | Total Budget<br>as Certified<br>or Last Amended | Current<br>Amendment | Total Budget After<br>Current Amendment |
| Taxes Levied on Property  | 1  | 1,383,622                                       | 0                    | 1,383,622                               |
| Less: Uncollected Delinquent Taxes - Levy Year  | 2  | 0   | 0                    | 0                                       |
| Net Current Property Tax  | 3  | 1,383,622                                       | 0                    | 1,383,622                               |
| Delinquent Property Tax Revenue   | 4  | 0   | 0                    | 0                                       |
| TIF Revenues  | 5  | 17,000  | 0                    | 17,000                                  |
| Other City Taxes  | 6  | 304,213   | 0                    | 304,213                                 |
| Licenses & Permits  | 7  | 8,475   | 0                    | 8,475                                   |
| Use of Money & Property   | 8  | 137,400   | 0                    | 137,400                                 |
| Intergovernmental   | 9  | 972,716   | 0                    | 972,716                                 |
| Charges for Service   | 10 | 30,384,174                                      | 2,879,326            | 33,263,500                              |
| Special Assessments   | 11 | 0   | 0                    | 0                                       |
| Miscellaneous   | 12 | 1,051,430                                       | 63,550               | 1,114,980                               |
| Other Financing Sources   | 13 | 805,500   | 0                    | 805,500                                 |
| Transfers In  | 14 | 985,004   | 59,136               | 1,044,140                               |
| Total Revenues & Other Sources  | 15 | 36,049,534                                      | 3,002,012            | 39,051,546                              |
| EXPENDITURES & OTHER FINANCING USES   |    |   |                      |   |
| Public Safety   | 16 | 1,024,300                                       | 33,000               | 1,057,300                               |
| Public Works  | 17 | 640,475   | 126,600              | 767,075                                 |
| Health and Social Services  | 18 | 2,567   | 500                  | 3,067                                   |
| Culture and Recreation  | 19 | 705,870   | 40,700               | 746,570                                 |
| Community and Economic Development  | 20 | 94,250  | 102,500              | 196,750                                 |
| General Government  | 21 | 410,860   | 23,000               | 433,860                                 |
| Debt Service  | 22 | 324,660   | 0                    | 324,660                                 |
| Capital Projects  | 23 | 1,400,000                                       | 70,300               | 1,470,300                               |
| Total Government Activities Expenditures  | 24 | 4,602,982                                       | 396,600              | 4,999,582                               |
| Business Type/Enterprise  | 25 | 32,441,050                                      | 905,286              | 33,346,336                              |
| Total Gov Activities & Business Expenditures  | 26 | 37,044,032                                      | 1,301,886            | 38,345,918                              |
| Transfers Out   | 27 | 985,004   | 59,136               | 1,044,140                               |
| Total Expenditures/Transfers Out  | 28 | 38,029,036                                      | 1,361,022            | 39,390,058                              |
| Excess Revenues & Other Sources Over<br>(Under) Expenditures/Transfers Out  | 29 | -1,979,502                                      | 1,640,990            | -338,512                                |
| Beginning Fund Balance July 1, 2024   | 30 | 25,531,969                                      | 0                    | 25,531,969                              |
| Ending Fund Balance June 30, 2025   | 31 | 23,552,467                                      | 1,640,990            | 25,193,457                              |
| Explanation of Changes: Revenues: Sale of Salvage, donations, hospital revenues. Expenses: Engineering expenses, Software Updates, Projects, Training, Hospital Expenses.   |    |   |                      |   |