## OURIER.

Serving the communities of Gladbrook, Reinbeck and Garwin

Friday, June 6, 2025

The entrance to the Gladbrook-Reinbeck Community School District's secondary building in Reinbeck pictured this past February. The building, part of a complex that is still utilized by stu-dents, was completed in 1921 and is swiftly deteriorating.

G-R Facility Task Force

presents recommendations

to school board

Proposal maintains general

scope of 2024 proposal

GLADBROOK-REINBECK COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT REINBECK — The Gladbrook-Reinbeck Communi-

ty School District's Facility Task Force has officially presented its recommendations to the school board, following months of thoughtful collaboration and discussion.

Comprised of more than 25 community members from

both Gladbrook and Reinbeck, the Task Force met five

times over the past several months to explore the current

referendum in Nov. 2024. Since then, the Task Force has

worked to reassess priorities and identify the most ef-

fective path forward. The group's recommendation, pre-

sented at the June 3 School Board meeting, maintains the

general scope of last year's proposal. They also encour-

aged the Board to make specific scope decisions with

ation for the group's commitment, saying, "We are in-

credibly grateful to the Facility Task Force for the time,

The problem of

enforcement

Wind energy court case dominates discussion at

recent Tama County Supervisors meetings

TOLEDO — As there was no Board of Supervisors

story in last week's paper, there is a double whammy in

this week's edition. Due to Memorial Day, last week's

meeting was pushed back to the morning of Thursday,

May 29. All supervisors were present including David

Turner, who telecommuted via the Owl live streaming

system due to his traveling abroad. It was like he was in

energy. Ideas were exchanged on the topic during public comment time among citizens. This included some snappish discourse between supervisor Curt Hilmer and

Tama County citizens Richard Arp and Jon Winkelpleck, in tandem, asked the supervisors to enforce the stay for commercial wind energy conversion systems. Both citizens began with prepared statements on the

subject, talking about discrepancies with permits and

other documents that were brought forth at the May 27

court hearing, along with county ordinances and laws.

"There was stricter laws in this county for putting in hog

confinements then there was putting up wind energy

the room only invisible and on a three-second delay. The apex of the Thursday agenda regarded wind

MICHAEL D. DAVIS CORRESPONDENT

former Supervisor Bill Faircloth.

towers," Winkelpleck said.

Superintendent Caleb Bonjour expressed appreci-

cost-efficiency and long-term quality in mind.

This renewed effort follows the unsuccessful bond

and future needs of the district, its students, and staff.

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## **Salt Creek files for** emergency injunction from purported construction stay



A hearing was held on Tuesday, May 27, in Tama County District Court in Toledo as part of the Feb. 5, 2025 petition filed by Salt Creek Wind LLC against the Tama County Board of Supervisors in connection to the Jan. 6, 2025 wind moratorium. Those pictured on May 27 include Board Chairman Mark Doland (far left); attorneys Michael R. Reck and Haley Hermanson for the County (third and fourth from left); Supervisor Heather Knebel (fifth from left); and attorneys Spencer Willems (back to the camera), Elizabeth R. Meyer (second from

## Hearing held May 27 in remaining wind case

**RUBY F. MCALLISTER** 

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Sun Courier Note: After this story went to press, Judge Cox denied Salt Creek Wind's May 30 application for an emergency injunction without prejudice, writing on May 31: "The Court denies without prejudice as these issues can be remedied by the Plaintiffs. The Court suggests the parties discuss the actions taken by the Board since the injunction hearing in an attempt to reach an agreement. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement, then the Court may be utilized as appropriate."

court of public opinion, the future of commercial wind energy conversion systems (CWECS) development in Tama County appeared to finally be on the path to a concrete legal decision in Tama County District Court when a hearing was held on Tuesday, May 27, for the Feb. 5, 2025 petition



Tama County, IA

ed construction stay of the project by the Board was brought forward for enforcement. On Friday, May 30, Salt Creek in turn filed an emergency application for a temporary injunction against such enforcement, and a virtual hearing.

filed by Salt Creek Wind cation is the result of De-LLC (SCW) against the fendants' abuse of authority Board of Supervisors and and blatant disregard for the County. But all that was Plaintiff's rights and this thrown into further cha- Court's own authority and TOLEDO - Follow- os later in the week when jurisdiction," SCW's emering years of conflict in the the existence of a purport- gency filing states. "This Application involves identi- ly 170 MW wind project cal issues of fact and law as those heard by Judge [David M.] Cox at the parties' hearing on Plaintiff's Application for Temporary Injunction on May 27, 2025."

> During the May 27 hearrequesting expedited relief ing in the case in which SCW - acquired in Nov. "This emergency appli- 2024 by NextEra Energy

Resources, LLC - seeks clarification that the Jan. 2025 moratorium on development and construction of CWECS does not apply to its central Tama County project, Dexter Liu, executive director at NextEra and assistant vice president for the SCW project, took his seat in the witness chair for much of the half-day hearing as the plaintiff's only witness; Tama County's counsel cross-examined Liu while never calling any

witness of their own. Attorney Sarah Franklin, SCW's counsel, began her questioning of Liu by taking him through the project's baseline and current status. During questioning, he described SCW as an approximate-(1MW at peak output could power approximately 700 homes, Liu indicated) located southwest of Traer and consisting of approximately 60 wind turbines that had been in development "for a long time." When asked to

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## Gladbrook Panther Pavilion dedication set for June 14

SUN COURIER

GLADBROOK — While the school may be gone, the Panther legacy lives on.

During this year's Gladbrook Corn Carnival, the public is invited to celebrate the completion of the new Panther Pavilion which is currently being constructed in Gladbrook City Park in honor of the Gladbrook school and campus that stood for so many years just south of the park. The dedication will take place on Saturday, June 14, at 1 p.m. in the new Pavilion area.

While construction is still ongoing, volunteers have been working many hours to get most of it completed in time for the dedication. The community project has been in the works for almost two years including planning, fundraising, permits, ordering, weather delays, etc.

The retaining wall will feature a large number of engraved bricks purchased by Gladbrook school classes

spanning the years of 1940

Volunteers began laying engraved bricks last weekend on the new Panther Pavilion in Gladbrook City Park. The public is invited to a dedication ceremony for the Pavilion set for Saturday, June 14, during

through 1988, as well as one from the Class of 1920 and the first graduating class of 1885. Bricks also honor past graduates and school staff including teachers and adminstrators as well as businesses, community organizations,

> and community members. A structure made from the original bricks of the still in the works include

school, a granite etching of lighting, moving of the the school building, and a plaque honoring a tribute to education will all feature under the large gazebo. Two benches – one gold and one purple with plasma cuttings of the Gladbrook Panther will also feature.

Finishing pieces that are

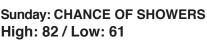
school flag pole, landscap-

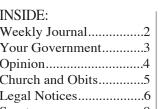
ing, and some history of the

school. Please join the Gladbrook community in City Park during Corn Carnival on Saturday, June 14, beginning at 1 p.m. to honor and celebrate the Panther legacy and spirit.

**WEEKEND FORECAST:** 

Saturday: CHANCE OF SHOWERS High: 76 / Low: 58





AREA DEATHS: **Dotta Keefer Jerry Parsons** 

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