

Monona County Board Of Supervisors Meeting

April 15, 2025

The Monona County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, April 15, in the boardroom of the courthouse in Onawa, with Chairman Fox presiding. Other Supervisors present were Tom Brouillette and Vince Phillips. Also present was Auditor Peggy A. Rolph.

The Supervisors voted to approve the agenda.

Auditor Peggy Rolph requested authorization to post internally for Deputy position. The Supervisors voted to give Auditor Rolph permission to post internally for Deputy position.

The Supervisors set May 13th at 1 p.m. to review updating handbook policies with the Elected Officials.

Secondary Roads Engineer Charles Bechtold, Secondary Roads Office Manager Deleta Huffman were present for Secondary Roads business. The Supervisors voted to approve Calhoun-Burns proposal for design services.

The Supervisors approved a miscellaneous utility permit for Quick Current Broadband, LLC for fiber optic communication cable and conduit to be placed in the back of the right of way as best able considering existing utilities. Boring will take place with conduit, needs to be placed under an obstacle. Cable to be placed inside a 4-way 18/14mm of conduit bundle at these locations. All restorations shall be completed before the estimated end date and restore to its original condition. Asphalt and concrete only to be pot hole and restored as needed. Conduit to be placed at a minimum depth of 36" in

right of way or 48" depth at road bore locations.

Discussion items were rock hauling, tree removal and cleanup, fleetio, no action taken.

Amy Borchardt-Sick and Tammy Blinde, Drainage Clerks, were present for Drainage business. The Supervisors voted to accept the petitions from Brent Miller on Oliver Lake Lateral 2 and 3. Fox inspected both laterals and took pictures. He believes a cleanout is warranted. The drainage clerk will get with Engineer Rasmussen on these laterals.

The Board asked that the drainage office send a letter to Bob Steiner to follow up on the seeding from the work he did on Maple River Lat 1 last Fall.

Abby Riesberg, Treasurer presented the resolutions for abatement of certain property taxes for the City of Onawa.

The Supervisors adopted Resolution 2025-08 abating property taxes on ONWM Parcel #8345-04-3-00-023 previously owned by Michael R. Heck with taxes owed and payable for the year 2020 for a total of \$750 including penalty and costs. Taxes payable for the year 2021 for a total of \$1,302 including penalty and costs, Drainage taxes of \$9.

Taxes owed and payable for the year 2022 for a total of \$1,370 including penalty and costs, Drainage taxes of \$43. Taxes owed and payable for the year 2023 for a total of \$948 including penalty and costs, Drainage taxes of \$12. Special Assessment (weeds) owed for year 2024 for a total of \$1,110 including penalty and costs.

The Supervisors also adopted Resolution 2025-08 abating property taxes on ONWM Parcel #8345-09-2-00-063 previously owned by Darren and Desiree Wilson with taxes owed and payable for the year 2023 for a total of \$267 including penalty and costs. Special Assessment (weeds) owed for year 2024 for a total of \$834 including penalty and costs.

The Supervisors voted to approve the minutes of April 8, 2025 as read and claims submitted.

Supervisor Phillips attended the SIMPCO meeting and shared the information presented.

Supervisor Fox attended the Monona County Conservation meeting and shared the information presented.

The Supervisors voted to approve a General Ledger Journal entry for the Auditor to correct accounts and a General Ledger Journal entry for Conservation to correct accounts.

The Motion acknowledged the receipt of Monona County Sheriff's Report of Fees collected for March 2025 and the receipt of Monona County Clerk of Court Report of Fees collected for March 2025.

The Supervisors approved a county credit card for Monona County Recorder Kelly K. Parsley, with a credit limit of \$1,200.

The Supervisors acknowledged the resignation letter from Mary Cumming from the Judicial Magistrate Appointing Commission and to appoint Peggy Rolph to the Judicial Magistrate Appointing Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 10:53 a.m.

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins Demands Mexico Cooperate To Protect U.S. Agricultural Products from Invasive Pests; Threatens Port Closures

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins has sent a letter to her counterpart in Mexico demanding Mexico eliminate restrictions on USDA aircraft and waive customs duties on eradication equipment that are critically impairing the U.S. response to spread of the New World Screwworm.

Secretary Rollins wrote, "Every delay in granting full operational authority and eliminating customs barriers undermines our collective ability to carry out this emergency response."

Additionally, Secretary Rollins informed the government of Mexico, "... that if these issues are not resolved by Wednes-

day, April 30, USDA will restrict the importation of animal commodities, which consist of live cattle, bison, and equine originating from or transiting Mexico to protect the interest of the agriculture industry in the United States."

The USDA continues to take all necessary action to stop the spread of New World Screwworm in southern Mexico to protect America's livestock industry, food supply, and wildlife populations before it reaches the U.S. border. New World Screwworm (NWS) is a deadly parasitic fly that infests warm-blooded animals, causing severe wounds and complications that can lead to

death. A NWS infestation in the U.S. will result in significant losses to livestock industries. The U.S. successfully led the eradication of NWS in the U.S. and Mexico, but recent detections in Mexico show that this dangerous pest is back and remains a serious threat. Ongoing vigilance and control efforts are critical to prevent its spread northward and protect animal health and agriculture.

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Opinion

They Don't Care About Us — And They Won't Unless We Force Them

Let's be honest with each other.

Most of you are sick to death of hearing about politics. You're sick of the noise, the lies, the endless outrage machine. You pick your side — "our team" — and hate the other side because that's easier than facing the real truth.

But here's the truth: Both sides are selling you out. They have been for a long, long time.

Sure, one party might be worse than the other. But both are guilty. Both have shattered the American Dream and buried the average person under a mountain of debt and hopelessness. You can work two jobs. You can save every dime. You can do everything "right" — and still feel yourself sinking deeper every single year.

Because the game is rigged.

While we tear each other apart, the politicians you voted for are busy stacking the courts with political loyalists who don't care about you or the Constitution.

June Virtual Teacher License Renewal Course Dives Into Iowa Core 21st Century Skills Finance Topics

Iowa educators wanting to do a deep dive into finance topics but needing flexibility have until May 29 to register for "Small Change: Building Financial Security for Educators." This Iowa State University Extension and Outreach blended course starts Thursday, June 5, with an introductory session from 4:30-6:30 p.m., followed by a four-week, self-paced, facilitator-led online learning experience that ends July 3. The self-paced certification course provides both teacher license renewal credit and audit options so educators can participate at their own pace.

Teacher helping students in class by highwaystarz/stock.adobe.com. The course content is embedded in the financial literacy standards connecting participants with curricula, resources and school-based programs for elementary, middle and high school levels, said course instructor Carol Ehlers, a health and human sciences educator with ISU Extension and Outreach. Educators can earn one Iowa License renewal credit. Registration is required by 5 p.m. Thursday, May 29, at the Iowa State Education Association website. Once the participant cap is filled, registration will no longer be available.

They're protecting the billionaires, the corporations, and the donors — the ones who write the checks, the ones who buy the influence, the ones who own the system.

And you? You're just supposed to keep working, keep paying, and keep fighting your neighbors — not the ones who are actually robbing you blind.

It's no wonder people feel hopeless. You vote, nothing changes. You protest, nothing changes. You shout, nothing changes. Because they don't need your voice. They already have the money, the power, the courts, and the media. They are insulated. Protected. Untouchable.

That's how they want it.

And every time you retreat into a right-wing or left-wing echo chamber, every time you buy into the latest outrage headline, you're playing right into their hands. Keeping you mad. Keeping you distracted. Keeping you weak.

The first shots of Amer-

ican independence were fired 250 years ago on April 19 at Lexington and Concord — and now that Nation is dying. Not because Americans are lazy or stupid. Because the people we trusted to represent us sold the country to the highest bidder and left us to fight over the scraps.

The American Dream isn't slipping away. It's being ripped out from under us.

And unless we stop pretending, stop lying to ourselves, stop worshipping political parties like sports teams, and start holding every last one of these corrupt sellouts accountable — unless we force them to listen — it's only going to get worse.

Hope isn't coming from Washington. It isn't coming from some hero riding in to save us.

Hope will only come if we make it ourselves.

But we are running out of time.

Respectfully submitted by Larry Sawyer, Corn- ing IA.

The "Small Change: Building Financial Security" course features vetted curriculum and resources. It has been accepted as an Iowa Board of Educational Examiners Endorsement Class for Financial Literacy and Business Teachers. Participants explore gamified lessons that are timely and relevant to themselves personally and to their classroom. The course is designed to help K-12 educators make more informed decisions about financial management and build greater confidence. The course topics are:

Finance Fundamentals — getting organized, smart borrowing, estate planning

Insurance — life, health, disability, long-term care, auto, home, liability coverage

Investing — risk tolerance, investment choices,

funding long-term goals

Retirement — preparing for retirement, building a nest egg, Social Security, IPERS

The course format requires participants to:

Participate in a live, virtual two-hour introductory workshop on Thursday, June 5, from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

Complete at least four of 12 gamified online lessons covering financial topics over the next four weeks.

Complete assignments to promote financial literacy and connect with resources.

The course fee is \$30 to Iowa State Education Association members and non-members. Those who do not need license renewal credit may register and audit the course for a \$15 fee.

Register online by May 29. Space is limited to 25 participants.



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