

Proposed tax levy for CAM School includes increase

ANITA – A letter from CAM Superintendent Pam Stangeland posted on the CAM School District Facebook page explains why district officials are proposing an increase in the tax levy for 2027 from 9.44 per \$1,000 valuation to \$11.48 per \$1,000 valuation. She says in part resources are depleted, but costs are increasing. A public hearing on the budget was held on Monday night, and Stangeland said Tuesday four people made comments on the topic. She said three people expressed concerns about the increase, and one person spoke in favor of funding the school.

Stangeland explained in the letter the school funding formula includes the uniform levy, state foundation aid and an additional levy.

“The Uniform Levy provides \$5.40 per thousand dollars of taxable valuation,” she wrote in the letter. “This is levied by every school district in the state of Iowa. State

Foundation Aid fills a district’s formula-driven authority up to the 88.4% level. This is most often referred to as ‘state aid’ and varies from district to district. The Additional Levy is what is needed to fill the final 12.5% of a district’s formula-driven authority.”

She also explained the tax rate is impacted by other factors including, “certified enrollment, supplemental weighting, and state supplemental aid,” and those factors “are largely out of the control of the school district.” However, district officials have the ability to influence other factors like, “Dropout/At-Risk dollars, the Income Surtax Levy, Cash Reserve Levy, Management Levy, and Debt Service.”

“Because CAM has not levied for cash for three years, the district is depleted of resources and in peril of a negative solvency ratio,” Stangeland wrote in the letter. “Our insurance costs have doubled, leaving our Management

Fund insufficient in the event of major property claims. We have responsibility for a \$13 million liability protection, which is exacerbated by aging facilities in need of key infrastructure stability. Opportunities for cost savings through consolidation of buildings were not supported by voters, and the communities clearly spoke up in favor of maintaining buildings in both Anita and Massena.”

Stangeland included a comparison of tax levies in the letter of surrounding school districts and the CAM School District for the past five years. Following is a comparison of the rates for 2026: CAM 9.44; Coming/SW Valley 13.02 Atlantic 12.52 AC/GC 9.82; Exira-EHK 11.14; Griswold 12.69; and Nodaway Valley 13.8.

“We did have about 20 people show up at the hearing,” Stangeland said on Tuesday. “We had six people sign up to speak. We had four people who actually spoke at the hearing. Three of the four were quite concerned about the rate and were voicing their concerns about the tax increase. One patron spoke in favor of funding our schools and pointed out how we were still on the low end of both the region and definitely across the state, which is something that I pointed out in our budget presentation prior to that. No one wants to pay higher taxes. We don’t want to be in the position that we have to levy additional taxes. One of the points of concern, someone interpreted this as we’re levying taxes just to have a padding or have a contingency fund. It is not. We’re levying taxes to run our budget.”

Life is Good. Make it Better: Give blood or platelets with the Red Cross

The American Red Cross asks people to help patients in need by making an appointment to give blood or platelets now. Donors of all blood types remain critical to keeping momentum up and the blood supply stable as spring begins.

We’re joining forces with positive lifestyle brand Life is Good to invite donors to show the power of doing good by giving blood. Those who come to give blood or platelets March 30-April 12, 2026, will get an exclusive Red Cross x Life is Good T-shirt, while supplies last. See RedCrossBlood.org/LifeIsGood for details.

Between spring break plans and the return of outdoor activities, busy spring calendars can impact the availability of lifesaving blood products — but the need for blood never stops.

It’s good to give. Grab a spot to donate blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

How to donate blood
Simply download the American Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org, call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or enable the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device to make an appointment or for more informa-

tion. All blood types are needed to ensure a reliable supply for patients. A blood donor card or driver’s license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of

age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Blood and platelet donors can save time at their next donation by using RapidPass® to complete their pre-donation reading and health history questionnaire online, on the day of their donation, before arriving at the blood drive. To get started, follow the instructions at RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass or use the Blood Donor App.

Nitrogen

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collaborating on with partners in nine states came out of discussions at a Nitrogen Use Efficiency workshop in 2024. His part is managing six field trials around Iowa.

What other practices can improve nitrogen use efficiency?

In 2025, Roth coordinated the annual Nitrogen Use Efficiency workshop, which took place in Ames. It drew 189 attendees – academics, students, retailers and farmers — from 19 different states, where a big topic of conversation was enhanced efficiency fertilizer products that aim to reduce nitrogen loss.

The topic of enhanced fertilizer products poses a whole new set of questions, Roth said. Are these products effective at boosting profits? Will they reduce nitrogen loss to waterways, and if so, by how much and under what conditions?

“There are some studies on enhanced fertilizer

products, but there are still a lot of questions that deserve independent research, and there are a number of products out there to investigate,” he said. “I’ve already started work in the lab on this and expect to move into the field this spring. Stay tuned.”

Legal Notice

AUDUBON SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Event Date/Time Mar 26, 2026 5:00 PM Location City Hall

OPENING BUSINESS
Agenda Item: Call meeting to order
Minutes: Mayor Lansman called the meeting to order at 5:10pm. Members present were Benton, Christensen, and Wegner. Grabill and Meyer were absent. Others in attendance were Janell Rensburg.
Agenda Item: Approval of agenda
Minutes: Wegner motioned Benton seconded to approve the agenda. ALL AYED.

PUBLIC HEARING
Agenda Item: Public Hearing for FY27 Proposed Property Tax Levy
Minutes: Christensen motioned Wegner seconded to open the Public Hearing for FY27 Proposed Property Tax Levy. ALL AYED. No public comments. Christensen motioned Wegner seconded to close the Public Hearing for FY27 Proposed Property Tax Levy. ALL AYED.

NEW BUSINESS
Agenda Item: Approve Resolution 2026-14 FY27 Property Tax Levy
Minutes: Benton motioned Wegner seconded to approve Resolution 2026-14 FY Property Tax Levy. ALL AYED.

ADJOURNMENT
Agenda Item: Adjourn
Minutes: Christensen motioned Benton seconded to adjourn at 5:12pm. ALL AYED.
(Published in the Audubon County Advocate Journal, Friday, April 3, 2026)

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
March 30th, 2026

The meeting of the Board of Supervisors was called to order at 9:00 am by Chairman Kent Grabill. Present at the meeting were Kent Grabill, Don Mosinski-phonc, Heath Hansen, Chassity Musfeldt, Todd Johnson, Lisa Frederiksen and Mitch Rydl.

Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve the agenda. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve the hiring resolution for a full time Jailer/Dispatcher as follows. Vote-all in favor.

Resolution 2026-15
Be it hereby resolved by the Audubon County Board of Supervisors, that Jordan Grossman be hired a Full-Time Dispatcher/Jailer for the Audubon County Sheriff’s Office. Her first day will be April 1st, 2026. This position will follow the Union Contract. The hourly wage will be \$22.04 and will follow the Union Contract for pay increases as set.

Dated at Audubon this 30th day of March 2026 with the vote thereon being as follows:
Ayes: 3 Nays: 0
Audubon County Board of Supervisors
Kent Grabill, Chairperson
Attest: /s/Chassity Musfeldt, Audubon County Auditor/Clerk
Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve the Right-of-Way purchase agreement for the LE-8 Bridge Replacement Project. Vote-all in favor. Engineer Rydl presented the plans for the LE-8 Bridge Replacement Project. He discussed the utilities located in the area. The notice to bidders was presented and explained. This project is proposed to be finished by November 2026. Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve the plans and bid documents for the LE-8 Bridge Replacement Project. Rydl will have the Notice to Bidders submitted to the newspaper for this week’s publication. Plans for the DO-18 Bridge Replacement Project were presented and explained. Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve the plans for the DO-18 Bridge Replacement Project. Vote-all in favor. Motion- Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve the resignation letter for Secondary Road’s Shop Foreman/Mechanic Cory Baier with his last day set to be April 10th, 2026. Vote-all in favor. This position will be open and advertised as a full-time position. Motion-Hansen Second- Mosinski to approve the hiring advertisement. Vote-all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:48 am. Vote-all in favor.
s/Kent Grabill /s/Chassity Musfeldt
Chairman, Board of Supervisors Attest: Audubon County Auditor Clerk
(Published in the Audubon County Advocate Journal, Friday, April 3, 2026)

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING --- PROPOSED BUDGET Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027
AUDUBON COUNTY AG EXTENSION

The Extension Council of the above named County will conduct a PUBLIC HEARING on the proposed fiscal year 2026/2027 budget as follows:
Meeting Date: 4/20/2026 Meeting Time: 05:01 PM Meeting Location: 608 Market St, Audubon, IA 50025
At the public hearing, any resident or taxpayer may present their objections to, or arguments in favor of, any part of the proposed budget. This notice represents a summary of the supporting detail of receipts and expenditures on file with the Extension Council Secretary. Copies of the Supplemental Budget Detail (Schedule 674-A) will be furnished upon request.
Contact Name: Julie McVay Contact Telephone Number: (712) 563-4239

FUND	FYE June 30, 2025 Actual Expenditures	FYE June 30, 2026 Re-estimated Expenditures	FYE June 30, 2027 Budget Expenditures	Estimated Ending Fund Balance FY 2027	Estimated FY 2027 Beg. Balance	Estimated Amount To Be Raised By Taxation	Estimated Utility Tax Replacement and Property Tax Dollars
1. County Agricultural Extension Education	183,791	205,459	220,300	120,976	128,926	178,229	185,000
2. Unemployment Compensation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Tort Liability	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. TOTAL	183,791	205,459	220,300	120,976	128,926	178,229	185,000

Proposed taxation rate per \$1,000 valuation: \$ 0.28924

Virtual Meeting Information:
(Published in the Audubon County Advocate Journal, Friday, April 3, 2026)

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