

MIGHTY:

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reelected as chair for the organization, with Deb Peterson elected as secretary. Although no official endorsement in local, state or national elections were made by the party, they made an appeal to any Union County residents who wish to represent the party in local elections.

Weight said she was proud of this year's caucus turnout and support for the party throughout a difficult year.

Five candidates are running in the Democratic primary for U.S. Senator, four of which had presence in Union County's caucus. Zach Wahls, Josh Turek, and Bob Krause each sent letters to the caucus. Nathan Sage was also present with a smaller profile for his platform. Richard Sherzan has also declared for the position.

Other state candidates who sent letters to the caucus helped underline

concerns from rural Democrats. Wade Dooley, running for Secretary of Agriculture, said water quality remains one of the biggest challenges for Iowa.

“Fixing it means looking at the environment as a whole system — building solutions that are resilient and sustainable for generations,” Doolley wrote. “I also want to use the department’s resources to build stronger local food systems by supporting local food hubs, local food purchasing by schools, helping small and mid-size processors build and grow and making it easier for Iowa families to get wholesome food from Iowa farmers they trust.”

Dooley is running to be the Democratic candidate to challenge incumbent Mike Naig. Chris Jones has also declared for the ballot.

Julie Stauch, running for Governor, also sent a letter to Union County Democrats. Stauch is running against frontrunner Rob Sand. In her letter, Stauch ran on a platform

of improving water quality, removing “insane” school vouchers and reducing health care costs in Iowa.

“We are in this place because of 10 years of Republican control of the Iowa House, Senate and the Governor’s office,” Stauch wrote. “2026 is the year that we can end this debacle, and build the Iowa that Iowans want and not favors to a handful of greedy corporate interests.”

Taylor Wettach for Auditor, Nate Willems for Attorney General, Ryan Petterman for Secretary of State and John Norwood for Treasurer are running for the state Democratic primary unopposed.

Upcoming dates for Union County Democrats begin tomorrow with a committees meeting at 9 a.m. in the Creston United Methodist Church. The county convention will take place at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 21 at the Creston Depot.

Companies can now claim ‘no artificial colors’ if they add plant-based color to food

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is relaxing rules that restrict when food companies can claim their products have no artificial colors.

The agency announced Thursday that food labels may claim to have “no artificial colors” when they are free of petroleum-based dyes, even when they contain dyes derived from natural sources such as plants. In the past, the FDA has allowed companies to make those claims only when products “had no added color whatsoever,” the agency said in a statement.

The move is another step toward the Trump administration’s aim to phase out synthetic dyes from the nation’s food supply.

In a joint statement, Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and FDA Commissioner Marty Makary said the move would encourage companies to switch to natural rather than synthetic colors if they can claim their products contain no artificial colors.

“We are taking away that hindrance and making it easier for companies to use these colors in the foods our families eat every day,” Makary said in a statement.

Kennedy and Makary have urged U.S. companies to voluntarily remove synthetic dyes from their products — and many food makers, such as PepsiCo and Nestle, have complied. In addition, some states have taken steps to ban artificial dyes from school meals.

The move drew praise from Consumer Brands, a trade group for packaged foods, which said “all natural ingredients should continue to follow a rigorous science and risk-based evaluation process.”

“This is a positive example of the FDA taking the lead on ingredient safety and transparency,” Sarah Gallo, the group’s senior vice president, said in a statement.

But the label change could mislead consumers, said Sarah Sorscher, director of regulatory affairs for the Center for Science in the Public Interest, an

advocacy group. It would allow a claim of “no artificial colors” for any color additive that is not a petroleum-based certified color, including potentially harmful additives such as titanium dioxide.

Also on Thursday, the FDA said it had approved a new natural dye, beetroot red, and expanded the use of spirulina extract, a color derived from algae that provides a blue hue in foods. The FDA currently allows roughly three dozen natural dyes in food products. The agency banned a controversial dye known as Red No. 3 last year and has proposed banning a rarely-used hue, Orange B.

The agency also recently said it would review the six remaining petroleum-based dyes frequently used in the U.S. food supply: Green No. 3, Red No. 40, Yellow No. 5, Yellow No. 6, Blue No. 1 and Blue No. 2.

Health advocates have long called for the removal of artificial dyes from foods, citing inconclusive

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PUBLIC NOTICE

South Central Iowa Regional 911 Service Board Meeting Minutes for December 17, 2025

(virtual/in-person meeting)
The virtual/in-person meeting was called to order at 7:11 pm by Tony Hardisty, Chairman. The members present were Paul Welch, Jo Duckworth, Polly Holmes, Nathan Baier, and Angela Henry along with Lyn Hansen (Hansen's M&M Services) and Trent Preston (Clarke County Dispatch). The members present virtually were Zach Girard, Brian Akers, Byron Jimmerson, Chuck Cleveland, Nate Bucher, and Dani Gray along with Diane Seifrit (SCI Administrator) and Duane Vos (Racom).

The December Meeting Agenda was reviewed. Motion by Welch to approve the December Meeting Agenda. Second by Baier. All ayes.
The November minutes were reviewed. Motion by Baier to approve the November minutes. Second by Henry. All ayes.

The financial/activity reports were reviewed with some changes that Seifrit explained along with the current net profit/loss. Motion by Henry to approve the reports. Second by Holmes. All ayes.

Seifrit reviewed the billing summary. Windstream's bill is incorrect again, and Seifrit reached out to them again to get it corrected. Motion by Welch to pay the bills except the one in red. Second by Henry. All ayes.

Hansen provided her written report. Hansen reviewed the incorrect address from Adams County that is in Google maps. She will contact Google to get it corrected.

Seifrit provided the SCI ALI database on December 11th which was joined with the site structure point layer then it was uploaded to the GeoComm databub on the 12th. The updates were done by Kelly Fox today with some corrections in Madison County that were not corrected. Another update can hopefully be done on Friday. Hansen will send out a notification as needed.
From November 19 to December 17th, there were 17 calls from outside the counties.

On December 4th, Brianna Furey emailed material to Seifrit & Hansen. They were following up on the transition of ArcMap to ArcPro. Hansen had another call with Furey regarding the projection which reached out to Fox and the projection looked ok in the ArcPro. The migration starts next year. Seifrit reviewed the training, Option A, which included the scope, pricing, etc. Motion by Baier to approve Seifrit signing the approved training document of Option A so GeoComm could have it before the end of the year. Second by Henry. All ayes.

GeoComm provided their new proposal for a renewal contract for support and maintenance. Seifrit reviewed the proposal which is significantly higher, and the differences from year to year. She also looked back at the previous contract renewal. Henry asked what the "Dispatch CAD support" is for. Seifrit will ask what this is for. Welch felt like there needed to be more information, so the board said to wait on any decision at this time. Hansen talks about the previous contract's adjustment, and Seifrit explained that it was due to the Addendum that was made to the original contract. Baier asked about the last pricing that SCI paid, and Seifrit said that it was \$32,340.43 in June 2025 for renewal in July 2025.

Seifrit provided the Comtech ALI Data on December 9th. The Comtech ALI database along with the necessary layers in the Arc map were uploaded to the state on the 9th. It was uploaded again on the 10th due to a change in the upload process from "1/2" needing corrected as it had in the past. There were no critical errors after it was reuploaded. There were two address errors that continue from before.

In October, there were 99 counties submitted to the state, and 99 counties met the benchmarks. Hansen reviewed the GIS standards provided by the state.

Each county is receiving their map for the second half of the year. Hansen reviewed her contract renewal for 2026. Additional items regarding no release PDFs and digital files without the Service Board's per-

mission. No increase in the amount. Motion by Baier to approve Hansen's contract renewal for 2026. Second by Welch. All ayes.

*****Hardisty stepped out of the meeting for approximately 5 minutes*****

On December 11th, there was a 911 Council Meeting that Seifrit attended in person. Blake DeRouchey, 911 Program Manager, reviewed that there is a fix in place for the DTMF tones issues that have been going on. He also sent out ALI database guides to telcos and PSAPs which Seifrit did not receive. The Chapter 10 administrative rules continue to move through the rule making process. There are 47 outstanding Service Board Membership Forms and 62 outstanding Data Expenditure Forms. Seifrit has received 4 of the 7 Data Expenditure Reports. The administrative deadline is January 1st. PSAP update forms are also due. Zetron provided an update which stated that there are 84 PSAPs on the Iowa Shared Services. Marie Carlson, Zetron, is going to have a Shared Services User Group Conference on April 22nd.

There was a coalition meeting on the 11th also that Seifrit could not attend due to no phone number being provided to call in. Seifrit did receive an update that included a flyer showing the proposal for a surcharge increase and lowering the local/state allocation formula for two years then bringing it back up to where it is currently. SCI provided their information (logo) to put on the flyer.

Seifrit turned in the insurance inventory on time and is waiting for the invoice.

The state auditor wanted to start working on SCI's audit the first week of January, and Seifrit told them no because that would not work for her. Due to the increasing costs from the state auditor, SCI is looking into other possible options. Hardisty shared what the county auditor said about the company they use. Byron also shared the contact that he had. Baier asked for the rate of increases which Seifrit shared with the Board since 2019.

Seifrit provided a quote for her new office computer for \$2,319.00. Motion by Welch to approve the new computer. Second by Baier. All ayes.

Seifrit reviewed the budget worksheets. SCI will provide an amount for the reserved funds line item in their budget. A 26-27 Budget Hearing was set for January 28th at 7:15 pm. Motion by Baier to approve the 26-27 Budget Hearing for January 28th at 7:15 pm. Second by Henry. All ayes.

The ICAP grant is no longer needed by Taylor County so Adams County would like to use it for dispatcher equipment upgrade. Motion by Girard to approve the dispatch equipment upgrade. Second by Jimmerson. All ayes.

Vos stated that Bill Snyder did not have anything to report. Vos reviewed the Catastrophic Failure Plan. The Service Board would like the plan in writing to explain the monetary figures. Vos estimated that the Catastrophic Failure Plan would be approximately \$2,500,000. Vos will have this available for the next meeting.
Seifrit reviewed the new quote from RapidSOS. Hardisty stated that Adams County just paid lamResponding for two years per the terms and cannot be refunded. Jimmerson also brought it up that the set up has already been done so why are we being charged for it? Seifrit also pointed out that the video, provided by Bri Lee (RapidSOS), did not show what SCI was asking for when it came to the mapping integration. Hansen read the emailed response from Stacy Gross, GeoComm. Seifrit questioned the accuracy of the updated pricing due to the gap of understanding with the mapping integration between SCI and Lee. After further discussion, Jimmerson suggested setting up a small committee to work with RapidSOS and pin down more technical information, options, and ask questions regarding the mapping integration and lamResponding. The small committee will consist of: Seifrit, Jimmerson, Hansen, Preston, and Holmes. Seifrit and Hansen suggested reaching out to Gross again to make sure that this is even possible and to see if an-

other entity has done this.

Helping the fire departments discussion was brought up again. Hardisty suggested setting a definitive amount and dividing it by the number of fire departments in the seven counties. Seifrit reviewed the survey results regarding the fire departments. Welch verified that all items/purchases meet the state's criteria for the use of 911 Surcharge funds. Hardisty stressed that all quotes and invoices are approved and paid by SCI. Hardisty asked Vos if they sold radios and pagers which Vos confirmed that they do. Seifrit reviewed the financial forecast document and went over the current bank balances and forecasted net profit/loss. Baier asked about the Capital Expenditure Category amount on the budget amounts which Seifrit explained. Jimmerson also pointed out that earmarking the funds shows that there is a future commitment for the funds. Seifrit shared what the state has estimated for the next two year's possible total payments pending legislation. Motion by Baier to expend up to \$700,000 for all the fire departments based on the county's confirmation on how many fire departments they have along with the stipulation that the funds will be allocated based on the needs of each fire department at the discretion of the 911 Service Board. Second by Cleveland. Seifrit suggested a roll call vote - Adair: Baier & Holmes, aye. Adams: Hardisty & Girard, ayes. Clarke: Akers & Jimmerson, ayes. Guthrie: Cleveland, aye. Madison: Henry & Welch, ayes. Taylor: Gray & Bucher, ayes. Union: Duckworth, aye.

No policies/procedures update.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.
Diane Seifrit
911 Database Administrator/
Secretary-Treasurer

THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR UNION COUNTY IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF MICHAEL ALLEN HENRY, Deceased CASE NO.ESPR016447 NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Michael Allen Henry, Deceased, who died on or December 11, 2025:

You are hereby notified that on January 23, 2026, the undersigned was appointed administrator of the estate.

Notice is hereby given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of the mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.

Dated on February 2, 2026
Tobias J. Henry
1109 N. Lincoln St.,
Creston, IA 50801

Administrator of the Estate
Loretta L. Harvey,
ICIS#: ATAT0003351
Attorney for the Administrator
109 W. Montgomery Street,
P.O. Box 85
Creston, Iowa 50801
Date of second publication: February 13, 2026

TRUST NOTICE IN THE MATTER OF THE TRUST: ROBERT CHARLES LININGER AND SHIRLEY CHARLENE LININGER LIVING TRUST DATED APRIL 9, 2013

To all persons regarding Shirley Charlene Lininger, deceased, who died on or about December 25, 2025 and Robert Charles Lininger, deceased, who died on or about October 15, 2025. You are hereby notified that the trustee listed below is the trustee of the Robert Charles Lininger and Shirley Charlene Lininger Living Trust dated on April 9, 2013. Any action to contest the validity of the trust must be brought in the District Court of Union County, Iowa, within the later to occur of four (4) months from the date of second publication of this notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this notice to the spouse of the decedent settlor, and to all heirs of the decedent settlor whose identities are reasonably ascertainable. Any suit not filed within this period shall be forever barred.

Notice is further given that any person or entity possessing a claim

against the trust must mail proof of the claim to the trustee at the address listed below via certified mail, return receipt requested, by the later to occur of four (4) months from the second publication of this notice or thirty (30) days from the date of mailing this notice if required or the claim shall be forever barred unless paid or otherwise satisfied.
Dated on February 4, 2026.

Stephen Lininger
2521 Lakeshore Drive
Spring Hill, TN 37174

Todd G. Nielsen AT0005759,
Attorney for Trustee
211 N. Maple Street
Creston, IA 50801
Date of second publication: February 13, 2026

NOTICE AND CALL OF PUBLIC MEETING

Governmental Body:
Creston City Council
Date of Meeting: February 17, 2026
Time of Meeting: 6:00 o'clock PM
Place of Meeting:
City Council Chambers
116 W Adams Street
Creston, IA 50801

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN That the above-mentioned governmental body will meet at the date, time and place above set out. The tentative agenda for said meeting is as follows:

The meeting is for the purpose of accepting public comment and the acceptance of sealed bids for the Airport Agricultural Land Lease (94 acres more or less), located in the

Resolution No. 18 FYR 25/26 Proposed Sale of Real Estate

WHEREAS, the Union County Board of Supervisors will hold a public auction on February 18, 2026@ 9:05am in the Union County Board of Supervisors office. The purpose of the public auction is regarding the proposed sale of real estate no longer needed for public purposes and to return said real estate to the tax rolls, pursuant to Code of Iowa Section 331.361. The real estate is located in the town formerly known as “Kent, Iowa” and in the town of Lorimor, Iowa and is generally described and sold as follows, to-wit:

1			
Parcel Number	Tax District	abbreviated legal description	
918203003	09010	18-71-31 KENT PLAT LOTS 2 & 3 & W 1/2 LOT 4 NORTONS ADDN	
2			
Parcel Number	Tax District	abbreviated legal description	
918203005	09010	18-71-31 KENT PLAT LOTS 5 & 6 NORTONS ADDN	
918203006	09010	18-71-31 KENT PLAT LOT 7 NORTONS ADDN	
918203007	09010	18-71-31 KENT PLAT LOT 8 & 15' LOT 9 NORTONS ADDN	
918203008	09010	18-71-31 KENT E 10' LOT 9 & ALL LOT 10 NORTONS ADDN	
3			
Parcel Number	Tax District	abbreviated legal description	
91876008	09010	18-71-31 KENT PLAT 1 AC IN SE COR LOT 1 OP EX S 75FT OF E 75FT	
91876009	09010	18-71-31 KENT PLAT S75FT E75FT LOT 1 OP	
4			
Parcel Number	Tax District	abbreviated legal description	
410476001	30020	LORIMOR ADDITION SW-4 SE-4 SECTION 10 4.24 ACRES	

WHEREAS, the successful bidder will present a cashier's check for payment on Tuesday February 24, 2026, after the sale. The title shall pass by a Quit Claim Deed which will be signed by the Board of Supervisor Chair. DISCLAIMER: The Union County Board of Supervisors make no representation regarding the marketability of title. Buyers or Bidders should govern themselves accordingly by investigating title to their own satisfaction.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Union County Auditor shall publish notice of the sale and copy of this resolution in accordance with Code of Iowa Section 331.304. Packets are available in the Union County Auditor's Office.
PASSED AND APPROVED this 28 day of January, 2026

Chair - Board of Supervisors

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING — PROPOSED BUDGET Fiscal Year July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027 UNION COUNTY GREATER COMMUNITY HOSP

The Board of Hospital Trustees of this County will conduct a public hearing on the proposed fiscal year budget as follows:
Meeting Date: 2/23/2026 Meeting Time: 06:05 PM Meeting Location: Greater Regional Health DVR Room
At the public hearing any resident or taxpayer may present 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 secretary.
Contact Name: Randi Cass Contact Telephone Number: (641) 782-1173

FUND	A Expenditure June 30, 2025 Actual	B Expenditure June 30, 2026 Re- estimated	C Expenditure June 30, 2027 Proposed	D Transfers Out	E Estimated Ending Fund Balance FY 2027	F Estimated Beginning Fund Balance FY 2027	G Estimated Other Receipts	H Transfers In	I Estimated Amount To Be Raised By Taxation
1. General	115,257,871	124,525,000	131,395,000	0	106,496,974	106,427,752	130,323,134	961,487	179,601
2. FICA				0	386,876	0	16,766	0	370,110
3. IPERS				0	386,877	0	16,760	0	370,117
4. Emergency				0	0	0	0	0	0
5. Ambulance	0	0	0	0	347,750	160,015	8,134	0	179,601
6. Unemployment Comp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7. Debt Service	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8. Tort Liability/Ins.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9. Restricted Funds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10. Board Designated	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11. Total	115,257,871	124,525,000	131,395,000	0	107,618,477	106,587,767	130,364,794	961,487	1,099,429

Proposed taxation rate per \$1,000 valuation: 1.65281
Virtual Meeting Information:

ATTEST: Union County Auditor