

LYON COUNTY AUDITORS OFFICE
January 13, 2026

ROCK RAPIDS, IOWA

Chairman Steve Herman convened the adjourned session with Vanden Bosch, Altena, Scholten and Birkey present. Motion carried assumes unanimous vote unless otherwise stated. Present were Stacy Knobloch, Cody Hoefert, Tom Lawerence, Brian Hilt, and Daryl Albertson.

The Board started with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Cody Hoefert was present for public comment. Hoefert informed the Board that he is possibly interested in running for Supervisor in the upcoming election.

Treasurer Stacy Knobloch presented the Semi-Annual report for July 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. Motion by Altena, second by Vanden Bosch to approve the Semi-Annual report. Motion carried.

Attorney Chris White appeared at this meeting telephonically in light of his scheduling conflicts and his current commitments and the need to expedite resolution of this matter. It would have been impractical to look for a date when this could be done with him attending in person. Motion by Birkey, seconded by Scholten to go into closed session per Iowa code 21.5(1)(c). Rollcall vote: District 1 Vanden Bosch Support, District 3 Altena Support, District 4 Birkey Support, and District 5 Herman Support. Motion carried. Closed session started at 8:35 a.m.

Motion by Altena, seconded by Vanden Bosch to move out of closed session. Rollcall vote: District 1 Vanden Bosch Support, District 3 Altena Support, District 4 Birkey Support, and District 5 Herman Support. Motion carried. Closed session ended at 8:52 a.m.

Birkey makes a motion to resolve all issues in litigation with Pamela and Kyle Petersen, individually, and as parents of B.P. for \$25,000 as recommended by and paid by the County's insurance carrier solely to avoid the costs, expenses, and attorney fees of ongoing litigation and not because there was any wrongdoing on the part of the County or County employees. All alleged wrongdoing is expressly denied in the settlement documents to be signed by Pamela and Kyle Petersen. Seconded by Altena. Rollcall vote: District 1 Vanden Bosch Support, District 3 Altena Support, District 4 Birkey Support, and District 5 Herman Support. Motion carried.

Jordan Metzger, Jayne Greenfield, and Harriett Metzger, representatives of the Historical Society, attended the meeting to provide an update on current projects, operating expenses, and to request funding for FY2027. The representatives also discussed efforts to increase public interest, including expanding the Historical Society's presence through Iowa Tourism. The Board thanked the representatives for their presentation and indicated that the funding request would be considered during the upcoming budget meetings.

Motion by Scholten, seconded by Altena to go into closed session per Iowa code 21.5(1)(i). Rollcall vote: District 1 Vanden Bosch Support, District 3 Altena Support, District 4 Birkey Support, and District 5 Herman Support. Motion carried. Closed session started at 9:15 a.m.

Motion by Birkey, seconded by Altena to move out of closed session. Rollcall vote: District 1 Vanden Bosch Support, District 3 Altena Support, District 4 Birkey Support, and District 5 Herman Support. Motion carried. Closed session ended at 10:04 a.m. Motion by Birkey to table the permanent decision

until after the appeal process has been completed and until then allow the employee to do temporary work. Also, directed the County Attorney and Engineer to work on a restricted employee agreement and if there is no work for the employee they will use vacation or personal time. Seconded by Scholten. Motion carried.

Engineer Daryl Albertson asked the Board to consider the appropriate starting wage for the Secondary Roads Office Manager position. The Board inquired about the duties associated with the position and discussed the historical compensation for that role. Following discussion, the Board recommended a starting wage of \$56,000 per year.

Engineer Albertson also discussed the intersection of 180th Street and Dove Avenue. Rumble strips are currently being installed, and the intersection may potentially be converted to a four-way stop.

The County Attorney was present to discuss a Driveway Easement Agreement between Lyon County and Mark Stueven. The agreement provides an easement for ingress and egress to access the Stueven property across the east 25 feet of Lyon County property. Motion by Altena, seconded by Scholten, to approve the Driveway Easement Agreement. Motion carried.

Minutes from the January 2, 2026 meeting were reviewed. Motion by Altena, second by Birkey to approve and Chairman sign minutes. Motion carried.

Sheriff Brian Hilt was present to discuss the proposed Sheriff's salary for FY2027 with the Board. Sheriff Hilt referenced the Back the Blue law in his initial salary request letter submitted to the Board in December. He acknowledged that a 17% increase, which would be required to align his salary with neighboring jurisdictions or State Troopers, is likely not realistic. Sheriff Hilt emphasized the importance of maintaining competitive wages for his staff.

Sheriff Hilt indicated that he would like to see an increase in the range of 7% to 10% to the Sheriff's salary, which would result in an overall increase of salaries by approximately \$88,689. Commissioner Birkey asked Sheriff Hilt about the source of funding for the proposed increase. Sheriff Hilt responded that increased revenue coming into the County through the Sheriff's Department should be sufficient to cover the cost.

Commissioner Herman inquired whether Sheriff Hilt would be willing to adjust the percentage increases for his deputies if the Sheriff's salary were increased by 7% to 10%. Sheriff Hilt stated that he would be willing to discuss this during budget meetings and emphasized his intent to remain transparent with his staff.

County Attorney Nolan McGowan was also present and noted that the workload in the County Attorney's Office has nearly doubled, largely due to the increased volume of work generated by the Sheriff's Office. The Board thanked Sheriff Hilt and County Attorney McGowan for their attendance and indicated that the matter would continue to be discussed in upcoming meetings.

Laura Benson and Cindy Harpenau with MidSioux gave an annual report of last year and requested \$10,500 for FY2027. The Board thanked Benson and Harpenau for coming and noted that budget funding would be considered during budget time.

Quarterly report from the Recorder was reviewed. Recorder Amie Griesse was present for questions. Motion by Birkey, second by Vanden Bosch to approve quarterly report. Motion carried.

The FY2026/2027 Valuations were reviewed. Motion by Vanden Bosch, second by Altena to approve valuations. Motion carried.

The Board opened the applications for the official newspaper. There were 2 applications from: Lyon County Reporter and West Lyon Herald. Motion by Altena, seconded by Scholten to approve the Lyon County Reporter and West Lyon Herald as the 2026 Official Lyon County Newspapers. 4-1 vote. Birkey opposed. Motion carried.

Auditor Sprock introduced the Application for Annexation submitted by the City of Larchwood. Auditor Sprock stated that she contacted Bonander Law to clarify whether a consultation meeting would be required or whether the City is requesting a Receipt and Waiver of Requirements under Iowa Code section 368.7. As of the meeting date, no response had been received from the law firm. Motion by Birkey, seconded by Altena, to table the City of Larchwood Application for Annexation pending clarification from Bonander Law. Motion carried.

Auditor Sprock provided an update regarding LifeLock and asked whether employees who already maintain personal LifeLock coverage could be reimbursed by the County instead of enrolling in the County's plan. The Board determined that reimbursement would not be provided and recommended that those employees opt into the County coverage and discontinue their personal LifeLock plans.

The Board discussed options for receiving mail at the new annex location. The Postmaster advised that each office may either rent a post office box or that the County could purchase a centralized box unit (CBU). Supervisor Herman stated he would follow up with the Postmaster to determine whether additional options are available. Motion by Altena, seconded by Scholten, to table the discussion regarding the purchase of a mailbox until further clarification is received from the Post Office. Motion carried.

Employee Changes- Alex Waagmeester a deputy in the Sheriff's office will be at 83% of the Sheriff's Salary as of 1-1-2026 due to step increase.

Mason Langenhorst a deputy in the Sheriff's office is at 77% of the Sheriff's Salary as of 1-1-2026 due to step increase.

Devin Miller a deputy in the Sheriff's office is at 77% of the Sheriff's Salary as of 1-1-2026 due to step increase.

Tyler Bos a deputy in the Sheriff's office is at 80% of the Sheriff's Salary as of 1-1-2026 due to step increase

Levi Horstman a deputy in the Sheriff's office is at 80% of the Sheriff's Salary as of 1-1-2026 due to step increase

Richard Van Den Top a deputy in the Sheriff's office is at 79% of the Sheriff's Salary as of 1-1-2026 due to step increase

Cody Harms a dispatcher in the Sheriff's office received a step increase as of 1-1-2026. His new hourly rate is \$24.83.

Brock Wines a jailer in the Sheriff's office received a step increase as of 1-1-2026. His new hourly rate is \$26.60.

Sean Kosters has been hired as a deputy in the Sheriff's office at 75% of the Sheriff's Salary as of 12-19-2025.

Caleb Hansel has resigned as the PT Sanitarian with Public Health. His last day is 1-15-2026.

Steve Wells has resigned from the Board of Health as of 1-12-2026.

The Board reviewed claims. Herman asked Sprock to explain the Nyhart invoice and if this was a required service. Sprock stated Under Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 75, Lyon County is required to calculate and disclose its Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liabilities. Motion by Birkey, seconded by Vanden Bosch to approve claims. Motion carried.

Supervisor correspondence: Scholten - Inwood and Alvord City Council Meetings.

Quarterly reports from the Auditor and Sheriff were reviewed. Motion by Altena, second by Vanden Bosch. Motion carried.

Payroll dated 12-30-2025 was reviewed and approved.

Payroll Warrant Register in the amount of \$298,965.73 is listed by fund.

General Basic Fund	163,314.04
General Supplemental Fund	3,859.32
Rural Services Basic Fund	27,962.14
Economic Development Fund	4,133.66
Secondary Roads Fund	71,987.80
American Rescue Plan Fund	9,462.11
Emergency Management Serv	3,590.74
Co. Assessor Agency Fund	14,655.92

Payroll Disbursement Register in the amount of \$330,473.23 is listed by Fund.

General Basic Fund	122,810.03
General Supplemental Fund	47,852.16
Rural Services Basic Fund	40,521.20
Economic Development Fund	5,870.19
Secondary Roads Fund	94,512.76
American Rescue Plan Fund	3,507.30
Emergency Management Serv	3,630.12
Co. Assessor Agency Fund	11,769.47

Handwritten claim dated 12-30-2025 in the amount of \$347.99 was reviewed and approved. Check sequence #179365.

IBC	12/24-12/28/2025 Flex Plan	347.99
Grand Total		347.99
Flex Benefits Account	132.22	

Handwritten claim dated 1-6-2026 in the amount of \$132.22 was reviewed and approved. Check sequence #179366.

IBC	12/31-1/4/2026 Flex Plan	132.22
Grand Total		132.22

Flex Benefits Account

132.22

Handwritten claim dated 1-7-2026 in the amount of \$99,443.86 was reviewed and approved. Check sequence #179367.

Sanford Health Plan	Jan Insurance Premiums	99443.86
Grand Total		99443.86
Health Insurance Fund	99,443.86	

Claims dated 1-13-2026 in the amount of \$382,132.64 were reviewed and approved. Check sequence #179369-#179499.

Access Systems Leasing	Printer/Copier Lease	1062.23
Ahlers & Cooney, P.C.	December HR Service-Labor	741.00
Alliance Communications Attn:	911 Recurring Phone	150.00
Alliant Energy	acct 3128711000-GEORGE SH	1178.39
Cory Altena	Mileage	93.60
Auto Value Parts Stores	Headlight	2636.86
Avera Merrill Pioneer Hospital	Inmate medical	3223.60
Baycom, Inc.	Antennas & cameras patrol	2188.00
Bound Tree Medical, LLC	Medical supplies	323.75
Calhoun-Burns & Associates Inc	2025 bridge rating/inspec	16974.50
Care Initiative - Lyon Manor	December Jail Meals (426)	3408.00
Century Link	911 Recurring 712-233-001	33.99
City of Doon	water - Doon shop	33.00
City of George	utilities	42.50
City of Rock Rapids Municipal	Utilities	7811.53
Cooperative Energy Company	Oil changes & maint	62259.94
Cooperative Farmers Elevator	remote transmitter/opener	50.41
Corner Service Merlin VerSteeg	Oil change 60-4	100.00
Crossroads Trailer	spring brake-shop stock	494.92
Culligan Soft Water Serv.	Salt & rental	330.77
Cash-Wa Distributing	Food for Inmates	1074.10
Dakota Data Shred DDS	12/16/25 Shred	68.00
Dakota Riggers & Tool	(2) tow straps	371.53
Denny's Sanitation Inc.	Garbage service	526.50
DJ's Service	Oil change/Service 60-7	257.90
DRG Mechanical, Inc	New heat run	540.00
Frontier	911 Recurring Monthly Phone	129.95
G & S Country Farms, Inc.	Well closure	700.00
GFC Leasing - WI	Canon Contract-PH	498.58
GNR Plumbing & HVAC	furnace repair-Inwood	410.00
Gordon Flesch Company, Inc.	Canon Contract	155.31
Great Plains Uniforms, LLC	Ballistic vest 60-12	760.00
Jesse Harpenau	PPE reimbursement	134.93
Henning Construction Inc	292.69 tn riprap-53W FEMA	12440.13
Hillyard / Sioux Falls	Custodial supplies	541.06
I-State Truck Center	water pump, core #23	313.90
IBC	December Employee Benefits	1640.00
ICRA Cedar County Recorder	ICRA dues	250.00
ICRA Certification Fund ICRA	Certification Fees 2026	50.00
Inovalon Provider, Inc	Dec Access to All Payer C	274.64
Institute of IA Ctd Assessors	2026 Annual dues	150.00
Iowa Communications Network	911 Monthly phone	452.00
Iowa Dept of Transportation	beam machine 60-1 ck/rpr	424.00

Iowa Emergency Management Assn	2026 Membership to Iowa E	225.00
Iowa State Medical Examiner	DOD 10/3/2025 ME Fee	2062.00
ISAC	Spring conference	660.00
ISAC Group Unemployment Fund	4Q Unemployment Ins	565.51
I.S.C.I.A. Iowa Sex Crimes	ISCIA Reg.	350.00
Jaymar Business Forms Inc	W-2 & 1099 Forms/Envelope	163.35
Mark Klarenbeek	PPE reimbursement	146.07
Larchwood Local	27.62 gal gasohol	70.96
LeLoux Diversified, LLC	Camera/Service	508.25
Little Falls Machine Inc.	10-snowplow shoes	1512.72
Lyon & Sioux Rural Water	water - Lester shop	95.40
Lyon County Extension Office	Ag Pest Control	55.00
Lyon County Sheriff Dept.	Sheriff Fees	2438.60
Lyon Rural Electric Coop	Private pay vaccine return	19.07
Mail Services. LLC	Jan Renewals-Postage	627.19
Mainstay Systems of Iowa LLC	NCIC Monthly Maintenance	237.00
Matheson Tri-Gas Inc	12/22/25 Oxygen Acct 8736	131.98
McCarty Motors	parts	51.25
MidAmerican Energy	Repair ovrhd line 51991-3	1100.71
Midwest Livestock Serv. LTD	shop towels	75.28
New Century Press	Minutes, Hrg Notices	1275.28
Northside Glass	glass-CAT motorgrader	465.00
Northwest Iowa Regional Housing	FY26 Local Match	1192.00
NW IA YES Center	Juvenile Detainment (9)	2402.41
Nyhart Ascensus	FY2025 GASB 75 Fee	2700.00
Oak Street Station	Fuel	979.81
Osceola Rural Water	water - Little Rock Shop	60.58
P & K Pest Control Inc	Dec Mthly Maint - Ambulance	85.00
Popkes, Inc.	300.2 gal propane-Larchwood	450.00
Premier Communications	911 Monthly phone	3756.04
Rapid Auto Repair	Oil Change A-1	161.02
RDO Equipment Company	glass #82	703.10
ReGov Solutions LLC	Early Adopter Software	165000.00
Reserve Account/Pitney Bowes	Prepaid postage - Tax	6500.00
Richarz Repair LLC.	fittings #10	128.24
Rock Rapids Ace Hardware	Supplies	269.40
Rock Rapids EMT Association	Lifevac devices	120.00
Runnings Supply Inc.	Maintenance supplies	716.99
Sioux County Auditor	FY26 DHD Service	3500.00
Sioux Sales Company	PBTs and meters	1459.85
Spencer Office/JCL Solutions	Office Supplies	401.09
Billy Srock	PPE reimbursement	218.23
Breckyn Srock	Mileage fieldwork (54)	32.40
Stacy Knobloch	Reimb. passport fees Per	25.20
Stericycle, Inc.	Monthly Charge-Sharps Dis	45.76
Stivers Ford Midwest Pro	Tahoe upfitting 60-18	16538.43
Storey Kenworthy / Matt Parrot	Registration envelopes	120.02
Stryker	Blood pressure cuff (3)	82.38
Sunshine Foods	Food for Inmates	1219.04
Tails Awagging Grooming	Groom - Versa	70.00
TalkPoint Technologies, Inc.	Dispatch headsets	1317.75
The Masters Touch, LLC	HF718 Postage Estimate	4466.58
Sheila Thomas	DOD 12/05/2025 Med Exam Fee	260.80
Thomson Reuters - West Payment	Clear Proflex-Collections	509.13

Todd's True Value	chainsaw-Inwood	506.47
Town & Country Disposal	garbage service-LR	39.98
Transource Truck & Equipment	pins, shackle, bushing #6	2291.51
TransUnion Risk & Alternative	Jan Billing-Acct ID 36366	142.00
TwoRivers Emergency Mgmt, LLC	Final payment Mitigation	6000.00
UpKeep Technologies	annual subscription	2880.00
Van's Power Center	Repair Polaris	428.30
Van't Hul Repair	air line #6	134.11
Douglas VandenBosch	Mileage	133.80
Verizon	Admin phone & WIFI	1028.77
Ziegler Inc.	121-cutting edges	14681.31
3D Security Inc.	Monitoring	240.00
Grand Total		382132.64

01000 General Basic Fund	77,056.21
01001 General Basic Sub Fund	165,434.00
02000 General Supplemental Fund	144.38
11000 Rural Services Basic Fund	217.15
15000 Economic Development Fund	1,192.00
20000 Secondary Road Fund	124,001.56
29000 Surcharge on E911	2,384.70
31000 County Attorney Incentive Fund	350.00
41000 Emergency Management Services	6,340.90
69000 Co Assessor Agency Fund	671.74
89000 Health Insurance Fund	4,340.00

There being no further business, there was a motion by Vanden Bosch, seconded by Altena to adjourn. Motion carried.

ATTEST _____ APPROVED _____
 County Auditor _____ Chairman _____