HELP STAMP OUT HUNGER: NALC annual food drive tomorrow · See pg. 9 PEN CITY CURRENT It's Black & White and Read all over

Friday, May 9, 2025 | 10 pages | Volume 9 • Issue 90

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LCEDG facilitates updates

SUPER BOARD: Stakeholders spend a couple hours talking about current plans

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

MONTROSE – The Lee County Economic Development Group brought a large group of stakeholders together early Thursday evening for a collaborative update on happenings in and around Lee County.

LCEDG President and CEO Emily Benjamin welcomed the group and gave officials each a few minutes to update the group on what's going on within their respective organizations.

Attendees included representatives from Lee County, the cities of Fort Madison, Montrose, and Donnellson,

Keokuk, Fort Madison, Central Lee and Holy Trinity Catholic school systems, Lee County Health Department, Fort Madison Chamber of Commerce, and Southeast Iowa Regional & Economic Port Authority. Other entities, including the cities of Keokuk, West Point, St. Paul, and Houghton, Keokuk Chamber and Main Street organizations, were also invited to the event.

Benjamin said the group meetings are a good way for people to get a feel for what is happening around the county and connect with each other socially following the event. LCEDG sponsored a social hour after the event.

See UPDATES, page 8



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Central Lee Superintendent Dr. Andy Crozier gives a district update to a group of stakeholders at a Lee County Economic Development Group meeting Thursday evening.

COUNTY NEWS

COUNTY NEWS Board wants to commission courthouse feasibility study

BY CHUCK VANDENBERG PCC EDITOR

LEE COUNTY – The Lee County Board of Supervisors wants more information on the feasibility of closing the North Lee County Courthouse.

The board, at its regular meeting Tuesday, discussed the idea of moving to a single courthouse to include getting a professional opinion on whether the south Lee County Courthouse in Keokuk could support court services for the county.

Previous input for the Iowa Department of Justice indicated their preference would be to have room for four courtrooms in the county. County officials, at that point, weren't convinced the county first, could accommodate that in one courtroom, and second, that the county needed four courtrooms.

The move would only consolidate state court service operations and not consolidate county services, which are offered at the county administration building on Avenue H in Fort Madison.

At Tuesday's meeting, supervisors discussed options for getting qualified information about scenarios involving relocation of the state court services to one building.

"We've been talking about possibly closing the Fort Madison courthouse and moving everything statewide down into the Keokuk courthouse and we need someone to tell us if that's feasible," said Board Chairwoman Denise Fraise.

Leadership group graduates nine future county leaders

LEE COUNTY – The Lee County Leadership Program proudly announces the graduation of its 2025 class, marking the successful completion of an eight-month journey in leadership development, community engagement, and regional collaboration. This year's graduating class includes nine emerging leaders from across Lee County who have demonstrated a strong commitment to their communities and a shared vision for the future of Southeast Iowa. The program, designed to foster personal growth and civic leadership, is a partnership among the Fort Madison Area Chamber of Commerce, Keokuk Area Chamber of Commerce, Lee County Economic Development Group, and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

See **GRADS**, page 2

Supervisor Garry Seyb said he agreed that the county needs to find out if moving to Keokuk is a viable option for the county.

"In my mind, there's three options. There's a status quo, move to Keokuk, or build a new one," Seyb said.

He said status quo puts the county right back in the situation there were in a few

See COURTHOUSES, page 8

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| FRI 09 May | Sunny, 69° F/ 47° F 🛛 🌞 |
|----------------------|---|
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| SUN 11 May | Sunny, 81º F/ 57º F 🛛 🌻 |
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| DOUBLE PLAY 05/07 | 9 21 32 50 57, Powerball: 14 |
| LOTTO AMERICA 05/07 | |
| LUCKY FOR LIFE 05/07 | 5 7 37 39 46, Lucky Ball: 15 |
| PICK 3 MIDDAY 05/07 | |
| PICK 3 EVENING 05/07 | |
| PICK 4 MIDDAY 05/07 | |
| PICK 4 EVENING 05/07 | |
| POWERBALL 05/07 | 14 15 30 40 59, Powerball: 20 Power Play: 3 |

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Obituaries/For the Record

VORLD RECORD

OBITUARIES

ERIC J. MARSHALL

Eric J. Marshall, 56, of Fort Madison, IA, passed away at 4:20 p.m. on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at Birkwood Village in Fort Madison. Cremation has been entrusted to the care of King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory and no services are planned at this time. King-Lynk Funeral Home & Crematory is assisting the family with the arrangements.

For the Record

Fort Madison Police Report

05/07/25 - 10:11 a.m. - Fort Madison police cited Elijah Hernandez, 18, of Fort Madison in the 2000 block of Avenue B, on a charge of possession of marijuana

05/08/25 - 12:59 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1200 block of Avenue C.

05/08/25 - 1:16 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of vandalism in the 1200 block of Avenue C.

05/08/25 - 2:37 a.m. - Fort Madison police responded to a report of a burglary in the 1200 block of Ave. C.

Keokuk Police Report

05/07/25 - 11:35 a.m. - Keokuk police responded to a report of a stolen vehicle in the 500 block of N.11th Street.

05/07/25 - 1:10 p.m. - Keokuk police responded to a two-vehicle accident at Johnson Street and S. 14th Street. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Chase Dalton Labonte, 27, of Hamilton has stopped at a stop sign and proceeded into the intersection when he struck a vehicle driven by Noram Florilla Steffensmeier, 80, of Keokuk. Labonte was cited for failure to obey a stop sign and yield the right of way. Steffensmeier sustained minor injuries and was not transported

05/07/25 - 10:16 p.m. - Keokuk police cited Dylan Wayne Kite, 26, of Keokuk, at 18th and Main in Keokuk, on a charge of driving under suspension

05/08/25 - 1:16 a.m. - Keokuk police arrested Raychel Nikole Reeves, 31, of Keokuk, in the 200 block of Fulton Street, on a charge of violating a no-contact order. She was held in Lee County Jail.

Lee County Sheriff's Report

05/06/25 - 3:02 p.m. - Lee County Sheriff's deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident in the 2300 block of 110th Street. According to the report, a vehicle driven by Lizeth S. Trevizo, 22, of Houghton, was westbound and failed to negotiate a left hand curve entering the right side ditch and flipping over. No injuries were reported. Trevizo was cited for failure to maintain control.

05/07/25 - no time given - Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested a male juvenile on charges of escape from custody. The juvenile was captured and returned to placement. The juvenile kicked out a back window of transport vehicle and took off on foot before being captured.

Those listed above should be and are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

Group plans to hold another class in the fall

GRADS - Continued from Page 1

of Lee County.

Throughout the program, participants explored critical topics including community issues, social capital, visioning, and strategic action. The curriculum was led by Mary Weinand of ISU Extension and Outreach, and featured a variety of local speakers and site visits, along with a trip to Southeast Iowa Days in Des Moines for networking with state officials and other leaders in the region.

"The goal of Lee County Leadership is to empower the next generation of community leaders-and this group has truly risen to the challenge," said Savanna Collier, Executive Director of the Fort Madison Area Chamber of Commerce.

"They've built strong connections, grown as individuals, and are ready to make a lasting impact on Lee County."

The Class of 2025 includes:

• Christa Bronnenberg, Bee Inspired Discovery Center

Courtesy image

The 2025 Lee County Leadership Program graduating class.

• Parker Denning, Ameriprise Financial

• Kaylin Featheringill, The Kensington

• Hannah Hoenig, Connection Bank

• Rylie Kesselring, Climax Molybdenum

• Jessica Koehler, Keokuk Community School District • Carson McSorely, Great

River Health • Lexy Reu, Fort Madison

Area Chamber of Commerce • Hailey Tweedy, Lee

County Economic Development Group

The graduation ceremony took place on May 8th and was followed by a luncheon celebration with family,

friends, and community leaders in attendance.

For more information about the Lee County Leadership Program or how to get involved in future classes, contact the Fort Madison Area Chamber of Commerce at 319-372-5471 or email chamber@fortmadison.com.





Wishing you every happiness this Mother's Day

ACCIDENT & INJURY LA



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Pen City Current will not publish an e-Edition Monday, May 15 due to the Mother's Day holiday. Breaking news will continue to be published to our website and social media channels as it happens. The e-Edition will resume publication Tuesday, May 16.

PEN CITY CURRE

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Education News/Iowa News

Naig applauds news of trade deal with United Kingdom

DES MOINES – Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Mike Naig issued the following statement today after President Donald Trump and United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer jointly announced the framework for a bilateral trade deal between the two countries:

"A new trade deal with a key ally like the United Kingdom is great news and so I am very encouraged by President Trump's announcement today. I am particularly pleased to hear the President tout expanded market access for ethanol, beef, and, as he put it, 'virtually all the products produced by our great farmers'. Secretary Rollins and other negotiators will be working diligently to finalize the specific details in the coming weeks, and I'm hopeful that a final deal will address many of the non-tariff barriers that have continually kept some American products out of the United Kingdom.

I visited the United Kingdom as part of a trade delegation in November 2023, and we have hosted many officials from the United Kingdom in Iowa over the past few years, including at the Iowa State Fair, to discuss ag trade opportunities. Today's trade announcement demonstrates that there is real progress being made toward opening additional markets for Iowa products across the globe. I hope this deal is the first of many that will be announced with other trading partners in the coming weeks and months."

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PEN CITY CURRENT



SCC filling golf outing spots

WEST BURLINGTON - Slots are filling fast for the SCC Alumni Association Golf Outing coming up on Friday, June 13, at Burlington Golf Club with a shotgun start at 9 a.m.

This 4-person best shot tournament includes green fees, cart rental, player gifts, breakfast, and lunch, all for just \$100 per person.

Tournament highlights include a 50/50 cash raffle, games set up throughout the course, and even a hole-in-one prize to win \$5,000 for the lucky player and another \$5,000 for the SCC Alumni Association.

"We've had great response so far," said SCCF Executive Director Val Giannettino. "I think it's because we keep it light and fun and because it's for such a good cause."

The popular outing is the biggest fundraiser for the SCC Alumni Associa-

tion. Event proceeds fund distinguished alumni awards, SCC sophomore and alumni transfer scholarships, and college instructional program mini-grants.

"Although the event funds the SCC Alumni Association's initiatives, players do not need to be SCC alumni," explains Giannettino. "It is a day to relax and have fun with friends."

While few team slots remain, several sponsorship opportunities are still available.

Registration closes on June 6 and the rain date is set for June 16.

To register, contact Val Giannettino at (319) 208-5065 or <u>vgiannettino@sccio-</u> <u>wa.edu</u> or visit the SCCAA golf outing webpage.

Questions about sponsorships or donations can be directed to Giannettino at <u>vgiannettino@scciowa.edu</u> or (319) 208-5065. Advertise in a brand new way.

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Sports

Thursday Sports Digest Hawks win SEISC golf title; Hounds 4x800 tops in 3A

Lowenberg wins medalist at SEI Super Conference golf meet for Central Lee. Brady, Quittem make SEC all-conference squad

PCC Staff

WAPELLO – The Central Lee boys' golf team took the title at Wednesday's SEI Super Conference golf tournament at Heritage Oaks Golf and Country Club in Wapello. Holy Trinity Catholic was ninth with 379 points. Central Lee won with a 324, a full eight strokes ahead of the pack.

The Hawks' Mylan Lowenberg shot a 77 to take medalist honors for best score at the event, while teammates Carson Morrison and Colton Laymon both shot an 80 and tied for 5th best on the day. Caleb Larson shot an 83 and Carter Johnes shot an 84, for all five Central Lee' scoring golfers being under 85 on the day.

HTC's James Denning shot a 91 to lead the Crusaders. Blake Mohrfeld carded a 92. Luke Hellige and Max Kruse both came in with 98s. Brock Scheetz shot a 100 to round out the HTC scoring golfers.

Central Lee's girls shot a 462 for 4th place at Monday's Invitational at Keokuk. Marie Young led the Lady Hawks with a 100, Reegyn Scott carded a 118 followed by Lily Smith and Sidney Gram at 121 and 123.

Hounds runner-up at SEC meet; Brady 3rd best

WASHINGTON – The Fort Madison Bloodhounds captured runner-up in the Southeast Conference golf tournament Wednesday in Washington.

Washington won the event with a 316, Fort Madison's boys shot a 342, followed by Mt. Pleasant 345, Fairfield 357, and Keokuk 386.

Brady Wade shot a 77, just one of three players in the 70s at the event. Washington's Cole Vetter shot a 72 for medalist honors, just two over par, and Drew Conrad shot a 74 for Washington, sweeping the medalist honors. Wade's 36 on the back nine was the best performance on the back side. Vetter shot a 34 on the front nine, one under par.

Mason Baker led Keokuk with an 86.

The meet wrapped up the regular season golf action. Wade was named All-Conference for the Hounds. He was third in scoring for the season. Cole Quittem also earned all-conference honors, finishing sixth in the season scoring. Quittem shot an 81 at Washington Wednesday, followed by Rowan Benda's 88 and freshman Graeme Meredith's 96.

Fort Madison's Lady Hounds shot a 407 at the Keokuk Invitational Monday. Kylie Lumino shot an 89 to lead Fort Madison. Natalie Wright carded a 99, followed by Jaycee Fullenkamp's 101 and Brenna Gathers' 118.

Bloodhounds 2nd at Ekstrand Relays

WAYLAND – Fort Madison's boys' and girls' track and field teams took 2nd place at the Ekstrand Relays at WACO last week.

The girls finished with 117 points, 16 behind front runner Washington. The boys finished with 105 points behind Fairfield with 160.

Jordyn Marshall continues to perform well in distance events with a 5:04.81 in the 1500-meter run, good enough for first place. Avery and Addison Rump went 1 and 2 in the 3000 meter run at 10:37.18 and 11:14.17. The 4x800 team of Smith, Marshall, McKayla Schinstock, and Avery Rump got under the 10-minute mark with a 9:59.77 to win the event.. The Lady Hounds' Distance Medley team of Lillian Gelsthorpe, Dayonna Davis, Smith, and Avery Rump finished tops with a 4:26.92. Brylie Lorence won the discus and the shot for the Hounds.

In boys' action, Riley Tripp won the 1600 meters with a 4:38.28 in a tight run with Simone Wendell of Mediapolis who finished with a 4:39.10. The 4x400 team of Peyton Lambert, Mason McLey, Riley Tripp, and Nolan Guzman finished second with 3:34.89, just a 1.17 seconds behind Mepo.

The boys' 4x800 team set the state's best mark in Class 3A in the 4x800 with the same foursome, just missing a sub 8-minute by .17 seconds. Brayton Schneider won the discus with a 143'4". Urijah Brooks and Caden Barnes finished 2nd and 3rd in the shot.

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Sports

Lady Hounds rebound from first loss with big win

SOCCER: Snaadt fires in four goals as Fort Madison rolls Demons to get to 9-1-2 on the season

BY JOHN BOHNENKAMP PCC SPORTS

FORT MADISON - It didn't take long for Fort Madison's girls soccer team to respond from its first loss in the season.

The Bloodhounds scored seven goals in the first half on the way to a 9-1 win over Washington at the Baxter Sports Complex.

Fort Madison (9-1-2 overall, 6-1-1 Southeast Conference) lost 3-0 at Burlington on Monday night in a match for the conference lead, but the Bloodhounds' quick start in this one was a good beginning to the final stretch before the postseason.

"It feels really good to come out here and play like this after losing to Burlington," said senior Teagan Snaadt, who had five of the Bloodhounds' goals. "Burlington was a tough loss for us, so I feel like everyone came out tonight having the mentality that we want to beat this team, and we're going to beat them bad."

"I feel like it's a good win for us," said coach Carrie Burken. "I think it's confidence, but it's also just knowing what we're capable of. So I think having a good, solid win is really important."

Halle Menke got Fort Madison going with a goal less than four minutes into the match. Snaadt scored three minutes later, and the goals just kept coming.

"Once you see that first goal go in, you know that confidence level goes up," Snaadt said. "Seeing Halle get that first goal gave me a lot of confidence."

It wasn't just the quantity of the goals, it was the quality. Reilynn Turnbull's goal that put Fort Madison up 3-0 was perfectly placed, sailing over the head of Washington goalkeeper Katherine Flannery. Then Menke blasted a deep free kick that also was placed in the right spot where Flannery couldn't get it.

"Hitting a big shot like that is a momentum changer," Snaadt said of Menke's goal.

"Whenever we get off to a good start, it just builds a lot of confidence for our team, and then everyone feeds off that confidence," Burken said. "We're a momentum team, and I think you can see that."

Hadley Wolfe scored on a shot that ricocheted off the right post for a 5-0 lead, then Snaadt added two goals within 37 seconds of each other to close the half.

Washington got its only goal with 5:05 left in the match when a shot bounced off the right post past goalkeeper Ellie Hellman and was knocked into the net by Maya Murphy.

Snaadt closed the match with a goal with 3:45 to play and another with 1:27 to go.

"I think the biggest difference in the second half was possession, and we just didn't connect passes as much," Burken said. "And so because of that, they had more possessions, and then that gave them more opportunities. So I don't know if they made an adjustment or not, but to me, that's on us for not working hard enough to get on the ball, to get open for passes and connect passes."

Wolfe, Menke and Kara Lake each had two assists for the Bloodhounds. Faith Ward also had an assist.

It's the second of three consecutive three-match weeks to close the regular season for the Bloodhounds — they play at Washington on Friday.

"It's important to keep the momentum going, to keep building on our performances," Burken said. "We're also getting experience for our younger players. Just for me, I'm already thinking about the fact that we're not going to have some of these players next year, and so getting some of those younger players more and more experience is also going to be important."



Photo by Chuck Vandenberg/PCC

Adalyn Kruse (12) tries to get the ball out of Washington territory in the 2nd half Thursday night at Baxter Sports Complex. The Lady Hounds defense held the Demons to just one goal in a 9-1 Fort Madison win.

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PEN CITY CURRENT CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICE LEE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REGULAR MEETING MINUTES APRIL 29, 2025

The Board of Supervisors of Lee County, Iowa met on Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. at the County Administration Building, 933 Ave H, Fort Madison, Iowa.

Present: Denise Fraise, Garry Seyb, Chuck Holmes, Ginger Knisley and Tim Wondra.

All votes are unanimous unless indicated otherwise.

The Board opened the meeting by reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Holmes, seconded by Knisley to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

At 9:01 a.m. Fraise opened a Public Hearing for the FY2026 County Budget. There were no comments received prior to the hearing and no comments from those in attendance. At 9:03 a.m. a motion was made by Holmes, seconded by Wondra, to close the Public Hearing. Motion carried.

Moved by Knisley, seconded by Seyb, to approve Resolution #2025-71.

Roll call: Knisley-aye, Seyb-aye, Holmes-aye, Wondra-aye and Fraiseaye.

RESOLUTION # 2025 - 71

Resolution - Adoption of Budget & Certification of Taxes FY2026

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing has been completed concerning the Proposed Lee County July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026, in accordance with the

Iowa Department of Management guidelines and, per Iowa Code Section 331.434, Subsection 5;

Whereas, the Board of Supervisors approved the Comp Board Recommendations as follows: Auditor, Recorder and Treasure from current salary to \$84,000; Attorney, Board of Supervisors and Sheriff 0% increase which are included in the FY2026 budget.

Whereas, The Board of Supervisors approved the 1.25% raise for those employees under the personnel policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Lee County, Iowa, the Public Hearing is acknowledged and the Budget & Certification of Taxes for Fiscal Year July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026 as presented is hereby adopted.

Dated at Fort Madison, lowa on the 29th day of April 2025.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Denise Fraise, Chairman, /s/ Ginger Knisley, Vice-Chair; /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member, /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member, /s/ Garry Seyb, Member, /s/ Tim Wondra, Member. Attest: /s/ Sherri Yasenchok, Auditor. Motion Carried.

Moved by Holmes, seconded by Knisley, to approve the Consent Agenda that included April 22, 2025 Board meeting minutes and claims for payment.

Motion carried. There was no public input.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Holmes, to ap-

PUBLIC NOTICES

of the Siting and Operation of Wind, Solar and Battery Energy Systems Ordinance with Modifications to Page 31. During discussion Ted Stein, rural Ft Madison and Andrew Johnson, rural West Point, commented on the ordinance. Motion carried.

Moved by Knisley, seconded by Wondra, to approve the Correction to the HSA Premiums for FY2026. Motion carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Wondra, to approve Resolution #2025-72 with striking of Section 5. Roll call: Seyb-aye, Wondra-aye, Holmes-aye, Knisley-aye and Fraise-aye.

RESOLUTION # 2025 - 72

INTERFUND TRANS-FER FROM ATEC #1 FUND TO COUNTY RESERVE #1 FUND, SECONDARY ROADS FUND AND CAMERA DISBURSEMENT FUND FOR FY2024/2025

Whereas, it is desired to authorize the County Auditor to transfer funds from the Automated Traffic Enforcement Camera #1 Fund to the County Reserve #1 Fund, Secondary Roads Fund and the Camera Disbursement Fund in the amount of \$138,395.44.

Whereas, said transfers must be in accordance with Chapter 331.432 of the Code of Iowa.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, by the Lee County Board of Supervisors as follows:

Section 1. The total amount to be transferred on April 29, 2025 is \$138,395.44.

Section 2. Within seven working days of being

amount in said Fund, the County Auditor shall order a transfer from said funds.

Section 3. Notwithstanding the provision of Section 2, of this Resolution, total transfers shall not exceed the amount in Section 1.

Section 4. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2, the amount of any transfer shall not exceed available fund balances in the transfer of funds.

Section 5. At the discretion of the County Auditor, fund transfers can be allocated periodically duringthe fiscal year dependingon fund balances.

The County Auditor has determined the amount to transfer on April 29, 2025, is as follows:

FROM ATEC #1 FUND, \$138,395.44 TO COUNTY RE-

SERVE #1 FUND, \$72,839.70

TO SECOND-ARY ROADS FUND,

\$32,777.87 TO CAMERA DIS-BURSEMENT FUND, \$32,777.87

Section 6. The County Auditor is directed to correct her books when said operating transfers are made and to notify the Treasurer of the amounts transferred.

Dated at Fort Madison, lowa on the 29th day of April 2025.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Denise Fraise, Chairman, /s/ Ginger Knisley, Vice-Chair, /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member, /s/ Garry Seyb, Member, /s/ Tim Wondra, Member. Attest: Sherri Yasenchok, Auditor. Motion Carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Wondra, to approve Resolution #2025-73 with striking Seyb-aye, Wondra-aye, Holmes-aye, Knisley-aye and Fraise-aye.

RESOLUTION # 2025 – 73

INTERFUND TRANS-FER FROM ATEC #2 FUND TO COUNTY RESERVE #2 FUND, SECONDARY ROADS FUND AND CAMERA DISBURSEMENT FUND FOR FY2024/2025

Whereas, it is desired to authorize the County Auditor to transfer funds from the Automated Traffic Enforcement Camera #2 Fund to the County Reserve #2 Fund, Secondary Roads Fund and the Camera Disbursement Fund in the amount of \$109,323.54.

Whereas, said transfers must be in accordance with Chapter 331.432 of the Code of Iowa.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, by the Lee County Board of Supervisors as follows:

Section 1. The total amount to be transferred on April 29, 2025 is \$109,323.54.

Section 2. Within seven working days of being notified of the current amount in said Fund, the County Auditor shall order a transfer from said funds.

Section 3. Notwithstanding the provision of Section 2, of this Resolution, total transfers shall not exceed the amount in Section 1.

Section 4. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 2, the amount of any transfer shall not exceed available fund balances in the transfer of funds.

Section 5. At the discretion of the County Auditor, fund transfers can be allothe fiscal year dependingon fund balances.

The County Auditor has determined the amount to transfer on April 29, 2025, is as follows: FROM, ATEC #2

FUND, \$109,323.54 TO COUNTY RE-SERVE #2 FUND, \$57,538.70 TO SECOND-ARY ROADS FUND, \$25,892.42 TO CAMERA DIS-

BURSEMENT FUND, \$25,892.42

Section 6. The County Auditor is directed to correct her books when said operating transfers are made and to notify the Treasurer of the amounts transferred.

Dated at Fort Madison, lowa on the 29th day of April 2025.

Lee County Board of Supervisors /s/ Denise Fraise, Chairman, /s/ Ginger Knisley, Vice-Chair, /s/ Chuck Holmes, Member, /s/ Garry Seyb, Member, /s/ Tim Wondra, Member. Attest: Sherri Yasenchok, Auditor. Motion Carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Holmes, to approve the quote from W.L. Miller Company in the amount of \$32,635.00 for the Salt Storage Building Asphalt Floor. Motion carried.

Moved by Knisley, seconded by Seyb, to approve the Agreement with IDOT & BNSF for Surface Crossing Repair on 190th Street. Motion carried.

Moved by Knisley, seconded by Seyb, to approve the Secondary Roads FY26-30 Five Year Program. Motion carried.

Moved by Knisley, seconded by Seyb, to approve the Contract with Cessford Construction for Rock Stockpiles at

Budget for Fiscal Year

prove the second reading notified of the current

of Section 5. Roll call:

cated periodically during

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Classifieds/Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICES

Quarries in the amount of \$745,000.00. Motion carried.

Moved by Knisley, seconded by Seyb, to approve the Contract with Cessford Construction for Rock Stockpile at Beach Quarry in the amount of \$690,250.00. Motion carried.

Moved by Seyb, seconded by Wondra, to approve the purchase of a Forestry Mulcher from Altorfer in the amount of \$57,500.00 Motion carried.

Moved by Knisley, seconded by Seyb, to approve the Internet Services agreement with Mediacom with an additional three years and allowing the IT Director to sign the agreement with the stipulation that the County Attorney has approved the agreement. Motion carried.

Moved by Knisley, seconded by Sevb, to approve the Internet Services 3-year agreement with Windstream and allowing the IT Director to sign the agreement with the stipulation that the County Attorney has approved the agreement. Motion carried.

Moved by Holmes, seconded by Wondra, to approve the Justice Involved Services Coordinator Position with funds coming from the Opioid Funds and revisited in one year. Motion carried.

Moved by Knisley, seconded by Seyb, to approve the Quote from Mohrfeld Electric in the amount of \$43,880.61 for the Low Voltage Cabling for the new Board of Health/EMS Building. Motion carried.

Received and filed the Lee County Commission of Veterans Affairs March 19, 2025 minutes.

Moved by Knisley, seconded by Sevb, to approve a Full-Time New Hire for the Treasurer's Office, Stephanie Nall, Records Clerk Class III Step 1 at \$18.15/hr. effective 5/12/2025. Motion carried.

Reform Bill.

Fraise reported on the TIF meeting with Regional Planning and relayed to the Board that the General Plan from 2012 has not been updated since then.

At 10:36 a.m., the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at the Administration Building in Fort Madison.

Denise Fraise, Chairman

Attest: Sherri Yasenchok, Lee County Auditor

Access Energy, svs Access Systems, splys Advd Radiator, equp Airgas USA, splys Aladtec, svs 5600.00 All Amer Snttn, svs Alliant Energy, svs Aspen Grove, svs B Bonar, svs 200.00 Bound Tree Med, splys Cntrl IA Juv Dtnt, svs CenturyLink, svs 92.26 Cresent Parts, svs CSW Svs, svs..... 1000.00 Cullen Pest, exps.. 236.00 Democrat Co, publ. 61.61 Dly Gate City, publ.. 73.45 DM Co HIth Dpt, svs LDettmers, exps 62.00 RK Dixon Co, equip Donnellson Tire, svs Douds Stone, mtrl EMSLRC, edu...... 8.50 D Enger, svs 200.00 Floyds EZ Way, svs FM Water, svs..... 4576.86 D Fraise, exps 40.00 French-Reneker, svs Galls, splys 557.29 N Granaman, svs

S Gray Rprtng, svs

King-Lynk Fnrl, svs Klingner Assoc, svs Kohlmorgan Hlg, svs R Kuntz, svs 200.00 Liberty Utility IA, gas J Maag, edu..... 125.40 McDonald Sply, splys

McFarlands, splys McKesson Med, svs Mediacom, svs..... 663.88 MidAmer Energy, gas Nextran Truck, svs Optum Phrmcy, splys

Pitney Bowes, pstg

Plumbing Co, svs., 760.22 Precision Co, svs Regional Util Svs, svs Schneider Corp, svs SEIRMC FM, svs.. 160.00 C Sestito, svs...... 40.00 P Spiekermeier, exps

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Committee Reports: Knisley reported on a Best You, Childs Collaborative, Early Childhood Summit, Community Action and Training Day.

Wondra reported on a Children First meeting. Holmes reported on a Children First and Opioid Committee meeting that Fraise also attended. Seyb reported on TIF meeting with Regional Planning, VA Commission meeting, and a trip provided by Alliant, to look at a battery field already in place. Seyb discussed the conversations with legislators about the Tax

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From the Front

Options on table for consolidated courthouse in Lee County

COURTHOUSES - Continued from Page 1

years ago where they are looking at maintenance costs like tuckpoints, air conditioning, heating, as well as insurance costs of both buildings.

Supervisor Chuck Holmes said if they could fit the court services in the Keokuk building, they may need to relocate some of the other county positions which he said could cost the county. However, Fraise said the county owns other properties in Keokuk where those offices could be relocated.

Seyb said step one is determining if it's even possible to fit the court services in the one building.

We need to have a study done that says either it will fit or it won't fit. If it won't fit, then we're down to the two other options, build a new one or keep doing what we're doing," he said.

He said the study should include the costs of renovations that would be needed.

Fraise said the study should include plans and costs for relocating the county employees, if need be.

Discussion then focused on how they would do the study. Holmes suggested Southeast Iowa Regional Planning Commission, but Seyb said they would probably have to hire someone to do the work and that could add to county costs. County Maintenance Director Mark Klesner said Carl A. Nelson, who is the current construction manager on the Meller Family Health Center, the new Lee County Health Department/EMS facility in Fort Madison, said they could possibly help with the study.

"From the feedback I've received from them, they were just gonna try and help us, guide us in the right direction," Klesner said. "It's probably gonna involve an architect at that point because an architect is gonna be the one who's going to be able to get you the cost of doing such a thing and at that point, I think, you're right, we go out for a bid."

The move to consolidate was also a recommendation from the county's building committee.

Seyb said the focus should be on cost savings and shrinking county government and the county's footprint to reduce overall costs.

Fraise asked where the funds would come from and Seyb said the county could use the automated traffic enforcement camera fund for funds accumulated prior to new state regulations governing how the funds can be used. Seyb said there's close to \$1 million in that account currently. However, he said the county needs to be cautious moving forward with spending that not knowing where the Meller Family Health Center will end up costwise.

"We need to keep our eye on the ball there," he said.

In other action, the board:

• approval a lease agreement with Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation in Keokuk.

• approved the third and final reading of a new ordinance regulating siting and operation of wind, solar, and battery energy systems. That new ordinance can be viewed on the county's website at <u>leecountyiowa.</u> gov.

• approved terminated 28E agreement

with MHASEI Mental Health Region.

• heard an update from the county's Best You Coalition.

Donnellson awarded innovation award from State Auditor's office

UPDATES - Continued from Page 1

"It's just really important to get people in the same room hearing the same message," Benjamin said.

"I am just so excited about what I've heard tonight. I know it gets to be a really long meeting, but I think it's also pretty rare that we all come to the same room and hear about the great things that are happening around the community. I'm so excited to hear about the progress, especially in our smaller towns who are planning and growing. I think that's so exciting."

One of the bigger announcements was from the City of Donnellson's Rebecca Schau who told the group the city was recently awarded the Public Innovation and Efficiency Award by the State Auditor's Office, which recognizes cities for cost-saving ideas and a commitment to save taxpayer dollars.

"Donnellson was the best performing city for its size in the state," she said. She said the city is also in the final stages of purchasing 17 acres on the west side of town for a subdivision that could include up to 42 lots near the city's Westview Park. The park also has a finished ½ mile trail and just received a grant to extend the trail to a mile around the park.

Darcie Uhlmeyer, who sits on Montrose City Council, said they are looking for grants to overhaul the sewer treatment plant at a cost of \$2 million to \$6 million.

Dr. Andy Crozier, Dr. Erin Slater and Dr. Kathy Dinger, and Craig Huebner updated the group on school plans and performances. Slater announced that former FMHS instructor Mike Wolter had been hired as the district's next superintendent, and she was going to discuss with him the importance of events like the forum.

Lee County Supervisor Garry Seyb updated the group on the projects the county is working on, including the Meller Family Health Center, and broadband expansion currently taking place to the tune of about \$40 million in outside investment.

LCEDG Director of Economic Development Tim Gobble said the county is currently working on several potential future projects that could bring substantial investment and jobs to the county. One announcement he said could be coming this summer.

Benjamin said the next update would take place in October.

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