

Board Minutes June 15, 2026

The Adams County Board of Supervisors met on Monday, June 15, 2026, at 9:00 AM with the following members present: Chris Standley, Tony Hardisty, Leland Shipley, and Scott Akin. Bobbi Maynes was absent. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Standley at 9:00 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Akin moved, seconded by Hardisty to approve the agenda and the minutes of the June 8th meeting. All supervisors voted aye. Motion carried. Public comments were received.

Secondary Roads Update – Early Thursday saw winds of excessive speeds that caused trees and power poles to fall onto our roads. One tree fell onto Nodaway 9, causing critical structural damage, forcing the bridge closure. We also had three culverts wash out. Crew is helping clean up Prescott. Once Nodaway has a location to dump debris, crew will move there. Extend thank you to Adair and Taylor counties for equipment and assistance. Inspected six scour-critical bridges and all passed inspection. Adams County was one of the six counties to have two bridges move into the Competitive Highway Bridge Program semi-final list. We received final plans for Union 17. We plan on letting this project July 7. We are still working on purchasing the right-of-way for Prescott 10 and are looking at an October letting.

Hardisty moved, seconded by Shipley to approve Right of Way contract for Prescott 10 Bridge Project. All supervisors voted aye. Motion carried.

Akin moved, seconded by Hardisty to open the public hearing on Moratorium for Data Centers at 9:23 am. All supervisors voted aye. Motion carried. No written objections. Oral comments in favor were as follows: establishing a study committee, consideration of changes to agricultural land, if an entity is interested then public notice is appreciated, story of data centers in another state, request to gather information from other counties, and research guidelines for natural resources, wildlife and economic impacts. Akin moved, seconded Hardisty to close the public hearing at 9:31 am. All supervisors voted aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2026-25

Moratorium in Data Center Location and Construction

WHEREAS, Adams County, Iowa, desires to control the location and construction of data centers within the County and surrounding areas; and

WHEREAS, presently there are no known data centers currently located in Adams County; and

WHEREAS, the Adams County Board of Supervisors is authorized pursuant to the laws of the State of Iowa to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of County residents through planning, zoning, and land use regulation; and

WHEREAS, the County has experienced or anticipates increased interest in the development and construction of data centers and related infrastructure within the County; and

WHEREAS, data centers may create significant impacts on land use, electric transmission and distribution systems, water usage, wastewater systems, road infrastructure, emergency services, noise levels, agricultural land, environmental resources, and the general character of the County; and

WHEREAS, the County currently lacks comprehensive regulations, standards, and planning policies specifically governing the siting, construction, operation, and expansion of data centers; and

WHEREAS, the Adams County Board of Supervisors finds that permitting or allowing the construction of data centers prior to the completion of appropriate studies and adoption of regulatory standards could result in incompatible land uses, adverse environmental impacts, excessive strain on public infrastructure and utilities, and harm to the health, safety, and welfare of County residents; and

WHEREAS, the Adams County Board of Supervisors desires to undertake a comprehensive review of the potential impacts of data centers and to develop appropriate zoning ordinances, development standards, and permitting requirements; and

WHEREAS, a temporary moratorium is necessary to preserve the status quo while the County conducts such review and develops appropriate regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Adams County Board of Supervisors as follows:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Resolution is to establish a temporary moratorium on the acceptance, processing, approval, and issuance of permits or approvals for the siting, construction, establishment, expansion, or operation of data centers within Adams County to allow the County sufficient time to study and adopt appropriate regulations.

DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this Resolution, “Data Center” shall mean any facility, campus, or group of facilities used primarily for the storage, processing, management, or transmission of digital data, including associated servers, cooling systems, backup power systems, substations, transmission facilities, and supporting infrastructure.

MORATORIUM IMPOSED

Effective immediately upon adoption of this Resolution:

The County shall not accept, process, approve, or issue:

Building permits;

Zoning permits;

Conditional use permits;

Special use permits;

Site plan approvals;

Subdivision approvals; or

Any other land use or development approvals related to the construction, establishment, expansion, or operation of any data center within the County.

No person or entity shall commence construction, grading, excavation, installation of infrastructure, or development activity associated with a data center during the term of this moratorium.

Individual applications may be submitted for consideration by the Adams County Board of Supervisors.

TERM OF MORATORIUM

This moratorium shall remain in effect for a period of 24 months from the date of adoption of this Resolution unless earlier repealed, modified, or extended by action of the County Board as permitted by law.

SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or provision of this Resolution is held invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption according to law.

Hardisty moved, seconded by Shipley to approve Resolution 2026-25 Moratorium for Data Centers.

Ayes: Shipley, Hardisty, Akin, Standley. Nays: none. Absent: Maynes. Motion carried. The original resolution is on file in the Auditor’s office.

Shipley moved, seconded by Hardisty to approve Liquor License LG0000600 Bobbers Down Marina LLC. All supervisors voted aye. Motion carried.

Shipley moved, seconded by Akin to approve Bible reading on the courthouse lawn on July 14 at 7:14 am. All supervisors voted aye. Motion carried.

Hardisty moved, seconded by Shipley to approve the Service Agreement with NYHART for GASB 75 services. All supervisors voted aye. Motion carried.

Akin moved, seconded by Shipley to approve one county burial request. All supervisors voted aye. Motion carried.

Department heads reports: Sheriff – Commended EMA Director Girard along with the deputies that responded to Thursday’s storm. The K9 truck sustained damage. Have been busy downstairs. Ordered tasers. Deputy Carlson completed rifle instructor school last week. Deputy Carlson thanked Sheriff Johannes for his leadership throughout storm. EMA – Thursday Adams County experienced high winds, heavy rainfall, hail, and tornado activity, resulting in damage to homes, outbuildings, trees, utility infrastructure, and agricultural property. Coordinated response efforts with local fire departments, law enforcement, public works, utility providers, and volunteer agencies to assess impacts and address immediate life safety concerns. Governor Kim Reynolds issued a disaster proclamation for 11 Iowa counties impacted by multiple rounds of severe weather beginning June 5 and continuing through the June 11 event including Adams County. The Iowa DOT is assisting with debris removal. Utility restoration efforts continue. GoServ Global will establish recovery efforts and provide free assistance to affected residents.

Committee and Meeting Reports: Shipley – Adams Community Foundation, June 10, Corning.

Shipley moved, seconded by Hardisty to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 AM. All supervisors voted aye. Motion carried.

ATTEST: Chris Standley, Chairperson, Adams County Board of Supervisors
Betsy Stormer, Adams County Auditor