

May 26, 2026

The Mahaska County Board of Supervisors met on the above date at 9:00 a.m. in the third-floor conference room of the Mahaska County Courthouse. Present were Chair, Mark Groenendyk, Vice Chair, Steve Wanders, Member Chuck Webb. Also present Madison Garden (Auditor), Russ Van Renterghem (Sherrif), Ben Johnston (Sheriff Deputy), John Bandstra, Alex Valster, Scott Vaughan

Groenendyk opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance.

It was moved by Webb seconded by Wanders to approve agenda. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

It was motioned by Wanders seconded by Webb to enter public hearing for the budget amendment and 9:05am. All present voted aye. Motion carried.

No comments were made during the public hearing.

It was motioned by Webb seconded by Wanders to enter open session.

It was motioned by Webb second by Wanders to accept the budget amendment as it is.

Roll Call:

Groenendyk- Aye

Wanders – Aye

Webb- Aye

Groenendyk said that at the previous SCRAA Board meeting, Shawn Metcalf mentioned the possibility of a lawsuit against Mahaska County following the dissolution of the SCRAA Board. No indication has been given that Pella plans to take legal action against the county. The board is still waiting to hear from Metcalf regarding whether legal action will move forward.

Public Comments: Webb stated he has been talking with various counties regarding data centers being constructed in Iowa. Webb has worked to gather information about the data centers in hopes to prevent the centers from being constructed in Mahaska County due to the excess amount of resources these centers use. Webb suggested implementing a moratorium for these data center in Mahaska County which allows the county time to research these data centers before any are being built. This would require them to provide an estimate of electricity and water planned to be used and a report provided to the county

every three months. Vaughan added his input to the discussion by suggesting the board reach out to Jefferson County who has been discussing this matter in detail already.

Bandstra stated to the board that the airport meeting was held on May 14th. He also stated that the data centers contaminate the area and resources around them.

It was motioned by Wanders seconded by Webb to adjourn the meeting at 9:21am. All present voted aye. Motion carried.