

MINUTES

Marshall County Board of Supervisors
Regular Meeting July 29, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.
Courthouse, First Floor Meeting Room
1 East Main Street, Marshalltown, Iowa

The Marshall County Board of Supervisors met for the regular meeting according to the posted notices in the Courthouse, First Floor Meeting Room 1 East Main Street, Marshalltown, Iowa, and online via ZOOM. Chair Heil called the meeting to order on July 29, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. Present: Chair Jarret Heil, Vice Chair Carol Hibbs, Member Christian Goodman. Goodman moved to approve the agenda second by Hibbs. Motion carried 3-0.

Emergency Management Awareness Month Proclamation.

Chair Heil read a proclamation designating August 2026 as Emergency Management Awareness Month in Marshall County, recognizing the critical role of Marshall County Emergency Management in preparing for, responding to, mitigating, and assisting in the recovery from emergencies and disasters. The proclamation acknowledged the department's leadership in strengthening community resilience, coordinating with public safety partners, and promoting public preparedness.

Emergency Management Coordinator Kim Elder thanked the Board for the proclamation and explained that the observance is intended to increase public awareness of the Emergency Management Department's role within the community. She noted that, unlike law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services, much of Emergency Management's work occurs behind the scenes through planning, coordination, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery efforts. Elder stated that the department's goal during the month is to educate residents about its responsibilities and encourage community participation in emergency preparedness.

Members of the Board thanked Elder and the Emergency Management team for their continued planning, preparedness, and behind-the-scenes work to help keep Marshall County safe.

Goodman moved to approve the Consent Agenda, second by Hibbs. Motion carried 3-0. Items:

1. Approve Previous Regular Session Minutes – July 15, 2026.
2. Approve Amendment to Regular Session Minutes – May 20, 2026.
3. Personnel Changes – New Hire: Todd Tuttle, Part-time Courthouse Security, to start on or after August 1, 2026, at \$30.00/hour.
4. Approve claims as audited and authorize the County Auditor and Recorder to issue payment of the same. The listing of claims paid at this meeting and all claims paid in the current month will be published as part of the first meeting of the following month.

End of Consent Agenda.

County and Courthouse RAGBRAI Discussion, no action.

Sheriff Joel Phillips provided a recap of RAGBRAI activities in Marshall County. He thanked the many volunteers throughout the county and Marshalltown for their efforts in supporting the event, which brought approximately 30,000 riders and an additional 15,000 support personnel into the community.

Sheriff Phillips reported that law enforcement responded to approximately 111 calls for service, the majority of which involved assisting residents with navigating road closures and traffic throughout Marshalltown and Marshall County. Approximately 20 medical calls were handled along the route, and eight bicycle mechanical issues were reported. Many of the mechanical issues involved non-registered riders who were assisted in reaching support vehicles or family members.

Sheriff Phillips stated that the event proceeded smoothly overall. Courthouse grounds were inspected the morning following the event and were found to be clean and restored to their pre-event condition. Phillips credited volunteers for maintaining the grounds and emptying trash receptacles throughout the event. While a small number of individuals required assistance accessing the courthouse for scheduled court proceedings, courthouse operations continued without significant issues. Shuttle services functioned well, and most traffic concerns were attributed to ongoing construction projects within Marshalltown, requiring additional direction for visitors unfamiliar with the area.

Buildings and Grounds Director Lucas Baedke shared that numerous participants had complimented Marshalltown and the courthouse grounds while traveling the route the following day.

Discussion Regarding Annual State Jail Inspection Report, no action.

Jail Administrator Patrick White presented the annual State Jail Inspection Report. He explained that although the inspection was conducted in April, the report had only recently been forwarded by the State Jail Inspector.

White noted that Iowa maintains comprehensive jail standards consisting of approximately 25 primary standards with numerous subcategories. He reported that the Marshall County Jail successfully met all applicable standards during the inspection. He commended jail staff for their continued professionalism and dedication in maintaining compliance with state standards, as well as successfully completing numerous additional inspections and audits throughout the year. In response to Board questions, White stated that the State Jail Inspector was impressed with the ongoing jail improvements and recognized the progress made in addressing previous booking and housing challenges.

The Board thanked White and jail staff for their continued efforts.

Approve Appointing the Marshall County Sheriff's Office and Marshalltown Police Department as Marshall County's Rabies Follow-up and Confinement Points of Contact.

Motion by Hibbs, second by Goodman to approve appointing Marshall County Sheriff's Office, Marshalltown Police Department, State Center Police Department, Marshall County Public Health, and Marshall County Communications non-emergency number as Marshall County's Rabies Follow-up and Confinement Points of Contact. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Health Director Sydney Grewell explained that the Marshall County Board of Health recently held a special meeting to update the county's designated rabies follow-up and confinement points of contact maintained by the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services and the State Veterinarian. She stated that the revisions would better reflect current operations within Marshall County by recognizing the agencies that routinely participate in rabies investigations and confinement procedures.

Grewell explained that, in addition to Marshall County Public Health, the updated list would include the Marshall County Sheriff's Office, Marshalltown Police Department, State Center Police Department, and the Marshalltown Communications Center non-emergency number to provide the public with multiple contact options. She further noted that the contact list is reviewed annually by the State Veterinarian and may be updated as personnel or contact information changes.

During discussion, the motion was amended to include the State Center Police Department, Marshall County Public Health, and the Marshall County Communications non-emergency number.

Approve 3-Year Open Space Certification Letter to Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) and Authorize Chair to Sign.

Motion by Goodman, second by Hibbs to approve 3-Year Open Space Certification Letter to Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) and Authorize Chair to Sign. Motion carried 3-0.

Auditor/Recorder Nan Benson presented the required three-year Open Space Certification Letter related to a FEMA disaster project originating from the 2013 disaster declaration. Benson explained that although the certification was for the 2024 reporting period, processing delays required Board approval at this time. She confirmed that the property had been verified as remaining in compliance with FEMA's open space requirements.

Set Date and Time for a Public Hearing on the Proposed Vacation of a Portion of Brown Avenue.

Motion by Hibbs, second by Goodman to approve setting a public hearing for August 12, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., in the First Floor Meeting Room of the Marshall County Courthouse, 1 East Main Street, Marshalltown, Iowa, regarding the proposed vacation of a portion of Brown Avenue and authorize the Marshall County Auditor/Recorder to publish notice of the hearing. Motion carried 3-0.

The Board briefly discussed the statutory notification requirements for the proposed vacation of a portion of Brown Avenue, including certified mailings to adjoining property owners and publication of the public hearing notice.

Approve Zoning Ordinance No. 2026-VAR-6037 and Authorize the Chair to Sign.

Motion by Goodman, second by Hibbs to approve Zoning Ordinance No. 2026-VAR-6037 and Authorize Chair to Sign. Motion carried 3-0.

Zoning Director Tyler Kelley presented a variance request approved by the Marshall County Board of Adjustment. Kelley explained that the applicants intended to divide approximately 22.85 acres from a larger tract located along 270th Street east of the Union Pacific Railroad for sale to the adjoining landowner to the south, while the remaining property would be sold separately at auction.

Kelley stated that because Marshall County zoning regulations require a minimum parcel size of 25 acres for permitted uses within the A-1 Agricultural District, the applicants were required to obtain a variance. A survey plat was reviewed to illustrate the proposed division and access arrangements.

Public Forum.

Auditor/Recorder Nan Benson informed the Board that a special election for the West Marshall Community School District Physical Plant and Equipment Levy (PPEL) would be held on September 8, 2026. She reported that polling locations would remain at State Center, Melbourne, and Clemons to maintain consistency for voters despite the election occurring the day after Labor Day.

Zach Hamilton, 2250 Shady Oaks Road, addressed the Board regarding the City of Marshalltown's future industrial land use plans and the potential development of data centers near his neighborhood. He expressed concern that nearby county residents could experience diminished property values and impacts to their quality of life if industrial development proceeds without protections for existing homeowners. Hamilton submitted written materials for the Board's consideration outlining potential impacts and suggested policy options intended to protect residents affected by future development.

Maggie Valentine, 2345 Whispering Oaks Road, also addressed the Board regarding potential data center development. She asked whether the Board had begun researching the issue, whether discussions were occurring with the City of Marshalltown, and whether the County was considering adopting a temporary moratorium similar to the City's while additional information is gathered.

Members of the Board responded that they have been actively researching data center development through resources provided by the National Association of Counties, the Iowa State Association of Counties, and other educational materials. Supervisors stated they are gathering information regarding both the potential benefits and challenges associated with data centers and emphasized the importance of making informed decisions that protect county resources and residents while maintaining consistency, where appropriate, with actions taken by the City of Marshalltown.

Planning and Zoning Director Tyler Kelley informed those present that the Marshall County Zoning Commission is expected to consider data center-related issues, including the possibility of a temporary moratorium, during a meeting anticipated for later in August. He explained that the Commission's role is to review zoning matters and provide recommendations to the Board of Supervisors while staff continues gathering information from other jurisdictions.

Emily Herring, Marshall County Conservation Director, joined the meeting remotely to thank Conservation staff for their efforts during RAGBRAI. She reported that staff worked extended hours assisting with campground operations, cleanup, and event logistics, noting that cleanup efforts were minimal and participants left the grounds in excellent condition. The Board thanked the Conservation Department for its contributions to the successful event.

Adjournment. The next regular session is Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 9:00 a.m., at the Courthouse, 1st floor meeting room, 1 E Main Street. All business to be acted upon at that session should be submitted to the County Auditor and Recorder's Office or the Board of Supervisors' Office by Wednesday, August 5, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting is adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Jarret P Heil

Jarret P Heil (Aug 4, 2026 16:15:09 CDT)

Jarret Heil

Board of Supervisors, Chair

Attest: *Nan Benson*

Nan Benson

Marshall County Auditor/Recorder

260729 Reg Minutes

Final Audit Report

2026-08-04

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