

PUBLIC HEARING

7:00 p.m. September 3, 2025

Cardinal Elementary Safe Room at 4045 Ashland Rd, Eldon, IA.

DATE: 9-3-2025

TIME: 7:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Darren Batterson, Chair; Bryan Ziegler, Vice Chair; Carrie Teninty, Supervisor; Chad Drury, Ottumwa Courier; Miranda Bailey, Planning & Zoning; Karen Wilcoxson, GA; Tyler Batterson; Paula Carter, Shelley White; Nick Snyder; Nathan Yeager; Brad Yeager; Wendall Dimmitt; Larry Sample; Brian Fullenkamp; Chloe Thomas; Jeffrey Hamann; Ted Haas; Dianne Haas; Sandra Ziegler; Sigrid; David Helgerson; John Helgerson; Dennis Whitlow; Rob Welch; Brian Bennett; Randy Knaak; Jim Rudd; Vicki Rudd; Andy Noe; Carson Smith; Jerry Brownlee; Carson Smith; Curtis Fiedler; Holly Fiedler; Kevin Holzouser; Matt Eberl; Jared Hershberger; Corey Eberling, APEX; Betty Moore; Todd Moore; Elaine Heisdorffer; Shawn Adam; Ken Sobaski

Chair Batterson opened the meeting. Supervisor Teninty moved, seconded by Vice Chair Ziegler, to move to start the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Vice Chair Ziegler moved, seconded by Supervisor Teninty to approve the agenda for the Renewable Energy Ordinance. All ayes. Motion carried.

Supervisor Teninty moved, seconded by Vice Chair Ziegler, to open the Public Hearing. All ayes. Motion carried.

The Renewable Energy Ordinance Meeting discussed the development and implementation of a renewable energy ordinance for Wapello County. Sarah Runkle and Jenna Gilliam from MSA Professional Services presented the project timeline, which began in February and included extensive research on state and federal regulations. The ordinance aims to protect landowner rights and ensure safe implementation of renewable energy projects. Key components include setbacks for wind, solar, and battery storage, interim use permits, and decommissioning standards. The ordinance was reviewed by the Zoning Commission and received positive feedback. Economic benefits, such as tax revenue and job creation, were highlighted, with a proposed 200-megawatt wind farm estimated to generate \$3 million annually for the county.

Public questions and answers were allowed. A lot of public feedback on the ordinance. Requesting clarification on setback requirements for non-participating landowners and how they are measured (property line vs. dwelling). Concerns on details for emergency response training and equipment that will be provided by the wind energy company for the local volunteers. What are the options for recycling or repurpose wind turbine blades at the end of their lifespan. Does the wind energy company's insurance coverage and liability policies adequately protect landowners in the event of any accidents or damage caused by the wind farm. Investigate the feasibility of implementing a "quiet mode" for the wind turbines to reduce noise levels. How is power distributed and used locally? How will electricity prices be determined both regionally and locally. Discussion of the decibel level limits set. Concerns about damage to drainage tiles during construction and the responsibility for repairs. Would you be using local contractors for repairs. Who is responsible in the case of a natural disaster

and does the company have insurance for such an accident. A reminder there are two more Public Hearings September 17, 2025 and September 23, 2025.

8:18 p.m. Supervisor Teninty moved, seconded by Vice Chair Ziegler to close the Public Hearing. All ayes. Motion carried.

8:19 p.m. Vice Chair Ziegler moved, seconded by Supervisor Teninty to adjourn. All ayes. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Kelly Spurgeon
Wapello County Auditor

Darren Batterson, Chair
Board of Supervisor

Submitted:ksw