

MINUTES OF JANUARY 12, 2026

Chairman Gary Thomack called the monthly board meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Board members: Chairman Gary Thomack, Supervisor Ken Genskow, Supervisor Sean Shumaker, Treasurer Tammy Adams and Clerk Karen Habeck.

Public included: Arlyn Tober, Lynn Tober-Steinke, Cindy Graper, Joe Loesl, Troy & Carla Thebo, Bill Korth, Allen Heling, Eldon Heling, Dean & Deanna Guetschow, Greg Reeck, Vernon Kratzke, Roger Baerenwald, Dohn Laude, Roy and Max Kleisch.

The Clerk read the agenda that had been posted in three public places, put on the website and published in the Marion Advertiser. The minutes were read from the December 8th, 2025, Board meeting. **As an addition to the December minutes, a resident of Center Street requested that it be stated that the fence that was put up on their property by the next-door neighbor needs to be removed as soon as weather permits.** Motion was made by Genskow/Shumaker to **approve the minutes with the addition.** Motion carried by voice vote with three in favor, zero against.

Public Input: County Supervisor Lynn Tober-Steinke reported about the County Board contention concerning one of the county supervisors.....the Co. Board took a vote to remove the member from the County Board.....the measure did not pass. The supervisor will continue his position until the end of his term in April, he will not be seeking re-election. Lynn had attended a meeting about the wind farm that had been proposed for the County farm property....it is an ongoing discussion.

There will not be a Spring Primary election on February 17th for our area. There are five municipalities in the County that do have an election for school board positions, we are not included. ***The next scheduled election is the Spring Election on April 7th, 2026.*** We have received the ICE machine that replaces the use of the touch screen ICX that was previously used. All voters will be marking their choices on a “special” paper ballot, upon completion, the voter puts their ballot in the ICE which tabulates their choices.....when the machine is closed down at the end of an election at 8PM, the totals will be printed out on a paper roll for the election workers to review. The totals are then called into the county clerk, school districts, etc.

In March of 2025, the Pella Park committee asked the town board to help with the cost of a study to assess improvements that could be done in the Park. The study would be done by ECWPC. At that time, a motion was made and passed by the Board to give \$4000 towards the \$6500 cost of the study, the Park committee would provide the additional \$2500. At the December 2025 meeting of the committee, they voted to not

*participate in the study at this time. **And now they are asking the Town Board to give the \$4000 that was approved for the study to the committee to use to replace the wooden structure in the playground area of the Park with a new structure; built with the guidance of local carpenters. Motion was made by Shumaker/Thomack to rescind the motion that was approved at the March meeting. Motion carried** by voice vote with three in favor, zero against. The Board will review and make a decision about the \$4000 at their February board meeting.*

After the December board meeting, the Clerk had emailed several questions to the town attorney concerning the contract between the Town of Pella and Roy Kleisch for the hydroelectric operation on the mill pond. A response was not received until a couple of hours prior to this board meeting. The information received was given to the board and is tabled for consideration at the next meeting.

Zoning: There were no building permits issued for the last month.....The shipping container has been loaded on a flat bed trailer at the County D address, it will be monitored as to it being moved off the property.....**A resident who resides on Glacier Trail inquired of the Clerk if hogs and chickens were allowed at their location. Glacier Trail is zoned residential. After review by the board, motion was made by Shumaker/Genskow to NOT allow hogs at that location. Motion carried** by voice vote with three in favor, zero against. **Motion was then made by Shumaker/Genskow to approve their having chickens at that location. Motion carried** with three in favor, zero against.

Roads: The Chairman and Supervisors will be meeting with the Town of Grant at their February Board meeting for opening bids for the Swamp Road reconstruction. **Motion was made by Thomack/Shumaker to NOT have Delmore Consulting do a semi-annual inspection of the culverts in the township. Motion carried** by voice vote with three in favor, zero against.

The damages incurred at Animal Control's residence while keeping a dog overnight have been paid in full to them by the Angle Road dog owner.....**Motion was made by Thomack/Genskow to approve the December financial report and pay the January bills. Motion carried** by voice vote with three in favor, zero against.

With no further business, motion was made by Genskow/Thomack to adjourn the meeting. **The next meeting will be Monday, February 9, 2026, 7:00PM in the Pella Town Hall.**