

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
February 5, 2024

The Board of Supervisors of Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, met in regular session pursuant to adjournment. Present: Chairperson Lori Meacham Ginapp, Vice Chairperson Chris Watts, Supervisor Casey Callanan, and various members of the public.

Chairperson Meacham Ginapp convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Callanan moved with Watts seconding, to approve today's agenda tabling item 21 – Exit Conference for FY2023 Audit, and meeting minutes for January 29, 2023 special session and January 29, 2024 regular session. Motion passed unanimously.

Public comment session was held.

Callanan moved with Watts seconding, to approve claims. Motion passed unanimously.

Watts moved with Callanan seconding, to approve the payroll register for period ending 01/27/2024. Motion passed unanimously.

Watts moved with Callanan seconding, to adopt Resolution 2024-17, The Board of Supervisors of Cerro Gordo County acting for and on behalf of the drainage districts below FINDS:

1. There are insufficient funds in the drainage district accounts to pay for necessary repairs and maintenance and to provide for a sinking fund to pay future maintenance and repair costs in accordance with §468.61.
2. The drainage districts have incurred or shortly will incur costs for repair and maintenance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

1. Assessments in the following amounts shall be and are assessed against each individual tract of land and highway within the following Drainage Districts and Laterals in accordance with the classification schedules on file in the drainage district records in the office of the County Auditor. In accordance with §468.57, if the owner of any land against which a levy exceeding \$500.00 is made shall within thirty (30) days from the effective date of this Resolution agree in writing that in consideration of having a right to pay his assessment in ten (10) equal installments, he will not make any objection to the legality of his assessment or the levy of taxes against his property, such owner shall have the right to pay the assessment in ten (10) equal installments. Interest shall accrue on the unpaid assessment at the rate of 6% per annum as provided by law.
 

Drainage District 6	\$1,000
Drainage District 51	\$9,000
Drainage District 74	\$2,500
2. The effective date of these assessments is the 5<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024.

Motion passed unanimously.

Callanan moved with Watts seconding, to authorize the Chair to sign GIS Agreement with HRS, LLC. Motion passed unanimously.

Watts moved with Callanan seconding, to certify 2023 Regular City and School Election costs. Motion passed unanimously.

Callanan moved with Watts seconding, to authorize the Chair to sign Certificate of Cost Allocation Plan. Motion passed unanimously.

Watts moved with Callanan seconding, to authorize the Chair to sign Service Agreement with Daymark Solutions retroactive to January 30, 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

Callanan moved with Watts seconding, to authorize the IT Director to sign the Rubrik Backup Quote from Carrier Access for \$79,098.10. Motion passed unanimously.

Callanan moved with Watts seconding, to adopt Resolution 2024-18, WHEREAS, Cerro Gordo County is the recipient of grant funding from the Department of

Health and Urban Development (HUD) and the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Health Homes (OLHCHH), and WHEREAS, said funding was awarded under Assistance Award Instrument #IALHB0792-23, and WHEREAS, the awarded funds will be used to remove lead hazards and create healthier home environments for residents of Cerro Gordo County, and WHEREAS, the funding requires environmental research, publication of notice, and certification, and WHEREAS, the program requires that an individual be appointed to serve as the Certifying Official for the environmental process, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Lori Meacham Ginapp, as Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors, is hereby appointed to be the Certifying Officer for the environmental process for Grant Assistance Award number IALHB0792-23 and this designation and duties affiliated thereto shall further pass to subsequent chairs of the Board of Supervisors, and THEREFORE, the Certifying Officer is hereby authorized to assume the status of Federal Official under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and each provision of law designated in the 24 CFR 58.5 list of NEPA-related authorities insofar as the provisions of the laws apply to the HUD responsibility for environmental review, decision-making and action that have been assumed by the County of Cerro Gordo and its Department of Public Health, and THEREFORE, the Certifying Officer is hereby authorized on behalf of the County of Cerro Gordo to accept the jurisdiction of the federal courts for the enforcement of all of these responsibilities, and THEREFORE, the Certifying Officer is hereby authorized to appoint members of the North Iowa Area Council of Governments (NIACOG) staff to approve and submit Section 106 historic clearance reviews to the State Historic Preservation Office on behalf of Cerro Gordo County as part of the environmental process and to designate individuals within the Department of Public Health to approve Tier II OLHCHH environmental reviews (a.k.a. Appendix A (of Tier I RER)). Motion passed unanimously.

Callanan moved with Watts seconding, to adopt Resolution 2024-19, WHEREAS, the residents of Cerro Gordo County have great respect, admiration, and the utmost gratitude for all the men and women who have selflessly served our country and this community in the Armed Forces; and WHEREAS, the contributions and sacrifices of those who served in the Armed Forces have been vital in maintaining the freedoms and way of life enjoyed by our citizens; and WHEREAS, Cerro Gordo County seeks to honor individuals who have made countless sacrifices for freedom by placing themselves in harm's way for the good of all; and WHEREAS, veterans continue to serve our community in the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, religious groups, civil service, and by functioning as County Veterans Service Officers in 29 states to help fellow former service members access more than \$52 billion in federal health, disability and compensation benefits each year; and WHEREAS, approximately 200,000 service members transition to civilian communities annually; and WHEREAS, an estimated 20 percent increase of service members will transition to civilian life in the near future; and WHEREAS, studies indicate that 44-72 percent of service members experience high levels of stress during transition from military to civilian life; and WHEREAS, active military service members transitioning from military service are at a high risk for suicide during their first year after military service; and WHEREAS, the National Association of Counties encourages all counties, parishes and boroughs to recognize Operation Green Light for Veterans; and WHEREAS, the Cerro Gordo County Board of Supervisors appreciates the sacrifices of our United States military personnel and believes specific recognition should be granted; and THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, with designation as a Green Light for Veterans, Cerro Gordo County hereby declares from October through Veterans Day, November 11, 2024 a time to salute and honor the service and sacrifices of our men and women in uniform transitioning from active service, and NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in observance of Operation Green Light, Cerro Gordo County encourages its citizens in patriotic tradition to recognize the importance of honoring all those who made immeasurable sacrifices to preserve freedom by displaying green lights in a window of their place of business or residence from November 6<sup>th</sup> through November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

Watts moved with Callanan seconding, to adopt Resolution 2024-20, WHEREAS, Interstate Power and Light Company (dba Alliant Energy) has asked the Iowa Utilities Board to approve a two-year phased-in rate

increase that the company estimates will increase the electric bills of residential customers by 13.4%, small businesses by 20%, and large general service customers by 17.4%-20%,<sup>1</sup> and WHEREAS, this is Alliant Energy's sixth electric rate increase since 2004 and, if approved as proposed, will be the largest in the company's history, and WHEREAS, alliant energy posted \$1.72 billion in gross profits in 2022,<sup>2</sup> increased its annual common stock dividend by 6%,<sup>3</sup> and paid its Chief Executive Officer \$7,283,270 in total compensation in 2022,<sup>4</sup> and WHEREAS, according to utility data furnished to the Iowa Utilities Board,<sup>5</sup> Alliant's average annual cost per kWh for residential customers in 2022 was once again almost the highest in the state, and WHEREAS, Alliant's average annual bundled cost per kWh in 2022 for the three major ratepayer classes was significantly higher than the other investor-owned electric utility in Iowa (MidAmerican Energy Company), and

Ratepayer Class	Alliant Energy 2022 Cost Cents/kWh	MidAmerican 2022 Cost Cents/kWh	Alliant Percentage Higher
Residential	17.75	11.01	61.3%
Commercial	13.25	8.90	48.9%
Industrial	8.36	6.35	31.6%

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Energy Information Agency (EIA), in 2022 MidAmerican Energy Company had the lowest residential costs per kWh and Alliant had the third highest residential costs among similarly-sized investor-owned utilities in the Midwest,<sup>6</sup> and WHEREAS, Alliant's high rates are causing serious hardship for low and moderate-income households, fixed-income households, small businesses, industries, nonprofit institutions, educational institutions, and our municipal government, and WHEREAS, Alliant's high and rising rates are creating a serious hindrance to economic development in Cerro Gordo County and for all communities in Alliant's service territory, and WHEREAS, Alliant's proposed \$284 million additional revenue requirement<sup>7</sup> will drain, on average, another \$565 from each one of Alliant's 502,937 electric customers,<sup>8</sup> and WHEREAS, a 15% - 20% increase to Cerro Gordo County's current electricity purchases will result in an increased expenses that could otherwise be spent on vital public services. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED...

The Cerro Gordo County Board of Supervisors:

1. Opposes the magnitude of Alliant Energy's proposed electric rate increase and urges the Iowa Utilities Board to:
  - a. Address Alliant's high, rising, and unreasonable costs that are imposing serious hardship for low and moderate-income households, fixed-income households, small businesses, industries, nonprofit institutions, educational institutions, and our own municipal government.
  - b. Maintain and improve the ability of customers and communities to save and prosper through investments in customer- and community-owned distributed energy resources, such as energy efficiency, solar power, geothermal energy, and battery storage.
  - c. Require rate-regulated utilities to conduct integrated resource planning and competitive procurement to ensure all utility investments are justified and cost-effective.
  - d. Cease approving unnecessarily high returns on equity that reward shareholders at the expense of Alliant ratepayers.
2. Authorizes the filing of this resolution as an official comment in Docket RPU-2023-0002 within ten days and to send copies of this resolution to our State Representative and State Senator to inform the Legislature's current study of ratemaking in Iowa.
3. Encourages all citizens and ratepayers in our community to voice their perspectives and concerns to the Iowa Utilities Board by submitting comments and objections by email to customer@iub.iowa.gov or by mail at Iowa Utilities Board, 1375 E Court Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50319-0069. All communication should reference Docket RPU-2023-0002 in the subject line of the email or letter. Motion passed unanimously.

Callanan moved with Watts seconding, to change the meeting date for Monday, February 19, 2024 to Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 8:30 a.m. and the start time meeting time for the February 26, 2024 meeting from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

County Engineer Billings provided and update.

Watts moved with Callanan seconding, to authorize the Chair to sign Stockpile Agreements with Barkema Land Company and Alan D. Pike. Motion passed unanimously.

Watts moved with Callanan seconding, to approve manure management plans for Mike Kuhlmeier- East Site (site #62117), Tom Weaver Gestation & Farrowing (site #59511), Yale Sow/Litter (site #63425), Christensen Farms- F114 (site #65040), and Capstone Finisher #3 (site #62046). Motion passed unanimously.

Callanan moved with Watts seconding, to adjourn at 10:18 a.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Various tabulations, reports, correspondence and other documents that were presented at today's meeting are placed on file with the supplemental minutes.

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Chairperson Lori Meacham Ginapp  
Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

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Adam V. Wedmore, Auditor  
Cerro Gordo County