

April 16, 2026

The Benton County Board of Supervisors met in regular session with Supervisors Seeman, Volz and Tippett present. Chairman Seeman called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. at the Benton County Service Center. Members of the public are invited to join in during open session or watch the livestream at <https://www.youtube.com/bentoncountyiowa>. *Full Resolutions will be available in the Auditor's office and at: www.bentoncountya.gov*

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To approve the agenda. Tippett, Volz and Seeman voting aye. Motion carried.

Tippett moved/Volz seconded: To approve the minutes for April 14, 2026. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Tippett moved/Volz seconded: To approve Resolution #26-26, Amending Resolution #22-25, Changing wording in the donated leave section 4.4 of the Benton County Handbook and go into effect April 18, 2026. Tippett, Volz and Seeman voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #26-26

AMENDING RESOLUTION #22-25

WHEREAS, the County adopted a policy on March 29, 2022 for donating leave to employees in need; and located in section 4.4 of the Benton County Handbook:

WHEREAS, the proposed Policies and Procedures Regarding Donated Leave are attached hereto as Exhibit A (the "Donated Leave 4.4");

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of the Benton County, Iowa, as follows:

Section 1. The Disclosure Policies and Procedures attached hereto as Exhibit A are hereby adopted and shall be dated as of the date hereof.

Section 2. All resolutions or parts of handbook referring to the old language in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Passed and approved April 16, 2026.

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

Ronald J. Tippett

Bruce Volz

ATTEST:

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor

****SEE REVISIONS IN SECTION 4.4 OF THE BENTON COUNTY HANDBOOK****

Volz moved/Tippett seconded: To approve Resolution #26-27, Adopting a Return to Work Policy effective April 18, 2026 and also adding the verbiage to explain employee health insurance responsibility where applicable. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #26-27

ADOPTING BENTON COUNTY RETURN TO WORK POLICY

WHEREAS, Benton county currently does not have a return to work policy specifically prescribing the process for returning to work when an employee is injured;

WHEREAS, A return to work policy will include specific steps for employees to return to work and provide the possibility of transitional work thus allowing them to return sooner;

Whereas, the implementation of this policy will provide guidance to department heads to ensure the fastest and safest return to work for its employees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Benton County Board of Supervisors hereby adopts the Benton County Return To Work Policy.

Signed this 14th day of April, 2026

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

Ronald J. Tippett

Bruce Volz

ATTEST:

Hayley Rippel, Benton County Auditor

**** SEE BENTON COUNTY RETURN TO WORK POLICY****

Benton County Attorney Ray Lough, along with assistant attorney Derek Marsh wanted to address the Board regarding previous discussion regarding the Alliant Energy's proposed gas power plant project located just outside of the county's jurisdiction in Linn County. Lough provided an overview of that regulatory process, explaining that the authority lies with the Iowa Utilities Commission, not the county. The County has limited legal avenues to pursue. The law in regards to projects as such have to show the convenience and necessity of public standards. As a result, it was emphasized that meaningful influence or any formal challenges or opposition must be directed through that platform and those individuals can raise concerns or disputes through the Utilities Commission proceedings.

Board members and attendees also expressed concerns regarding the shared roads and infrastructure, particularly the potential impact due to increased construction traffic. Currently there is a 28E agreement in place regarding the Benton/Linn Road and how it reads now the county is responsible for the area lying south of HWY 30 and Linn County handles the north side. Other concerns in addition to the road maintenance included EMS responsibility, watershed, safety and the financial burden these responsibilities can cause. Everyone can agree they don't want it, but limited what they can do to intervene. As far as what is next? At this point, no applications or permits have been applied for, therefore we have to wait. In the meantime, Alliant doesn't have to give out any information or study

results until that application process happens, and if so there is a 20-day window to try and intervene. It was pointed out that private landowners and City of Atkins have stronger reasons to challenge the application and are encouraged to do so.

Tippett moved/Volz seconded: To adjourn meeting at 11:46 a.m. Tippett, Seeman and Volz voting aye. Motion carried.

Tracy Seeman, Chairman

ATTEST: _____

Hayley Rippel Benton County Auditor