

ALL PUBLIC NOTICES CAN BE FOUND AT IOWAPUBLICNOTICES.COM

Cedar county claim

1/29/2026
General Basic Fund
38.00-Advanced Business Systems-copies
26.70-Albaugh PHC Inc-sloan
42.53-Alliant Energy-elec
619.21-Amazon Capital Services-monitor
15250.00-Anderson, Larkin & Co, PC-audit 6/30/25
248.31-AT&T Mobility-phone
41.50-Caitlin Boyle-mil
2385.00-Cedar County Health Fund Empl-retiree health
307.00-Central Iowa Distributing-cleaner
25739.73-Consolidated Management Co-meals
135.63-Control Solutions, Inc.-calibration
100.00-County Conservation Dir Assoc-dues
930.00-Mike Dauber-mnthly svc
141.15-Galls Inc-pants
700.00-Beth Gray-well plug
822.01-H & H Auto-oil chg
62.50-Hale Printing-decals
157.30-Patricia Hamann-mil
85.00-Heartland Shredding Inc-shred
341.46-Hermesen Automotive LLC-diagnostic
500.00-Iowa Association of County-dues
75.00-Iowa Law Enforcement Academy-training
115.23-Thiesen's-cord
2144.00-Johnson Co. Medical Examiner-ME
880.00-Klay Johnson-equip
897.30-Mail Services, LLC-postage
122.47-McCloud Services-spray
216.89-ODP Business Solutions, LLC-calendar
741.90-Office Express-paper
100.00-Ovesen Refuse & Recycling LLC-dumpster
91.00-Polk County Sheriff-svc
800.00-Joshua Pruitt, MD-case fee
1400.00-Dan Schott-well plug
30.00-Secretary of State Notary-notary NC
138.00-Solutions, Inc Harris Local-Duo
186.50-State Hygienic Laboratory-sampling
44630.00-Stivers-2026 Interceptor
1807.00-Sunset Law Enforcement-ammo
4480.00-Total Maintenance, Inc-integration
319.96-Town & Country Tires, Inc-tires
75.63-Trimple Inc-funeral
75.63-Vestis-mats/mops
745.51-VISA/Bankers Bank-training
6.00-Stefanie Wagaman-parking
215.49-Wending Quarries Inc-rock
52.43-Warren Wethington-fuel
General Supplemental Fund
301.98-Cedar County Sheriff Trust-Transport
3854.80-S.I.A.D.S.A. Lee/Lucas-Other
206.00-Thomson Reuters-West Payment-info chrg
Rural Services Basic Fund
81.51-Laurie Brandenburg-mil
79.20-Joel Brown-mil
47.41-Crist Electrical Serv-mil
17.05-Lisa Dircks-mil
38.72-H & H Auto-oil chg
176.99-Loren Hartelt-mil
2399.83-On Target Ammunition-ammo
17.60-Randy Pedersen-mil
47.30-Todd Pruess-mil
1759.80-Sunset Law Enforcement-ammo
36.30-Leslie Timmerman-mil
8.80-Laura Twing-mil
159.72-Jody Yutesler-mil
EMS-Essential Srv(Ambulance)
1000.00-DRSE, LLC-EMS Contract
1217.77-Zoll Medical Corporation-hose
Secondary Road Fund
564.85-Altorf Inc-Parts
3681.85-Cedar County COOP-Gasoline
80.00-Central Iowa Distributing-Sundry
2471.42-Certified Power-Parts
510.00-CJ Cooper & Assoc-Safety testing
117.97-Clarence Telephone Company-Phone
683.93-Cove Equipment-Parts
149.21-Custom Hose & Supplies-Parts
3453.05-Finkbinder Equipment Co-Parts
24.00-H & H Auto-Tires
50.00-Ia Dept of Transportation-Equipment
14851.84-Iowa Bridge & Culvert-L-202303--73-16,LFM-
175.00-Iowa Dep of Natural Resources-Permit fee C016(118)
160.80-Thiesen's-Brush
78.19-Genuine Parts Company Inc-Servicing
93.00-Niles Chiropractic, Inc-Safety
107.88-Phelps the Uniform Specialists-Sundry
848.84-SJ Smith Co.-Welding supplies
17.70-Tipton Electric Motors, Inc-Sundry
300.00-Werling Abstract Company, Inc-DGA-C016(122)-XT-16
4086.00-Winslow Contracting LLC-BUILDING
Transfer Station Fund
820.73-A Tech Inc-camera
941.03-Cintas Corporation-uniforms
55.00-CJ Cooper & Assoc-drug test
273.38-Genuine Parts Company Inc NAPA-additive
395.00-Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc-oil disposal
Local Govt Opioid Abatement
6000.00-Greater America Distributing-vending
2788.68-Zoll Medical Corporation World-AED
Cedar Co Health Fund
13499.85-CEDAR COUNTY TREASURER ACH - funded med
7851.02-Delta Dental Plan of Iowa Paym-fee dental
152054.27-Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue-feb health
PH/NS Memorial Trust Fund
129.87-Amazon Capital Services-clippers Reserve Officer Fund
112.90-Uniform Den Inc-uniform
Jnt Disaster Serv.Fund
9310.25-JEO Consulting Group, Inc-mitigation
Recorder'S Records Mgt.
1123.93-Iowa Land Records-maint
E911
305.81-Dubuque County 911-elec
35.04-CenturyLink Lumen-data Assessor
252.72-Access Systems-copies
80.00-Advocate News-subscrip

1000.00-ISAA-dues
352082.46--Grand Total
WBT 7

Cedar county board

TIPTON, IOWA
February 3, 2026
Cedar County Board of Supervisors met in regular session at 8:30 a.m. February 3, 2026 with following members present: Bixler, Barnhart, Gaul, Kaufmann, and Chairperson Bell. Minutes reported by Deputy Auditor Hamdorf. Members of public were also present.
Board viewed correspondence from various agencies.
It noted following Handwritten Disbursement issued on 1/30/2026 to Cedar County Treasurer for Benefits, Inc. for an electronic deposit: #444866 for \$8,662.28-self funded medical claims. Brad Gaul presented a certificate of service for 15 years.
Moved by Barnhart seconded by Gaul to approve agenda.
Ayes: All
Chairperson Bell addressed public for comments, there were none.
Moved by Gaul seconded by Barnhart to approve Board Minutes of January 28, 2026.
Ayes: All
Abstain: Bell, Bixler
Moved by Barnhart seconded by Kaufmann to approve Claim Disbursements #444767 - #444865 paid on 1/29/2026.
Ayes: All
Board reported on Outreach/Committee Meetings they attended.
At 9:00 a.m. Board held their monthly department head meeting. Discussion held.
Ryan Smith, Schneider Geospatial met with Board to discuss Geopermitting. Smith provided a presentation to Board members and Department Heads. Geopermitting has many different uses for different offices. A quote provided for 6 different permits including flex hours for \$6,750/year plus a one-time setup cost. Discussion held. Consensus of Board to decide after next week's meeting when discussing Environmental & Zoning staff. Board and some Department Heads discussed FY26/27 budget shortfall. Many different options were discussed, and Department Heads were advised to make cuts to budgets with any new expenses or programs not needed and submit any other changes to Board you think could help save money by next weeks meeting for further discussion.
Moved by Kaufmann seconded by Bixler to adjourn at 11:23 a.m., to February 10, 2026.
Ayes: All
Jon Bell, Chairperson
Nicki Welch, Auditor
WBT 7

West Branch city council

(The following is a synopsis of the minutes of the West Branch City Council meeting. A video recording is available for inspection at westbranchiowa.org. The minutes are not approved until the next regularly scheduled City Council meeting.)
West Branch, Iowa; City Council; February 9, 2026
Council Chambers; Work Session; 5:30 p.m.
Mayor Laughlin called the West Branch City Council work session to order at 5:30 p.m.
Roll call: Council members present; Colton Miller, Mike Horihan, Jerry Sexton, Chantry Noel and Tom Dean. City Staff present: City Administrator Adam Kofoed, City Clerk Alycia Friis, Finance Officer Heidi Van Auken, Public Works Director Matt Goodale, and Library Director Jessie Shaffer.
Discussion/Move to Action – FY27 BUDGET WORK SESSION – KOF0ED SHARED A TRIAL BUDGET SUMMARY WITH ASSUMPTIONS AND HIGHLIGHTS, WITH THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL. SOLID WASTE WILL RUN THE SAME THIS YEAR WITH REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES, WITH A 3% INCREASE EACH YEAR FOLLOWING. THERE WAS A REVIEW OF HOW FUND ACCOUNTING WORKS FOR THE COUNCIL AND MAYOR, ALONG WITH SOME GUIDES ON "WHERE DO MY TAXES GO?" AND "HOW ARE MY TAXES SPENT?" GRAPHS AND INFORMATION. WEST BRANCH RELIES MORE ON PROPERTY TAX AND INTER FUNDS TRANSFERS FOR OUR BUDGET WITH OUR RATE OF GROWTH AND SIZE. THE QUESTION OF "WHERE DOES ALL OF MY MONEY GO THAT IS PAID TO THE CITY?", WAS ANSWERED WITH PROPERTY TAX, WATER SEWER, PERMITS, AND SOLID WASTE BEING THE BIG TICKET ITEMS. IN BREAKING DOWN THE 9 OF THE AREAS OF THE OVERALL BUDGET THAT ARE THEN BROKEN INTO MULTIPLE LINE ACCOUNTS, HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CHANGES OR IF THINGS WOULD REMAIN THE SAME. TORT LIABILITY – INSURANCE IS GOING UP AND WE WILL BE ASKING 16% MORE ON THE OVERALL LEVY TO COVER THIS INFLATION. FICA AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS – THERE IS AN 11% DEDUCTION IN FICA AND 100% DECREASE IN GROUP INSURANCE TO EXPEND SOME OF OUR EXTRA FUNDS FOR THIS AREA. OVERALL THIS WILL PROVIDE A DECREASE TO OUR RESIDENTS PROPERTY TAX BILL. THIS WILL PROVIDE AN APPROXIMATE \$47.00 DECREASE FOR EVERY \$110,000.00 THAT A PROPERTY IS ASSESSED AT WITH THESE DEDUCTIONS. LOST – PRIOR TO 01/01/2025, WE COULD ONLY USE LOST FUNDS FOR PARKS AND RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS. THAT WAS THEN EXPANDED TO PARKS AND REC, PUBLIC SAFETY AND INFRASTRUC-

TURE. DISCUSSION ON HOW TO UTILIZE THESE FUNDS WAS WITH ONE OF THE MAIN TOPICS BEING TO TAKE THE OVER \$400K THAT IS EARMARKED FOR PARKS AND REC, AND UTILIZE THESE FUNDS TO PAY DOWN OUR SRF LOAN THAT WAS USED TO BUILD CUBBY PARK. FURTHER DISCUSSION WILL TAKE PLACE ON THE BREAKDOWN OF THE USE OF THE FUNDS. DEBT SERVICES – THE \$316,000 FROM THIS FUND AND \$567,000 FROM OTHER FUNDS SUCH AS SEWER, LOST, WATER, ETC., ARE USED TO PAY OUR BOND PAYMENTS SEMI-ANNUALLY. CAPITOL IMPROVEMENT – THESE FUNDS ARE COLLECTED TO HOLD A RESERVE FOR THE CITY FOR FURTHER IMPROVEMENT DOWN THE ROAD. TIF – DOWN THIS YEAR DUE TO A DEVELOPER BEING DONE WITH TIF. FUNDS ARE BEING TRANSFERRED TO OTHER AREAS SUCH AS FOR OUR NEW FIRE CHIEF, BOND PAYMENTS, ETC. ROAD USE TAX – EXPENSES ARE UP 3% WITH ADDITION TO THE SALT BUDGET, NUISANCE MAINTENANCE, AND VEHICLE SET ASIDE. PUBLIC WORKS IS WORKING WITH THE SALT AND SAND MIXTURE AND MAKING THEIR OWN MIXTURE WITH SOME PRETREATED SALT AS WELL TO REDUCE THE OVERALL ANNUAL COST. WATER – SIMILAR TO PREVIOUS BUDGET AMOUNT. THERE WILL BE A FEW MINOR PLANT REPAIRS, \$138,000 TRANSFER TO THE BOND, NEW METERS PURCHASED DUE TO OUR GROWTH AND TO REPLACE OLDER LESS EFFICIENT METERS. WE WILL MAINTAIN THE TOWER MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AS IT IS GOING REALLY WELL. \$75,000 WILL GO TO UTILITIES AND TO REPLACE OLDER LESS EFFICIENT METERS. THE TEAM IS LOOKING AT A USED OPTION THAT THEY CAN WORK WITH TO MAKE IT IDEAL FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS TEAM TO USE FOR THIS MAINTENANCE. THERE ARE SOME INCREASES IN LIABILITY INSURANCE WITH OUR EQUIPMENT AND THERE WILL BE SOME VEHICLE REPLACEMENT FUNDS SET ASIDE AS WELL. STORMWATER – WE WILL BE UTILIZING \$100,000 OF THIS FUND TO PAY THE OVERAGE OF THE WAPSIE CREEK WIDENING PROJECT. WAGES FOR THE CITY EMPLOYEES WILL BE IN THE RANGE OF 4% THIS YEAR WITH A 1% MERIT AND 3% COST OF LIVING. ADJOURNMENT
MOTION TO ADJOURN BY MILLER, SECOND BY NOEL. MOTION CARRIED ON A VOICE VOTE. CITY COUNCIL MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:05 P.M.
ROGER LAUGHLIN, MAYOR
ATTEST:
ALYCIA FRIIS, CITY CLERK
WBT 7

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ROGER LAUGHLIN, MAYOR
ATTEST:
ALYCIA FRIIS, CITY CLERK
WBT 7

West Branch school bills

West Branch Community School District BILLS FOR APPROVAL
02/05/2026 10:34 AM
Vendor Name-Detail Description-Amount
Checking Account ID 1
Fund Number 10
GENERAL FUND
AGVANTAGE FS-GAS-4,054.08
AHLERS AND COONEY-SERVICE-344.00
ALLIANT UTILITIES-UTILITIES-20,607.51
ASCENDANCE TRUCKS EASTERN IOWA, LLC-REPAIRS-242.55
AT&T MOBILITY-SERVICE-167.08
AUTO-JET MUFFLER CORP-PARTS-2,368.53
BMO-SUPPLIES-2,189.35
CHAMBERLAIN, MICHELLE-REFUND-36.90
CITY OF WEST BRANCH-UTILITIES-3,583.83
CLARINDA COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT-OPEN ENROLLMENT-8,535.26
CLEAR CREEK AMANA SCHOOLS-OPEN ENROLLMENT-12,802.88
COVENANT WORKPLACE SOLUTIONS, LLC-EAP SERVICES-491.25
D&R PEST CONTROL-SERVICE-630.00
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION-INSPECTION-750.00
DICK BLICK ART MATERIALS-SUPPLIES-79.95
DUGGAN ARRANGEMENTS LLC-ARRANGEMENTS-2,000.00
FARMER, RUTH-TRAVEL-36.26
FRED'S FEED AND SUPPLY-SUPPLIES-141.38
GAZETTE COMMUNICATIONS, THE-SERVICE-65.00
GOOD GUYS AUTOCARE-REPAIRS-954.71
GRAINGER-SUPPLIES-516.65
GRANT WOOD AEA-CURRICULUM SHARING-44,311.41
GRAY BARN INDUSTRIES-SUPPLIES-32.60

GREDELL, JOAN-SUPPLIES-36.43
GREENWOOD CLEANING SYSTEMS-SUPPLIES-4,709.34
HAWKEYE WASTE-WASTE SERVICES-1,544.00
HEARTLAND SHREDDING INC-SHREDDING-140.00
JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL-SUPPLIES-136.64
JOHNSON, TREVOR-SUPPLIES-25.00
KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE-KCC PSEO-14,614.00
LENOCH & CILEK HARDWARE-SUPPLIES-8.28
LIBERTY COMMUNICATIONS-PHONE/INTERNET-2,545.05
LOPEZ, SANTOS-REFUND-17.00
LOWE'S-SUPPLIES-301.09
LYNCH'S PLUMBING-SERVICE-236.00
MACKIN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES-BOOKS-1,189.05
MARCO TECHNOLOGIES LLC-SUPPLIES-104.86
MARTIN BROTHERS-SUPPLIES-135.00
MATHESON TRIGAS-SUPPLIES-180.70
MENARD'S-SUPPLIES-642.98
MID-PRAIRIE CSD-OPEN ENROLLMENT-38,305.90
PHELPS-SERVICE-45.99
PITSCO EDUCATION LLC-SUPPLIES-252.75
PRESIDENTIAL BUILDERS, LLC-SERVICE-90.00
QUILL CORPORATION-SUPPLIES-1,699.20
ROBERTSON, RANDY-SUPPLIES-72.08
SPECIALTY UNDERWRITERS-REPAIRS-445.39
TIPTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS-SHARING AGREEMENT-27,813.21
UNIVERSITY OF IOWA-EXPL ENTREPRENEURSHIP-150.00
WEST BRANCH TIMES-ADVERTISING/THE BEAR-329.00
WEST LIBERTY CSD-CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT-78,412.86
WEST MUSIC COMPANY-SUPPLIES-133.83
WESTPHELING, KRISTEN-CONFERENCE-350.00
WILLIAM MACGILL AND CO-SUPPLIES-118.05
Fund Number 10
279,724.86
Checking Account ID 1
Fund Number 22
MANAGEMENT FUND
FULWIDER AGENCY INC-WORKERS COMP-34,051.00
SPECIALTY UNDERWRITERS-EQUIP BREAK INS-1,741.50
Fund Number 22
35,792.50
Checking Account ID 1
Fund Number 33
CAPITAL PROJECTS
PEAK CONSTRUCTION GROUP, INC-PAY APP 7--147,494.08
RM BOGGS-SERVICE-4,682.27
Fund Number 33
152,176.35
Checking Account ID 1
Fund Number 36
PHYSICAL PLANT & EQUIPMENT
BMO-DONOVAN GROUP-1,750.00
FOLLETT SCHOOL SOLUTIONS, LLC-SERVICE RENEWAL-3,522.24
LIBERTY COMMUNICATIONS-PHONE/INTERNET-2,758.00
LIBERTY DOORS INC-REPAIRS-1,568.00
LYNCH'S PLUMBING-SERVICE-3,125.20
PRESIDENTIAL BUILDERS, LLC-

SERVICE-8,300.00
TC NETWORKS, INC.-SERVICE-2,131.20
Fund Number 36
23,154.64
Checking Account ID 1
Fund Number 40
DEBT SERVICES FUND
UMB BANK, N.A.-ADMIN FEE-1,000.00
Fund Number 40
1,000.00
Checking Account ID 1
491,848.35
Checking Account ID 2
Fund Number 61
SCHOOL NUTRITION FUND
ANDERSON ERICKSON DAIRY CO-SUPPLIES-3,476.98
EMS DETERGENT SERVICES-SUPPLIES-246.85
GADE, ANDREA-REIMBURSEMENT LUNCH-97.46
MARTIN BROTHERS-SUPPLIES-12,739.91
STAR FOODSERVICE EQUIPMENT-REPAIRS-1,329.80
Fund Number 61
17,891.00
Checking Account ID 2
17,891.00
Checking Account ID 3
Fund Number 21
STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND
ANAMOSA HIGH SCHOOL-SNJ REFUND-275.00
ANDERSON ERICKSON DAIRY CO-SUPPLIES-156.16
BANKERS ADVERTISING COMPANY-SUPPLIES-893.14
BMO-SNJ COSTUMES-6,757.98
BRICKTOWN BAKERY-FFA FUNDRAISER-2,644.00
BRIGGS, RICHARD-OFFICIAL-280.00
CENTRAL LEE CSD-COMPETITION-250.00
DAVENPORT NORTH HIGH SCHOOL-WRESTLING ENTRY FEE-100.00
DYRLAND, DANIEL-OFFICIAL-140.00
ELITE SPORTS-SUPPLIES-539.00
FLANEGAN, JAMIE-REIMB FOR HS INST MUSIC-450.00
GILLIAM, JOSH-OFFICIAL-200.00
GRIFFITHS, FRED-OFFICIAL-140.00
HANSEN, SCOTT-OFFICIAL-115.00
HEIDELBAUER, CHRIS-OFFICIAL-140.00
HIGHLAND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS-B WRESTLING ENTRY FEE-110.00
HY-VEE FOOD STORE #1285-SUPPLIES-385.70
JASPERS, JOHN-OFFICIAL-140.00
KRUSE, BRADLEY-OFFICIAL-200.00
KUNIC, RICHARD-OFFICIAL-430.00
L A R S O N TAY L O R -REGISTRATION-264.44
LEBAHN, LANE-OFFICIAL-460.00
LLOYD, KEVIN-OFFICIAL-140.00
LOWE'S-SUPPLIES-135.90
MARTIN BROTHERS-SUPPLIES-239.16
MCMURRAY, SHEA-OFFICIAL-104.00
MILLER, JASON-OFFICIAL-900.00
MILLER, TED-OFFICIAL-1,100.00
MILLS, THOMAS-OFFICIAL-140.00
MILTON, ALEX-OFFICIAL-140.00
MINNTEX CITRUS-FFA FRUIT-14,456.30
MONTICELLO SPORTS-SUPPLIES-1,440.00
MORROW, JOHNATHAN-OFFICIAL-140.00
MUSIC IN MOTION-SEE LEGALS, P7

POPE CREEK SHOWS
Gun & Knife Show
February 27 - March 1, 2026
Mississippi Valley Fairgrounds • 2815 Locust St. Davenport
Friday 5PM-9PM | Saturday 9AM-5PM | Sunday 9AM-3PM
BUY - SELL - TRADE
ADMISSION \$10.00
FOOD AND DRINK AVAILABLE
FOR VENDOR INFORMATION
Visit our website at PcsHOWS.net or call 309-582-6268 or 309-737-8736

FARMLAND FOR SALE
CEDAR CO. – 80.00 Acres located south of Mechanicsville. 77.00 crop acres with a **SALES PENDING!** \$11,250/acre.
CLINTON CO. – **NEW LISTING!** 229.60 Acres located a mile SW of Lost Nation. 228.31 crop acres with a 60.90 CSR2. An efficient and productive farm! \$11,500/acre.
JOHNSON CO. – 39.50 Acres, just N of Iowa City, along Hwy 1. Includes a house, outbuildings, and historic barn. 21.41 crop acres w/66.80 CSR2. \$29,500/acre.
MUSCATINE CO. – **PRICE REDUCED!** 80.15 Acres located 6 miles NE of Muscatine, off US-61. Well-maintained pasture ideal for cow/calf or cattle operation. \$7,500 \$7,200/acre.
SCOTT CO. – 55.18 Acres in Davenport along I-280. 45.09 crop acres with an 80.20 CSR2. \$19,500/acre.

DEVELOPMENT LAND
CEDAR CO. – 5.44 Acres in city limits on hard-surfaced roads, SE side of Lowden. A timbered lot near access to utilities with existing garage. \$239,000.00
JOHNSON CO. – 115.21 Acres, just north of Iowa City on Hwy 1. 86.80 Crop acres with 59.10 CSR2. Zoned for residential development. \$29,500/acre.

RESIDENTIAL LOT FOR SALE
CEDAR CO. – A 1.49-acre lot located 3 miles south of West Branch, close to the Village of Downey.
71 330th St., West Branch \$119,500.00
Hertz Real Estate Services
All Acres are 'More or Less' unless noted
www.Hertz-ag
Also Offering Professional Farm Management & Appraisal

NOW HIRING
2ND SHIFT NURSES

- Provide direct nursing care
- Administer medications & treatments
- Monitor resident conditions
- Accurate documentation
- Team-based care environment

Apply Today at:
www.cedarmanor.org
or in person at 1200 Mulberry St, Tipton, Iowa

- Health, Dental & Vision Insurance
- PTO (Paid Time Off)
- Competitive Wages
- Supportive Work Environment
- Growth & Advancement Opportunities

Now Hiring Certified Nurse Aides

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Strengthening Iowa's Voice: Cancer

The Iowa Newspaper Association poses questions to the Republican and Democratic parties in a feature, Strengthening Iowa's Voice

Republican | Cancer in Iowa: Turning data into action and hope

By Kara Warme
Iowa State Senator

Cancer touches nearly every family in Iowa. More than one in twenty Iowans has received a cancer diagnosis, and our state has one of the highest rates of new cancer cases in the nation.

Those numbers are not abstractions. They are neighbors, coworkers, parents, and children. As chair of the Iowa Senate Health and Human Services Committee, I believe we owe Iowans not only honesty about these facts, but a clear plan to act on them.

Last year, the Iowa Legislature took an important first step by passing legislation directing a comprehensive study into what is driving cancer in our state.

Working with Iowa Health and Human Services and the University of Iowa College of Public Health, this effort recognizes a simple truth: can-

cer is not caused by one thing.

It is a puzzle made up of behavioral factors like smoking and alcohol use, environmental exposures such as radon and arsenic, and genetic risks that vary across communities.

Initial results released this week dive into the four cancers that drive Iowa's above-average rates: prostate, lung, breast, and melanoma (skin). The mapping exercise also included colorectal cancer due to its prevalence.

In four of those five cancers, we see relatively good news that Iowa's higher rates come in early stage — and therefore more treatable — cancer diagnoses, and cancer deaths are not higher than the rest of the country.

The one outlier is lung cancer, where Iowa is highest in the most advanced stage of cancer, and mor-



Kara Warme

ality tragically exceeds national levels, with 25% of cancer deaths in Iowa attributed to lung cancer.

This work is about turning facts into solutions and Iowa has secured a major opportunity to accelerate progress.

Through the federal Rural Health Transformation Grant authorized by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, our state has been awarded \$209 million to support the Healthy Hometown initiative.

This investment will strengthen rural health systems, expand access to care, and directly support cancer screening, prevention, and treatment — particularly in the areas where the data shows the need is greatest.

Healthy Hometowns is not a theoretical plan. Combating cancer starts

with screening, and our new strategy removes the barriers to these tests.

Whether it is providing radon mitigation to fight lung cancer, funding MRIs for breast cancer follow-ups, or utilizing telehealth for skin cancer checks, Iowa is streamlining the path from detection to treatment. These federal dollars give us momentum, and it is our responsibility to use them well.

That brings me to the work ahead in the legislature this year.

Our first priority is to codify key elements of the Healthy Hometowns grant into state policy, so Iowa remains eligible for continued federal funding in future years.

Just as important, we must ensure there are no unnecessary delays in getting these resources into action.

Iowans cannot afford to wait while dollars sit on paper instead of reaching clinics, providers, and patients.

As we continue to assess results from the cancer study, we will also consider additional policy options.

Those will include reviewing regulations around tanning bed use for minors, examining tobacco taxes and cessation efforts, encouraging access to healthier foods, and other measures tied directly to the data.

Not every idea will be right, and not every solution will be legislative. But we are committed to following the facts where they lead.

Equally important is how we communicate about cancer.

Iowa has some of the nation's highest rates in known cancer risk factors such as binge drinking, obesity, and eating less than one serving of vegetables a day.

But information alone does not change behavior. Trust does.

As we move forward, we must ask not only what we say, but who is best posi-

tioned to say it.

Often, the most effective messengers are close to home: local public health professionals, medical providers, teachers, employers, faith leaders, and even respected voices in local businesses or community life.

Our goal in Iowa must be to increase hope and access, not anxiety.

We can respect personal freedom while still providing clear, credible information that empowers people to make decisions for themselves and their families.

Words matter. Tone matters. And compassion matters.

Cancer is a complex challenge, but it is not an unsolvable one. In the legislature, we often talk about making Iowa the best state to live, work and raise a family.

With strong data, strategic investment, thoughtful policy, and trusted community partnerships, Iowa can bend the curve.

Democratic | An all-Iowa problem, requiring all-Iowa solutions

By Janice Weiner
Iowa Senate Democratic Leader

Recently, my colleague, Senator Catelin Drey, rose on the Senate floor to announce she had been diagnosed with uterine cancer.

Catelin is an otherwise healthy woman in her 30s. Her predecessor, Senator Rocky De Witt, passed away in 2025 after a lengthy fight against pancreatic cancer. He was just 66.

What makes cancer unique among the many issues, obstacles, and crises Iowans face on any given day is its impartiality.

Cancer isn't restricted by any socioeconomic or demographic factors. It doesn't care about your education, your bank account, or your zip code.

It's not bothered by your age, who you voted for, or what you do for work.

Cancer is a menace that touches us all in one way or another. By now, we all know the stats — second highest rate in the country, only growing rate.

It's an all-Iowa problem that requires an all-Iowa solution. And it will get even worse if we fail, right now, to meet this moment.

Channel every person you know whom cancer has impacted as you consider how best to tackle this crisis that has been building for decades.

We can focus on three separate, but essential, areas: prevention, treat-



Janice Weiner

ment, and research.

To help prevent cancer, we must address risk factors. The Legislature can take some concrete steps to lower exposure risk going forward.

We can better regulate the use of tanning beds in Iowa. UnityPoint Health reports that using tanning beds before age 35 increases your risk of developing malignant melanoma by 75%.

There is a bill up for consideration in the Senate that would require parental approval for anyone under the age of 18 to use a tanning bed.

We can work to disincentivize vaping and tobacco use, especially by

young people, to combat rising lung cancer rates.

We can do much more with radon detection and mitigation around the state.

When it comes to treatment, we couldn't find ourselves at a better moment in history.

Scientific advances make patient care more manageable every year. Hospitals like UIHC employ some of the best and brightest medical minds in the world.

But in order to reach every corner of the state, from urban to rural, we need a renewed focus on bringing in and retaining new waves of skilled nurses, doctors, and medical professionals who see our state as a worthwhile destination to practice.

We must invest in an Iowa that values educa-

tion; an Iowa in which medical students, residents, and practitioners alike want to build a future for themselves and their families. We have to make childcare more accessible, housing more affordable, and lower costs to make it easier to build a comfortable life in Iowa.

Finally, we must invest in cancer research here at home. We can't continue to rely solely on fickle and fluctuating federal NIH grants.

We have to build our own research funding pipeline. The Holden Cancer Center is the gold standard for scientific research in Iowa, and its work benefits the whole state. Last year, \$1 million was allocated to cancer research funding. While our researchers in Iowa City put the money to

good use, it was a drop in the bucket.

This step is precarious and will require patience. The state budget is a mess and digging ourselves out of the hole won't happen overnight. But I think Iowans would take cancer research funding over a corporate tax giveaway any day.

None of this will be easy. Nothing cancer-related ever is. But we can't continue down this path while Iowans of every stripe suffer needlessly.

Let's make "the wave" at every Hawkeye football game mean something concrete for our future: by taking action now, future generations can look back with pride that Iowans rose as one to wave goodbye to cancer for good.

Colleges

From Page 3

things:

• State funding — The bill increases the 84E Apprenticeship Act funding from \$3 million to \$4.5 million.

These dollars fund annual tuition assistance to existing Registered Apprentice programs across the state.

The bill also creates the Career Training Physical Expansion Program.

This provides the funding for a new facility at community colleges with

both union and non-union private sector programs. If you choose this career path the state is going to be your partner

• Local Flexibility: Empowering the experts. We are giving the schools and programs the flexibility they need to move at the speed of business.

The bill removes red tape for teachers by allowing veteran tradespeople with 3,000 hours of experience to lead classroom on trades topics.

It empowers the community colleges to set the financial aid parameters for the Last-Dollar

Scholar program to ensure they can adapt to the specific needs of their local high-demand industries.

The bill also encourages pre-apprenticeship programs in K-12 schools to show students a clear path to success before they get their first job.

Finally, the bill codifies the 3:1 ratio for plumbing and HVAC to match the electrical trade. I am looking forward to sharing more details of this bill with you as the process unfolds.

This another example of common-sense bipartisan work in the House.

You will never hear the extreme partisan critics discuss these examples when our state government reacts to the needs of Iowans and all groups ... business, labor, education, and our Legislature ... they all have a seat at the table.

Listening Post Schedule for Feb. 21: 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Scott County Forum at the Regional Innovation Center in Eldridge.

You may contact Rep. Kaufmann at Bobby.Kaufmann@legis.iowa.gov, 563-260-3355 or 1527 330th St. Wilton, IA, 52778

LEGALS

From Page 6

COMPETITION-250.00
NORTH SCOTT ATHLETICS-G
WRESTLING ENTRY FEE-120.00
PECK, ACE-OFFICIAL-115.00
PICTURES AND MORE
PHOTOGRAPHY-BANNERS-425.00
REICHTER, TRAVIS-OFFICIAL-810.00
RIPLEY, RICHARD-OFFICIAL-140.00
RITCHIE, PHIL-OFFICIAL-226.00
ROBERTSON, RANDY-MILEAGE-121.80
SEAGREN, SCOTT-OFFICIAL-115.00
SHANNON WRESTLING AND TIMING
LLC-SERVICE-987.75
SHUBERT, TJ-OFFICIAL-140.00
SKAY, LEXI-WRESTLING PH-250.00
SKILLS USA INC-CHAPTER DUES-
135.00
SKILLS USA IOWA-CONTEST FEES-
135.00
SOLO COMMUNITY SCHOOLS-G
WRESTLING ENTRY FEE-100.00
SWENSEN, TANNER-OFFICIAL-140.00
TIPTON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS-
WRESTLING ENTRY FEE-125.00
TSB PROMOTIONS-SUPPLIES-35.00
VANEK, GABRIELLE-LIGHTING-400.00
WEST BRANCH TIMES-PRINT-900.00
WISE, STEVE-OFFICIAL-140.00
YANECEK, DOUG-OFFICIAL-140.00
Fund Number 21
39,837.33
Checking Account ID 3
Fund Number 91
CUSTODIAL FUND-STUDENT
ASSISTANCE
BMO-STUDENT ASSIST-175.59
CARILLO, LINDA-BACKPACK
SUPPLIES-208.22
FAIT, KATHY-BACKPACK
SUPPLIES-419.54
JOHANNSEN, BETH-BACKPACK
SUPPLIES-283.18
RUSHTON, AMANDA-BACKPACK
SUPPLIES-146.41
Fund Number 91
1,232.94

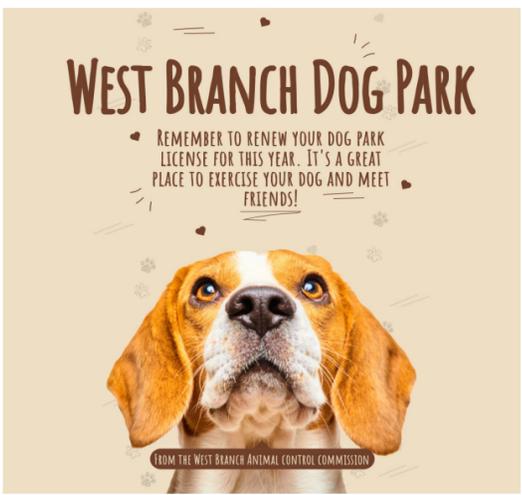
Checking Account ID 3
Fund Number 92
CUSTODIAL FUND
CHAMBERLAIN, MICHELLE-
REFUND-30.00
FIRST, DESIREE-REFUND-30.00
LOPEZ, SANTOS-REFUND-30.00
Fund Number 92
9,097.06
Checking Account ID 3
41,160.27
Checking Account ID 4
Fund Number 62
ELC
ALLIANT UTILITIES-UTILITIES-669.64
BMO-SUPPLIES-1,427.92
CARTER, JOANNA-SUPPLIES-218.48
CINTAS CORP-SERVICE-434.84
CITY OF WEST BRANCH-
UTILITIES-762.56
CULLIGAN WATER TECHNOLOGIES-
SUPPLIES-303.20
GREENWOOD CLEANING SYSTEMS-
SUPPLIES-174.69
JOHNSON CO REFUSE-
SERVICE-293.77
LIBERTY COMMUNICATIONS-
PHONE-728.09
PERFORMANCE FOODSERVICE-
SUPPLIES-3,838.80
PLUNKETTS-SERVICE-85.07
ROCK TECHNOLOGY-SERVICE-160.00
Fund Number 62
9,097.06
Checking Account ID 4
9,097.06
WBT 7

Mr. Keith Schultes, Board Member
Non-Voting Members
Dr. Marty Jimmerson, Superintendent
Mrs. Sara Oswald, High School Principal
Mr. Brian Walthart, Middle School
Principal
Mr. Dave Hlas, Elementary School
Principal
Mrs. Angie Klinskammer, School
Business Official/Board Secretary
Gregory Norfleet
1. Call to Order/Public Forum
Board President Whaley called the meet-
ing to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. Vision, Mission &
Destination Statements
Board Vice President Shultz read the
statements.
3. Approval of Agenda
Motion to approve the agenda, changing
Wyatt Fiderlein's letter of assignment step
from 5 to 1, removing John Walsh from
the resignations and adding Alec Murley
to the elementary volunteers.
Motion made by: Mr. Keith Schultes
Motion seconded by: Ms. Lindsay Shultz
Voting: Unanimously Approved
4. Honors, Commendations
and Success Stories
Several success stories were shared.
5. Consent Items
Motion to approve the consent items
consisting of January Board minutes,
financial reports and monthly bills.
Motion made by: Mr. Keith Schultes
Motion seconded by: Ms. Lindsay Shultz
Voting: Unanimously Approved
6. Robotics Competition
Motion to approve the out of state robot-
ics trip.
Motion made by: Ms. Lindsay Shultz
Motion seconded by: Mr. Keith Schultes
Voting: Unanimously Approved
7. Administrative Reports
The Administrators shared their respec-
tive reports. Dr. Jimmerson updated
the board on the HVAC project at the
elementary and the lights at the softball
and baseball fields. Dr. Jimmerson also
shared his concerns with the start of the

legislative session, the proposed supple-
mental state aid and possible changes
that would impact the PPEL and SAVE
funds.
8. Personnel Items
A. Letters of Assignment
Motion to approve the letters of assign-
ment for Vanessa Cassabaum, High
School Custodian, Shane Eversoll, High
School Custodian, Carolyn Conway,
Middle School Custodian, Wyatt Fiderlein,
Middle School Boys Track Coach.
At the Early Learning Center, Ryley
Tidrick and Deyanira Martinez.
Motion made by: Mr. Keith Schultes
Motion seconded by: Ms. Lindsay Shultz
Voting: Unanimously Approved
B. Resignations
Motion to approve the resignation(s) for
Connie Smith, Middle School Associate
and Jonathon Bryant, Middle School
Custodian.
Motion made by: Ms. Lindsay Shultz
Motion seconded by: Mr. Keith Schultes
Voting: Unanimously Approved
9. Volunteer Approval
Motion to approve the volunteers for the
Elementary, Alec Murley and at the High
School, Courtney Heid.
Motion made by: Ms. Lindsay Shultz
Motion seconded by: Mr. Keith Schultes
Voting: Unanimously Approved
10. Board Policy Review
Motion to approve the first and final
readings of Policies (no changes): 804.04,
805.01, 805.02, 805.02R1, 805.03,
806.01, 807.05, 807.05R1, 807.06, 900,
901.01, 901.02, 901.03, 901.04, 901.05,
901.06, 901.08 and 901.09.
Motion made by: Mr. Keith Schultes
Motion seconded by: Ms. Lindsay Shultz
Voting: Unanimously Approved
11. Board Policy Updates
Motion to approve the first reading of the
policies: 208.13 and 407.04.
Motion made by: Mr. Keith Schultes
Motion seconded by: Ms. Lindsay Shultz
Voting: Unanimously Approved
12. Operational Sharing
Agreement for SBO

Motion to approve Operational Sharing
Agreement with Lone Tree for SBO for
the 2025-2026 school year.
Motion made by: Mr. Keith Schultes
Motion seconded by: Ms. Lindsay Shultz
Voting: Unanimously Approved
13. Adjournment
Motion to adjourn at 5:58 p.m.
Motion made by: Mr. Keith Schultes
Motion seconded by: Ms. Lindsay Shultz
Voting: Unanimously Approved
Chairperson
Secretary
WBT 7

Legal Notice
PUBLIC NOTICE
The West Branch Community School
District will hold a public hearing for the
proposed 2026-2027 school calendar.
The hearing will be March 9, 2026, at
5:30 p.m. at the beginning of the March
Board of Education meeting. A copy of
the proposed 2026-2027 school calendar
may be viewed on the District's website.
WBT 7-8



One Person's
- why did I buy this thing? -
Is Another Person's
- just what I was looking for! -
Turn Your Un-needed
Items Into Someone
Else's Treasure!
Call Us To List Your
Ad In The Paper!
Tipton Office: 563-886-2131