

August 10, 2026

Board members present for regular session at 9:00 a.m. were: Baier, Hoadley, Christoffersen, Walker.

Also present: Ruthie Smith, Caleb Nelson, and Nick Kauffman. Matt Wedemeyer and Jennifer Nichols – Atlantic News Telegraph joined via conference call.

All motions were approved unanimously unless noted otherwise.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Moved by Baier and seconded by Hoadley to approve the agenda as posted. Approved.

MINUTES: Moved by Christoffersen and seconded by Hoadley to approve the minutes from August 5, 2026. Approved.

TOWNSHIP CLERK WAGES: Moved by Hoadley and seconded by Baier to approve the township clerk wages for Jeannette Jorgensen at Eureka for \$40, and David Barrett at Grove for \$40. Approved. Melissa Larson entered at 9:03 a.m.

LOST REVENUE DISCUSSION & DECISION: Discussion continued regarding placing a LOST measure on the November ballot and obtaining legal guidance on the proposed ballot language. Supervisor Walker stated he wanted additional legal counsel, and Supervisor Christoffersen agreed that further legal advice would be beneficial. Supervisor Hoadley stated the county has a draft of the proposed language but needs an attorney to review it and make sure it meets all requirements before the deadline. Supervisor Hoadley explained the proposed change would allow LOST funds to help bring the General Fund balance up to the desired level, with remaining funds going to Secondary Roads. She stated the funds could be used for unexpected or unplanned county expenses and for Secondary Roads equipment repairs and to replace equipment, including projects that do not qualify for TIF or other outside funding. She stated the county would not simply spend the money unnecessarily and that any funds not needed would remain available for Secondary Roads. Supervisor Walker asked when the funds would be returned to Engineer Kauffman for Secondary Roads use. Supervisor Hoadley stated the county would determine the amount needed during the budgeting process and anything remaining would be available to Secondary Roads. She also stated the funds would provide additional flexibility for future repairs and equipment needs. Supervisor Wedemeyer stated he felt the Board was rushing the decision because it did not yet have all of the legal details and wanted to make sure the Board understood exactly what it was voting on. Supervisor Baier also stated he wanted the legal language reviewed before the resolution was finalized. Supervisor Christoffersen asked whether the LOST funds would remain in a separate account or be transferred to the General Fund. Engineer Kauffman explained that the LOST funds are currently tracked separately and are not deposited directly into the Secondary Roads fund. He stated this allows him to work with the Board to change project priorities within the available funding, but there are DOT requirements and limitations on changing projects once they are included in the five-year program. Discussion was held regarding keeping funds in the existing LOST account so they could remain available for bridge projects while also potentially creating a separate account for equipment. Engineer Kauffman stated that if the funds are designated for bridges, they would need to be used for bridges, while equipment funding could potentially be handled separately. He stated he would prefer the funds to remain separately accounted for if legally allowed. Supervisor Hoadley stated the ballot language would need to be very specific regarding how the funds could be used. She suggested language allowing the county to use the funds to address General Fund needs and then use remaining funds for Secondary Roads bridges, culverts, repairs, and equipment that do not qualify for TIF funding. She also discussed adding a two- or three-year sunset provision so the Board could review the change and determine whether it should continue or return to the original purpose. Supervisor Walker stated the language should specify that funds remain in the LOST account and do not automatically transfer into the Secondary Roads fund. Supervisor Baier discussed determining an appropriate maximum amount that could be retained based on the county's fund balance needs. Discussion also included what would happen if the measure failed or if a sunset provision expired. It was noted that if the measure does not pass, the LOST funds would remain under the current structure. If a sunset provision were included, the Board would need to revisit the issue rather than automatically continuing the change. Moved by Baier and seconded by Hoadley to move forward putting the LOST measure on the November 2026 ballot. Roll Call Vote: Walker, nay; Wedemeyer, nay; Christoffersen, aye; Baier, aye; Hoadley, aye. Approved.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Christoffersen and seconded by Baier to adjourn at 9:31 a.m. Approved.

ADAIR COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS: _____ Jerry Walker, Chair

ATTEST: _____ Ruthie Smith, Auditor