

Auditor's Office  
Jefferson, Iowa  
March 16, 2026

The Greene County Board of Supervisors met at 8:30 a.m. in the boardroom of the Greene County Courthouse. The following members were present: Bardole, Benitz, Gannon, Muir. Absent: Rudolph. Motion by Benitz, second by Muir to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Muir, second by Gannon to approve the minutes of March 9, 2026.

County Attorney Thomas Laehn reported that Assistant County Attorney Kaitlyn Willms' last day will be April 30, 2026. Laehn explained that his office was overstaffed and the circumstances in his office no longer justified a second full-time assistant county attorney. Laehn also stated that there will be a 1<sup>st</sup> degree murder trial in Greene County beginning April 8, 2026.

County Engineer Wade Weiss reported that road crews were out this morning removing snow drifts that had accumulated from Sunday's winter weather. He also reported on the ISAC Conference he attended last week.

Except for Supervisor Muir all other Supervisors reported attending the Assessor's Conference Board Budget Hearing last Wednesday, March 11, 2026.

County Treasurer Katlynn Mechaselsen updated on the board on the Jail Construction Pay timeline. Mechaelsen reviewed potential interest that would be received and expenses through October 2026.

Motion by Benitz, second by Gannon to approve the Change in Representation for HR services from Hopkins & Huebner P.C. to Hinders, Updegraff, and Franklin P.L.C. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Gannon, seconded by Muir to approve Resolution 2026-027 Approving the hiring of Reed Wunschel as a full-time Jailer for the Greene County Sheriff's Office.

**RESOLUTION 2026-027**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Greene County Board of Supervisors approves the hiring of Reed Wunschel as a full-time Jailer for the Greene County Sheriff's Office. Wunschel's yearly salary will be \$48,000. Effective date of employment is March 30, 2026.

Roll Call Vote was taken. Aye: Bardole, Benitz, Gannon, Muir. Resolution unanimously approved.

Informal approval for overnight stay was approved for County Attorney Thomas Laehn and Assistant County Attorney Laura Snider to attend the Spring Training Conference in Arnolds Park, Iowa.

At 9:00 a.m. motion by Gannon, seconded by Benitz to adjourn to a drainage meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

At 9:15 a.m. motion by Gannon, second by Bardole to return to their regular meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Benjamin Smith, County Attorney for Sac and Calhoun County, presented an Intergovernmental 28E Agreement Pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 28E for the Establishment of a Multicounty County Attorney Office in and for Calhoun County, Greene County, and Sac County, Iowa. Smith explained that in conversations with individual members of our board and Assistant County Attorney Laura Snider the establishment of a coordinated multicounty county attorney office serving the Counties is in the best interests of the citizens of those counties and is necessary to ensure the stable, experienced and effective prosecution of criminal offenses and performance of the statutory duties of the County Attorney. In the agreement Smith also discussed the challenges that rural counties are facing, including especially a documented shortage of prosecutors and licensed attorneys generally, as reflected in reports from the Iowa State Bar Association, the County Attorney's Association, and the Iowa Judicial Branch. The Counties are located within a region of Iowa that is experiencing significant attorney scarcity, often described as rural legal deserts. Compensation for one part-time County Attorney position and two full-time Assistant County Attorney positions would be shared between the three counties. Total combined annual compensation for the Multicounty Office would be \$588,000. Part-time County Attorney would receive \$248,000. Full-time Assistant County Attorney's would receive \$170,000 each. One Assistant County Attorney would be housed in Greene County and the other would be housed in Calhoun County. Greene County would be paying 38% of this total in the amount of \$223,440. The breakdown per position would be \$94,240 for part-time County Attorney and \$64,600 for each full-time Assistant County Attorney. This agreement could potentially save the county approximately \$32,000.

Motion by Muir, second by Bardole to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement Pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 28E for the Establishment of a Multicounty County Attorney Office in and for Calhoun County, Greene County, and Sac County, Iowa. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Muir, second by Benitz to approve Resolution 2026-028 Approving the Intergovernmental Agreement Pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 28E for the Establishment of a Multicounty County Attorney Office in and for Calhoun County, Greene County, and Sac County, Iowa.

#### **RESOLUTION 2026-028**

WHEREAS, the Greene County Board of Supervisors and the Boards of Supervisors of Calhoun County and Sac County, Iowa, are public agencies as defined in Iowa Code § 28E.2 and are authorized to enter into an intergovernmental agreement pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 28E, § 331.753 (Multicounty Office), and § 331.323(2)(e) and (f), which authorize the combining of duties and the sharing of a county attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Greene County Board of Supervisors has determined that the establishment of a coordinated multicounty county attorney office serving Calhoun County, Greene County, and Sac County is in the best interests of the citizens of Greene County and is necessary to ensure stable, experienced,

and effective prosecution of criminal offenses and performance of the statutory duties of the County Attorney; and

WHEREAS, the Intergovernmental Agreement Pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 28E for the Establishment of a Multicounty County Attorney Office in and for Calhoun County, Greene County, and Sac County, Iowa (the "Agreement") has been presented to and reviewed by the Greene County Board of Supervisors; and

WHEREAS, the Greene County Board of Supervisors has determined that it is in the best interest of Greene County and its citizens to approve and enter into the Agreement; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting on March 16, 2026, the Board of Supervisors voted to approve the Agreement, with all procedural requirements for such action having been satisfied;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Greene County Board of Supervisors as follows:

1. The Intergovernmental Agreement Pursuant to Iowa Code Chapter 28E for the Establishment of a Multicounty County Attorney Office in and for Calhoun County, Greene County, and Sac County, Iowa, is hereby approved.
2. The Chairperson of the Greene County Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized and directed to execute the Agreement on behalf of Greene County, Iowa.
3. The Greene County Auditor is hereby authorized and directed to file the Agreement with the Secretary of State as required by Iowa Code § 28E.8.

Roll Call Vote was taken. Aye: Bardole, Benitz, Gannon, Muir. Resolution unanimously approved.

Motion by Muir, second by Gannon to approve Resolution 2026 – 029 Authorizing the Transfer of \$11,127.49 from the ARPA Fund to the General Basic Fund for Payment of Services to BBS Architects/Engineers.

#### **RESOLUTION 2026-029**

WHEREAS, on December 30, 2024, the Greene County Board of Supervisors executed a Memorandum of Understanding obligating \$1,761,652.32 in Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (the "SLFRF") to the Greene County Auditor (the "Auditor") for the purpose of replacing the HVAC system at the Greene County Courthouse as part of lost revenue replacement;

WHEREAS, under the terms of the Memorandum of Understanding, the Auditor agreed to coordinate the design of the Courthouse's new HVAC system, to cause to be prepared detailed plans and specifications and an engineer's cost estimate, to obtain all required permits and other things required for the proper construction of HVAC system, and to arrange contracting for the construction of the HVAC system;

WHEREAS, the Auditor further agreed to establish appropriate accounting systems to track and report on expenditures paid from the SLFRF and to maintain financial records to support all such expenditures;

WHEREAS, the Auditor established a separate ARPA Account Fund for the SLFRF received by the County; and

WHEREAS, BBS Architects/Engineers has submitted claims for payment in the amount \$11,127.49.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS FOR GREENE COUNTY, IOWA:

Section 1: The Board hereby approves the transfer of \$11,127.49 from the ARPA Account Fund (0004) to the General Basic Fund (0001) for the payment of said claims.

Roll Call Vote was taken. Aye: Bardole, Benitz, Gannon, Muir. Resolution unanimously approved.

Motion by Muir, second by Benitz to approve claims for payment for March 16, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Bardole adjourned the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

ATTEST: Pete Bardole, Chair Pro-tem

Billie Jo Hoskins, Auditor