Franklin County Ordinance No 2026A

ORDINANCE 2026A – "A MORATORIUM ON NEW PERMIT APPLICATIONS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF DATA CENTER PROJECTS WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, IOWA"

Be it ordained by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Franklin County, Iowa:

WHEREAS, the County currently does not have a specific ordinance regarding the development of data centers within the unincorporated area of Franklin County; and

WHEREAS, the County has adopted a Comprehensive Plan for the future use of land within the unincorporated areas of the County; and

WHEREAS, the County has an interest in regulating the use of land through its zoning regulations consistent with the County's Comprehensive Plan;

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors will require time to gather information regarding the impact of data center construction in the unincorporated area of the County, and to coordinate with multiple agencies for the purpose of reviewing, updating or creating ordinances, policies and procedures relative to data center development;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Franklin County, Iowa, that Franklin County now imposes a moratorium, effective immediately for eighteen (18) months; or upon the passing of an ordinance in relation to data center development (whichever comes first), on all rezonings, conditional use permit applications and building permits associated with construction of a data center project, for the purpose of drafting and adopting any necessary and proper zoning ordinances regulating the construction of data centers.

1st Reading - Waive 2nd Reading – Waive 3rd Reading – 3/31/2026

Motion by McVicker, seconded by Lukensmeyer to approve the final reading of Franklin County Ordinance 2026A, "An Ordinance Authorizing a Moratorium on New Permit Applications for Development of Data Center Projects Within the Unincorporated Area of Franklin County, Iowa".

Vote Results Taken as Follows:

Ayes – Lukensmeyer, McVicker, Vanness

Nays – None

Absent/Abstain – None

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 31st day of March 2026.

Katy A. Flint, Auditor &
Clerk to the Board of Supervisors