

The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners met as per quarterly notification published July 29, 2026 in the Fairbury Journal News and on the newspaper website and posted on the county website and hallway monitors and by the commissioner's room door. The agenda was emailed, posted by the commissioner's room, posted on the hallway monitors and on the Jefferson County website. Michael Dux, chairman, Mark Schoenrock and Danielle Schwab commissioners, Kristina Riggle, county clerk, media and public in attendance. Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.

Consent agenda:

1. Approve August 11, 2026 minutes
2. Approve Resolution 2026-08 approve preliminary PS&E package Project BRO-7048 (18) Steele City West to submit to the State
3. Review/approve inventories submitted to date.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Schoenrock to approve the consent agenda. Call of vote: Dux, Schoenrock, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Mary Banahan, assessor present.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Dux to go into board of equalization at 9:05 a.m. Call of vote: Schoenrock, Schwab, Dux voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Banahan presented tax list corrections #3887 to #3890 due to a state audit of homestead exemptions.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to approve tax list corrections #3887 - #3890 as presented. Call of vote: Schwab, Dux, Schoenrock voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Leroy Bast, treasurer presented vehicle exemptions for Believe Assembly of God on a '99 Ford Van and St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School on a '01 Ford van and '13 Ford van.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Dux to approve the vehicle exemptions for Believe Assembly of God and St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School as presented. Call of vote: Dux, Schoenrock, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to go out of board of equalization at 9:14 a.m. Call of vote: Schoenrock, Schwab, Dux voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Brian Blobaum, CPA reviewed the resolution to set the levy rates for the fire and historical society with the board.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to approve Resolution 2026-09 to set the fire and historical society levy allocations for 2026 as presented. Call of vote: Schwab, Dux, Schoenrock voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Blobaum reviewed the budget numbers after receiving the certification of values from the assessor. The overall budget percentage of dollar increase for the 3 levies (General, PWF Bond & Ambulance) for '26-'27 was 2.25% with the proposed budget. The county will not be required to attend the postcard hearing. To allow for the PWF second phase construction, a bond of roughly \$5 million is expected to be needed for the county share of the \$12.5 million estimated cost. Jefferson County was awarded a federal allocation of \$8.5 million. Actual numbers will be determined once bid letting is completed, hopefully by January 2027. It was noted most budgets submitted were less than or equal to what was requested last fiscal year. The board was okay to publish the budget as presented.

Jason Hofer, Nebraska Public Power District gave an overview of a new transmission line project – Tobias – Daykin – Kansas line, including a proposed Daykin substation. Hofer noted there will be many opportunities for public input and will be a public hearing as the project moves forward. An open house is scheduled for September 15 at the Jefferson County 4H building from 3-7 p.m. and September 16th at the Saline Center in Western from 3-7 p.m. The project website will be available starting August 27th <https://nppd.com/tobias-daykin-kansas> Also in attendance was John McNally, governmental affairs manager with NPPD.

John McKee, emergency manager/planning & zoning/weed discussed Article 14 zoning amendments, section 14.01.02 initiation of amendments and 14.01.03 filing fee for an amendment. McKee will survey other counties to see what their fees are set at and bring it back for discussion.

Jason Eyer, highway supervisor and Terry Blas, highway supervisor assistant attended the Little Blue NRD water line project meeting yesterday. Any line under a road will be encased. Problem road areas were discussed. Gravel is available currently, but only crusher run rock is available right now. Bruce Weise and Kevin Banahan commented on the mowing of county roadsides and if landowners are charged if the county mows. Blas and Eyer noted not at this time. It was noted other counties also charge to remove trees on the right-of-ways. Weise noted a minimum maintenance road along some of his property has a 2' gravel/dirt pile on the side making it impossible to mow and there are no cuts in the ridges to allow water to drain out, instead of running down the road. Eyer and Blas also commented that the county attorney would need to enforce the penalty for not mowing. Blas and Eyer noted they want to start charging a fair hourly rate to put driveway tubes in.

Dux reported representing Jefferson County at the RC&D meeting in Red Cloud yesterday. The electronic recycling event will be held September 11 at the Jefferson County highway shop from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Jim Criner presented a proposal to do some grading/dirt work improvements to the racetrack at the fairgrounds. Criner provided information and a map of where they would like to put asphalt millings in the pit area and add three drainage tubes to improve the area and prevent rain cancellations of races. All costs will be paid by the speedway association and donations. Criner did ask, if possible, that the county donate 180' of 18" culvert pipe, as it is county property. Blas was reached via phone and estimated the cost of the tube would be roughly \$7,000. The board is favorable to the project but requested Criner consult the road department and the fair board. The commissioners will also check with the county attorney for review and get back with Criner.

The board reviewed claims and payroll.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to approve claims and payroll as presented. Call of vote: Dux, Schoenrock, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

General Fund – Payroll \$156,841.89

3rd Street Body & Glass Llc.	\$1,180.00	Service
911 Custom, Llc	\$261.00	Supplies
Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	\$11,504.36	Retirement
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp-Dental	\$854.73	Insurance
Benchmark Title Co	\$551.00	Services
Black Hills Energy	\$327.32	Services
Bound Tree Medical Llc	\$604.85	Supplies
Card Service Center-Eisenhauer	\$2,416.22	Supplies
Card Service Center-Mckee	\$135.20	Supplies
Cidnet	\$600.00	Service
Constellation New Energy Gas Div.	\$1.60	Service
Corrections Products Company	\$3,600.00	Supplies
Cypress Solutions	\$340.00	Service
Das State Acct.-Central Finance	\$334.00	Service
Eakes Office Solutions	\$657.11	Supplies
Echo Electric	\$350.00	Service
Fairbury Journal News	\$165.16	Service
Fairbury Light & Water Dept	\$6,242.83	Service
Galls	\$619.09	Supplies
Grainger	\$303.88	Supplies
Gregory D. Kratz,Kratz Law Office L	\$1,725.00	Service
Hd Supply Facilities Maintenance	\$457.90	Supplies
Heartland Bank	\$11,760.74	Federal Taxes
Heartland Bank-Hsa	\$425.00	Insurance
Hometown Leasing	\$599.73	Service
Jeff Co Employee Med Benefit Plan	\$20.00	Insurance
Jefferson Comm Health & Life-Clinic	\$5,154.72	Service
Jefferson County Sheriff	\$779.97	Service
King Insurance Partners	\$6,471.60	Service
Kraviec Maurstad Law,Pc,Llo.	\$3,000.00	Service
Kristina Riggle	\$4.30	Reimbursement
Little Blue Public Water Project	\$42.00	Service
Lynn Peavey Company	\$64.00	Service
Medica Insurance	\$28,163.35	Insurance
Motorola Solutions	\$487.50	Service
Murray Law,Pc Llo	\$6,130.37	Service
Mutual Of Omaha-Life	\$548.71	Insurance
Naco	\$80.00	Service
Ne Law Enforcement Training Center	\$284.00	Service
Pinnacle Bank	\$3,696.33	Supplies
Psychological Resources	\$500.00	Services
Quadient Finance Usa,Inc	\$2,000.00	Supplies
Quill Corp	\$291.33	Supplies
Saline Co Sheriff	\$1,550.00	Service
Saline County Treasurer	\$433.00	Service

See The Trainer - Lincoln	\$26.76	Supplies
Seiler Instrument&Mfg.Co.Inc.	\$1,200.00	Service
Swanson Services Corp.	\$280.83	Supplies
The Mcbattas Group	\$425.00	Supplies
Twin Rivers Ford	\$874.40	Service
Uniti	\$1,209.48	Service
Van Borkum Co	\$1,545.80	Supplies
Van Diest Supply Company	\$842.35	Supplies

Highway Fund – Payroll \$37,256.50

Ace Irrigation & Mfg Co Inc	\$19,463.00	Supplies
Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	\$2,512.23	Retirement
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp-Dental	\$297.95	Insurance
Beatrice Sand & Gravel	\$34,768.24	Supplies
Big State Industrail Supply	\$691.82	Supplies
Black Hills Energy	\$57.31	Service
Bowman Consulting Group Ltd	\$5,692.20	Service
Caterpillar Financial Services Co	\$22,193.85	Service
Constellation New Energy Gas Div.	\$2.15	Service
Deere Credit,Inc.	\$2,548.09	Service
Diversified Safety & Compliance	\$325.00	Service
Fairbury Journal News	\$47.49	Service
Fairbury Light & Water Dept	\$473.54	Service
Fairbury Transfer Station	\$18.00	Service
First Bank Of Nebraska	\$2,914.81	Service
Heartland Bank	\$2,754.65	Federal Taxes
Heartland Bank-Hsa	\$175.00	Insurance
Hometown Leasing	\$67.94	Service
Interstate Power Systems	\$2,172.33	Supplies
Jeff Co Employee Med Benefit Plan	\$7.50	Insurance
Maatschs Oil Company	\$497.45	Supplies
Medica Insurance	\$9,275.36	Insurance
Mutual Of Omaha-Life	\$182.49	Insurance
Norris Public Power Dist	\$46.69	Service
Pinnacle Bank	\$38.44	Supplies
Truck Center Companies	\$812.34	Service

Hwy Street Buyback Prog

Bauer Infrastructure Llc	\$17,225.91	Service
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Equipment/Reserve Donation

Windstream	\$191.85	Service
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Fair Fund – Payroll \$720.16

Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	\$25.88	Retirement
Black Hills Energy	\$50.74	Service
Flood Communications Kutt,Kwbe&Kgmt	\$1,500.00	Service
Heartland Bank	\$55.09	Federal Taxes
Lee Enterprises	\$405.00	Service
Lois Welsh	\$63.23	Supplies
The Belleville Telescope	\$108.00	Service

Inheritance Tax

3rd Street Body & Glass Llc.	\$7,744.45	Service
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911 Emergency Services – Payroll \$246.17

Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	\$16.62	Retirement
Black Hills Energy	\$51.26	Service
Heartland Bank	\$18.05	Federal Taxes

911 Wireless Service

Great Plains Communication Inc	\$85.04	Service
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Emergency Management Perf. Grant

Fairbury Light & Water Dept	\$89.92	Service
Seiler Instrument & Mfg.Co.Inc.	\$472.52	Service

Ambulance Fund – Payroll \$27,124.96

Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	\$1,811.49	Retirement
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp-Dental	\$127.16	Insurance
Bound Tree Medical Llc	\$359.89	Supplies
Dawgs Sports Specialties	\$225.00	Supplies
Heartland Bank	\$2,056.48	Federal Taxes
Lampton Welding Supply Co Inc	\$120.85	Supplies
Maatschs Oil Company	\$43.51	Supplies
Medica Insurance	\$3,642.41	Insurance
Mutual Of Omaha-Life	\$77.59	Insurance
One Billing Solutions	\$3,899.78	Service
Penn Care, Inc.	\$220.75	Supplies

Holding Fund

American Family Life Assurance Co	\$97.36	Insurance
Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	\$10,912.81	Retirement
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp-Dental	\$537.18	Insurance
Ameritas Vision	\$430.37	Insurance
Colonial Ins	\$23.35	Insurance
Erin M.Mccartney, Trustee	\$109.00	Garnishment
Erin M.Mccartney, Trustee	\$174.00	Garnishment -
Erin M.Mccartney, Trustee	\$139.00	Garnishment
Fraternal Order Of Police #86	\$562.74	Union Dues
Heartland Bank	\$33,417.65	Federal Taxes
Heartland Bank-Hsa	\$335.00	Deduction - Hsa
Ibew Local Union 1536	\$222.13	Union Dues Hwy
Jeff Co Employee Med Benefit Plan	\$552.50	Insurance
Medica Insurance	\$2,883.92	Insurance
Mutual Of Omaha-Life	\$412.29	Insurance
Nebr Dept Of Revenue	\$6,805.88	State Taxes
Nebraska Child Support Payment Cent	\$284.54	Garnishment
Nebraska Child Support Payment Cent	\$184.62	Garnishment

Dux asked for public comment. Kevin Banahan reported a drive culvert that needs replaced at 577 ave & 709 road and concerns about the reduced tonnage limit and condition of the old asphalt road going south of Endicott to the brickyard. Schoenrock noted the intent was to eliminate semi traffic on the old road. Trucks are instructed to use the new ECP west route when leaving the brickyard. Blas and Eyer returned to the meeting to discuss the concerns. Blas noted Banahan could get an oversize/overweight permit annually to allow his loaded grain trucks/trailers that may be over the limit to

travel the road. Other area landowners/farmers have gotten them to resolve the issue. Others without permits would be fined if caught travelling on the road overweight. Eyer was out recently to patch the road.

Schoenrock represented Jefferson County at the federal legislative summit in Ashland on August 12th.

Schoenrock represented Jefferson County at the PWF project management meeting on August 13th.

Schoenrock represented Jefferson County at the Public Health Solutions budget review/approval meeting via zoom on August 20th.

Schoenrock will represent Jefferson County at the Six Regions, One Nebraska economic development meeting at SCC Lincoln tomorrow.

Schwab will attend the emergency management NIMS training in Grand Island on September 3rd.

Correspondence Listing *Note - all fees listed below have been deposited by the Treasurer into the appropriately noted funds. Received: **911 Emergency Services:**— \$6.00 Alltel Corp; \$2.00 Ooma Inc; \$68.00 8x8 Inc; \$1.00 Comcast IP Phone; \$35.00 Bandwidth; \$1.00 Simple VOIP; \$1.00 Compliance Solutions; \$2.00 Compliance Solutions; \$8.00 Compliance Solutions; \$3.00 Compliance Solutions; \$1.00 Compliance Solutions; - all for 911 surcharges. **Tourism:** \$2583.64 June '26 lodging tax – State of Nebraska. **Inheritance:** \$10,770.92 & \$10,510.04 insurance settlement storm damage – NIRMA. **Fair:** \$666.36 insurance settlement storm damage – NIRMA. **Ambulance:** \$23,000.00 patient income – Greg Neemann, ambulance director. **Misc:** Motion to Dismiss granted Case No. CI 26-025; Motion to Alter or Amend Judgement Case CI 26-025; Letter from NDOT regarding bridge load posting responsibilities.

Meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

I, Kristina Riggle, County Clerk do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a correct report of the meeting of August 25, 2026. Witness my hand and official seal on August 25, 2026.

Kristina Riggle, County Clerk

Michael T. Dux, Chairman