

The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners met as per notification of April 15, 2026 in the Fairbury Journal News and on the newspaper and county website. The agenda was emailed, posted by the commissioner's room, posted on the board's 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.

Schoenrock reported attending a seminar at Doane University for Partnering for workforce success. Different strategies were discussed to integrate graduates into the workforce with many representatives present from both the public and private sectors.

Schoenrock will represent Jefferson County tonight at the Blue Valley Community Action board meeting in Seward. BVCA and Public Health Solutions are working together on a community needs survey. Schoenrock noted PHS is celebrating their 25th anniversary of serving southeast Nebraska.

Mary Banahan, assessor present.

Moved by Dux, seconded by Schwab to go into board of equalization at 9:07 a.m. Call of vote: Schoenrock, Dux, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Banahan presented tax list corrections #3863 to #3868 for approval.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to approve tax list corrections #3863 to #3868 as presented. Call of vote: Schwab, Dux, Schoenrock voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to go out of board of equalization at 9:13 a.m. Call of vote: Dux, Schoenrock, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Schoenrock reported the PWF bridge is expected to be open by Memorial Day and the rest of the road project is on track to go out for bids late July.

Scott Gropp, public defender presented options for renewal of the public defender contract. The new proposal accounts for a district-wide rate increase that has occurred in the last three years. Option 1 summary would include no more than 25 open/active misdemeanor or juvenile cases; or more than 15 open/active felony cases and 6 mental health board cases annually. Each additional case would be billed per hour as a standard court appointed case. Option 1 costs \$96,132.00 year 1 and \$99,980.00 year 2, plus an annual \$2000.00 stipend for criminal defense specific CLE. Option 2 summary – 40 open/active misdemeanor or juvenile cases; 22 open/active felony cases and 6 mental health board cases annually and any additional cases to be billed per hour as a standard court appointed case, also with \$2000.00 stipend for criminal defense specific CLE. Option 2 costs \$129,912.00 for year 1 and \$135,108.00 for year 2. Currently, Gropp has 29 felony with 4 really old warrants and 30 misc/juvenile cases.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Schoenrock to select option 2 based on current case numbers. Call of vote: Schoenrock, Schwab, Dux voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Gropp will prepare a contract and return for the board approval at a future meeting.

Greg Neemann, ambulance director gave a report on department. There have been 39 calls so far this month. He has 2 new part-time new hires and 1 pending full-time new hire, that is waiting for their license. Neemann discussed the DHHS Nebraska Rural Health Workforce Incentive Program that offers monetary incentives in exchange for a service commitment to work in a rural county for 5-years. Riggle will follow-up with Nirma to see exactly what liability and malpractice coverage the county has, so Neemann can explore this program. The monitors have been recalibrated. Unit 1 had the inverter replaced, but now there seems to be an electrical issue somewhere between the inverter and the batteries. He will take it up to Danko for repair.

Banahan and Kylie Rohr, deputy assessor present to discuss external reappraisal options. Central Plains has provided commercial and acreage reappraisals. Agricultural properties would be up next to be updated for the 2027 tax roll. The estimate from Central Plains is \$107,000. The board asked why this process could not be done internally. Banahan and Rohr explained that staffing would be an issue. Central Plains have 3 to 4 staff working at one time to complete the process and when the assessor's office did all the data entry, it puts the general required workload way behind. Dux wondered how counties with less staff handle this process and Schwab asked if a full reappraisal was required by state statute vs the 6-year review. They do not believe the full review is required by statute. Having one company provide the service, provides consistency in the reappraisal process. The board would like more time to research before making a decision.

Schoenrock left the meeting at 10:08 a.m. but was then present via phone.

Nick Georgi, sheriff, Missy Neemann, head dispatcher and Nick Nelson, head jailer present for a closed session for personnel/strategy.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Dux to go into closed session for the protection of the public interest and prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual if such individual has not requested a public meeting for personnel/strategy with Georgi, Neemann and Nelson at 10:17 a.m. Call of vote: Schwab, Dux voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Dux to go out of closed session at 10:39 a.m. Call of vote: Dux, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried. No action taken.

John McKee, emergency manager, Jeff Nelson, Diller Fire Chief and Joe Casson, county attorney present. The board discussed planning and zoning committee options. The members who are up and still interested in serving will be reappointed at the next meeting. Candidates for open spots will be interviewed via phone possibly at the next meeting.

Nelson reported the Villages of Harbine and Diller have not been paying tax into the Diller Fire District. Both village boards have signed agreements to be included in the Diller fire district. Casson is coordinating with their attorney to bring something to the board of commissioners for approval, so this can be corrected for the tax roll before the end of June.

Dux asked for public comment. None heard.

The board reviewed claims and payroll.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Dux to approve the claims and payroll as presented after clarification of the Woods and Aitken claim. Call of vote: Schwab, Dux voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

General Fund – Payroll \$149,027.96

American Family Life Assurance Co	Insurance	\$171.21
Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$21,582.71
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp-Dental	Insurance	\$1,338.00
Ameritas Vision	Insurance	\$431.44
Asi Security Partners	Services	\$6,825.00
Benchmark Title Co	Services	\$551.00
Black Hills Energy	Services	\$541.23
Blue Rivers Area Agency On Aging	Services	\$4,812.50
Burton Services, Inc.	Services	\$134.85
Card Service Center- Taylor/Lindblad	Supplies	\$0.39
Card Service Center-Eisenhauer	Supplies	\$945.74
Card Service Center-Mckee	Supplies	\$188.91
Cash-Wa Distributing	Supplies	\$3,095.41
Cidnet	Services	\$600.00
Colonial Ins	Insurance	\$23.35
Comfort Inn	Services	\$404.85
Conner Psychological Services	Services	\$3,000.00

Culligan Of Crete	Supplies	\$218.75
Cypress Solutions	Services	\$320.00
Darci Pesek	Reimbursement	\$116.00
Das State Acct.-Central Finance	Services	\$334.00
Dept Of Correctional Services	Services	\$8,331.07
Dixon County Court	Insurance	\$416.97
Eakes Office Solutions	Supplies	\$1,051.26
Election Systems & Software, Inc	Supplies	\$1,607.94
Erin M.Mccartney, Trustee	Insurance	\$174.00
Erin M.Mccartney, Trustee	Insurance	\$139.00
Esri Inc	Services	\$1,100.00
Fairbury Journal News	Services	\$537.80
Fairbury Light & Water Dept	Services	\$4,297.61
Fairbury Transfer Station	Services	\$13.00
Fairfield Inn	Services	\$559.80
Farmers Cooperative	Supplies	\$25.00
Fraternal Order Of Police #86	Services	\$561.78
Grainger	Supplies	\$346.06
Gropp Law & Mediation	Services	\$8,328.00
Hd Supply Facilities Maintenance	Supplies	\$118.75
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$43,803.60
Heartland Bank-Hsa	Insurance	\$735.00
Holiday Inn - Kearney,Ne	Services	\$279.90
Homestead Lepc	Services	\$71.77
Hometown Leasing	Services	\$273.74
Jeff Co Employee Med Benefit Plan	Insurance	\$572.50
Jefferson Co Clk Of District Court	Services	\$632.00
Jefferson Co Highway Dept	Supplies	\$213.76
Jefferson Comm Health & Life-Clinic	Services	\$3.25
Jefferson County Court	Services	\$513.00
Jefferson County Sheriff	Services	\$887.99
Jefferson County Treasurer	Services	\$103,927.95
Kraviec Maurstad Law,Pc,Llo.	Services	\$3,032.76
Kristina Riggle	Reimbursement	\$147.19
Krystal Schroeder	Reimbursement	\$79.32
Lancaster County Sheriff	Services	\$25.52
Larkins Ace Hardware	Supplies	\$1,391.06
Leroy Bast	Reimbursement	\$113.50
Marshall & Swift	Services	\$889.28
Medica Insurance	Insurance	\$29,088.83
Microfilm Imaging Systems,Inc.	Services	\$187.50
Mutual Of Omaha-Life	Insurance	\$943.52
Naco	Services	\$175.00
Nebr Dept Of Revenue	Tax	\$6,514.28
Nelson,Clark&Timan,P.C.	Services	\$1,934.30
Paper Tiger Shredding	Services	\$149.00
Penny L. Holtmeier	Services	\$82.65
Phoenix Supply	Supplies	\$261.75
Pinnacle Bank	Supplies	\$3,037.87
Quill Corp	Supplies	\$239.69
Ray's Apple Market	Supplies	\$84.70
Rebecca Anderson	Services	\$2,000.00
Region V Systems	Services	\$418.00
Rr Donnelley	Services	\$99.15
Saline County Treasurer	Services	\$433.00
Satellite Tracking Of People Llc	Services	\$24.00
Sheriff Petty Cash Fund	Services	\$15.00
Swanson Services Corp.	Supplies	\$938.42
T & N Acquisition Company	Supplies	\$650.79
Time	Services	\$182.52
Twin Rivers Ford	Services	\$2,232.44
U.S.Bank-Voyager-Sheriff	Supplies	\$5,560.63
Unmc Accounts Receivable	Services	\$1,231.65
Van Borkum Co	Supplies	\$714.55
Woods & Aitken Llp	Services	\$15,975.50
Highway Fund – Payroll \$33,961.40		
Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$2,287.33
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp-Dental	Insurance	\$283.59
Beatrice Sand & Gravel	Supplies	\$3,735.67
Bowman Consulting Group Ltd	Services	\$17,361.10
Caterpillar Financial Services Co	Services	\$22,193.85
Daykin Lumber Company	Supplies	\$75.00
Deere Credit,Inc.	Services	\$6,358.85
Fairbury Journal News	Services	\$145.14
Fairbury Light & Water Dept	Services	\$641.30
Fairbury Transfer Station	Services	\$18.00
First Bank Of Nebraska	Services	\$2,914.82
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$2,503.24
Heartland Bank-Hsa	Insurance	\$125.00
Hometown Leasing	Services	\$67.94
Ibew Local Union 1536	Services	\$137.37
Jeff Co Employee Med Benefit Plan	Insurance	\$7.50
Jefferson County Treasurer	Services	\$20.00
Kramer Oil	Supplies	\$7,611.60
Medica Insurance	Insurance	\$8,824.47
Mutual Of Omaha-Life	Insurance	\$165.49
Nebraska Child Support Payment Cent	Child Support	\$212.77
Nebraska Child Support Payment Cent	Child Support	\$184.62
Nmc, Llc	Services	\$2,715.74
Pinnacle Bank	Services	\$163.98
Powerplan	Services	\$126.32
R And R Auto Parts	Supplies	\$419.49
Rdo Truck Center, Co.	Services	\$233.52
Surnali Llc DbA Diversified Drug Te	Services	\$1,152.00

Village Of Daykin	Services	\$63.84
Village Of Plymouth	Services	\$32.00
Hbp Hwy Bridge Buyback Prog		
Jjk Construction, Llc	Services	\$177,296.21
Me Collins Construction	Services	\$14,328.31
Equipment Reserve Donation		
Pinnacle Bank	Supplies	\$48.11
Communication Equipment Sinking		
Charter Communications	Services	\$1,221.02
Geo Comm, Inc.	Services	\$16,467.00
Windstream	Services	\$186.58
Equipment Vehicle Sheriff Fund		
Gregg Young Automotive Of Atlantic	Supplies	\$42,915.00
Fair Fund – Payroll \$425.41		
Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$28.72
Black Hills Energy	Services	\$155.50
Constellation New Energy Gas Div.	Services	\$536.34
Fairbury Journal News	Services	\$4.32
Fairbury Light & Water Dept	Services	\$1,145.74
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$32.55
Jefferson County Treasurer	Services	\$4,000.00
National Pen	Supplies	\$374.99
Ram Exterminators Llc	Services	\$45.00
Regalia Mfg Co	Services	\$847.45
Tony Likens	Services	\$220.00
Windstream	Services	\$5.06
911 EM Services Fund - \$246.17		
Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$16.62
Black Hills Energy	Services	\$51.69
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$18.05
911 Wireless Services		
Great Plains Communication Inc	Services	\$85.04
Emergency Management Perf.Grant Fund		
Fairbury Light & Water Dept	Services	\$79.10
Pwf Bond Fund		
Bok Financial	Services	\$43,900.00
Fair Building Fund		
Card Service Center-Likens	Supplies	\$2,369.64
Starr Plumbing Llc	Services	\$932.33
Tourism Fund		
Arbor Ink	Supplies	\$3,132.00
Fairbury Chamber Of Commerce	Services	\$2,150.00
Ambulance Fund - \$26,658.05		
Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$1,765.76
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp-Dental	Insurance	\$127.16
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$2,019.38
Heartstream Us Llc	Services	\$857.00
Lampton Welding Supply Co Inc	Supplies	\$197.53
Maatschs Oil Company	Supplies	\$26.38
Medica Insurance	Insurance	\$3,642.41
Mutual Of Omaha-Life	Insurance	\$77.69
One Billing Solutions	Services	\$4,241.62
Teleflex Llc, C/O Teleflex Funding	Services	\$555.00
U.S.Bank-Voyager Ambulance	Supplies	\$1,489.55

Correspondence Listing *Note - all fees listed below have been deposited by the Treasurer into the appropriately noted funds. Received: **General:** March '26 fee report \$9,939.49 of which \$487.50 has been deposited into the preservation and modernization fund from Kristina Riggle, register of deeds; \$17.00 1st quarter petty cash; \$2334.20 docket fees March '26; \$285.00 handgun permits 1st qtr '26; \$570.00 March '26 title inspections; \$63.26 April '26 misc revenue; \$483.64; \$175.00 March '26 work release; \$400.00 Feb. '26 title inspections; \$2621.17 Feb. '26 docket fees; \$7361.77 Feb. '26 school resource officer; \$153.32 Feb. '26 inmate phone calls; \$72,888.01 Feb. '26 Fairbury law enforcement contract; \$7361.77 Jan. '26 school resource contract; \$275.00 Feb. '26 work release; \$640.00 Jan. '26 misc revenue refund Advanced Correctional; \$3233.83 Jan. '26 docket fees; \$400.00 Jan. '26 title inspections; \$72888.01 Jan. '26 Fairbury law enforcement contract; \$775.00 4th Qtr 2025 PAK sales; \$721.82 4th qtr '25 commissary sales. **Communication Sinking Fund:** \$750.00 Jan. '26 reimbursement City of Fairbury; \$750.00 Feb. '26 reimbursement City of Fairbury. **Law Enforcement Addition Remodel:** \$1250.00 Jan. '26 NIRMA Assist Grant. **911 Emergency Services:** \$3.00 Hamilton Long Distance; \$604.00 Diller Telephone; \$9.50 Eisner Advisory; \$122.00 Diode Communication; \$1.00 Hughes Networks; \$2.00 Compliance Solutions; \$2.00 Compliance Solutions; \$1.00 Simple Voip; \$2.00 Compliance Solutions; \$8.00 Compliance Solutions; \$3.00 Alltel Corporation; \$71.00 8x8 Inc; \$1.00 Comcast IP Phone and \$1013.13 Spectrum Advanced Services – all for 911 surcharges. **Ambulance:** \$24,000.00 April '26 patient income – Greg Neemann, ambulance director. **Misc:** Thank you note from Dennis Traeger for Veteran of the Month award; Blue Valley Community Action agenda, minutes, reports, documentary stamp tax report March '26.

Meeting adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

I, Kristina Riggle, County Clerk, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a correct report of the meeting of April 21, 2026. Witness my hand and official seal on April 21, 2026.

Kristina Riggle, County Clerk

Michael T. Dux, Chairman