

The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners met as per notification of July 8, 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.

The board honored veteran of the month Esther Schmit with a certificate honoring her for her service. Others present were Jim Carpenter, veteran service officer and Doug Kapke and Mark Grummert, veterans board. Schmit was presented with a patriotic decoration made by Rory Rosener.

Leroy Bast, treasurer present.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to go into board of equalization at 9:15 a.m. Call of vote: Dux, Schoenrock, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Bast presented a vehicle exemption for Jefferson Community Health Center on a '18 Chrysler van.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Schoenrock to approve the vehicle exemption for JCHC as presented. Call of vote: Schoenrock, Schwab, Dux voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Mary Banahan, assessor present. Banahan presented tax list corrections #3885 and #3886 for review.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Schoenrock to approve tax list corrections #3885 and #3886 as presented. Call of vote: Schwab, Dux, Schoenrock voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

The board reviewed the exempt status of sold properties for Fairbury Assembly of God Church and Region V Foundation.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Schoenrock to update the exempt status and disallow the exemption for parcels #480087814 and #48001365 as presented. Call of vote: Dux, Schoenrock, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

The board reviewed form 451's for exempt properties for APACE due to a name change from Region V Systems.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to update the permissive exemption status to reflect the approved name change on the properties to APACE as submitted. Call of vote: Schoenrock, Schwab, Dux voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to go out of board of equalization at 9:24 a.m. Call of vote: Schwab, Dux, Schoenrock voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

The board reviewed claims and payroll.

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

General Fund – Payroll \$161,837.62

		Amount
A.R.E. Pest Control	Service	\$150.00
American Family Life Assurance Co	Insurance	\$171.21
Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$23,273.58
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp-Dental	Insurance	\$1,391.91
Ameritas Vision	Supplies	\$425.94
Arnold Motor Supply-Auto Value Prts	Supplies	\$6.55
At & T Mobility	Service	\$134.02
Barnas Drug Inc.	Supplies	\$27.38
Benchmark Title Co	Supplies	\$1,102.00
Car And Driver	Supplies	\$29.97
Card Service Center- Taylor/Lindblad	Supplies	\$33.14
Card Service Center-Eisenhauer	Supplies	\$325.94
Card Service Center-Mckee	Supplies	\$249.89
Cash-Wa Distributing	Supplies	\$2,415.72
Charter Communication	Service	\$280.23
Charter Communications	Service	\$1,560.68
Cidnet	Service	\$300.00
Colonial Ins	Insurance	\$23.35
Comfort Inn - Grand Island	Service	\$398.00
Constellation New Energy Gas Div.	Service	\$55.80
Culligan Of Crete	Supplies	\$145.00
Cypress Solutions	Service	\$345.00
Dens Meat Distributing	Supplies	\$389.91
Eakes Office Solutions	Supplies	\$123.00
Ebs Construction	Service	\$1,210.00
Erin M.Mccartney, Trustee	Insurance	\$422.00
Fairbury Animal Clinic	Service	\$386.90
Fairbury Journal News	Service	\$262.83
Fairbury Light & Water Dept	Service	\$6,017.39

First Wireless, Inc.	Service	\$2,144.89
Fraternal Order Of Police #86	Union	\$562.74
Grainger	Supplies	\$353.90
Gropp Law & Mediation	Service	\$10,826.00
Hd Supply Facilities Maintenance	Supplies	\$75.60
Heartland Bank	Insurance	\$47,916.75
Heartland Bank-Hsa	Insurance	\$760.00
Hometown Leasing	Service	\$2,536.88
Jeff Co Employee Med Benefit Plan	Insurance	\$572.50
Jefferson Co Atty Special Trust Acc	Service	\$96.93
Jefferson Co Clk Of District Court	Service	\$681.00
Jefferson Co Highway Dept	Supplies	\$421.45
Jefferson Co Veterans Office	Service	\$2,481.33
Jefferson Comm Health & Life-Clinic	Service	\$9,938.59
Jefferson County Court	Service	\$356.75
Jefferson County Treasurer	Service	\$32,976.32
Klawn	Service	\$80.00
Kraviec Maurstad Law,Pc,Llo.	Service	\$6,021.84
Larkins Ace Hardware	Supplies	\$168.13
Medica Insurance	Insurance	\$31,047.26
Microfilm Imaging Systems,Inc.	Service	\$1,012.50
Mips Inc	Service	\$3,787.08
Motorola Solutions	Service	\$8,775.00
Murray Law,Pc Llo	Service	\$3,176.55
Mutual Of Omaha-Life	Insurance	\$1,046.10
Nebr Dept Of Revenue	Tax	\$7,172.03
One Call Concepts,Inc	Service	\$1.64
Paper Tiger Shredding	Service	\$80.00
Pinnacle Bank	Service	\$4,379.27
Quill Corp	Supplies	\$701.69
Radiology Associates	Service	\$172.96
Ray's Apple Market	Service	\$292.72
Saline Co Sheriff	Service	\$1,500.00
Saline County Treasurer	Service	\$866.00
Starr Plumbing Llc	Service	\$262.50
Swanson Services Corp.	Supplies	\$240.51
T.O. Haas Tire & Auto #5129	Service	\$281.93
Th Construction Co.	Service	\$11,946.50
Twin Rivers Ford	Service	\$577.85
U.S.Bank-Voyager-Sheriff	Supplies	\$6,944.04
Unmc Accounts Receivable	Service	\$268.80
Van Borkum Co	Supplies	\$1,189.50
Van Diest Supply Company	Supplies	\$1,642.80
Vigilnet America Llc	Service	\$780.00
Whispering Acres	Service	\$2,145.00
Windstream	Service	\$97.72

Highway Fund – Payroll \$35,251.43

Ace Irrigation & Mfg Co Inc	Service	\$10,500.00
Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$2,375.68
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp-Dental	Insurance	\$283.59
Arnold Motor Supply-Auto Value Prts	Supplies	\$1,711.89
Auto Repair Plus	Supplies	\$420.12
Beatrice Concrete Co Inc	Service	\$17,010.19
Bowman Consulting Group Ltd	Service	\$3,801.93
Charter Communications	Service	\$82.52
Constellation New Energy Gas Div.	Service	\$8.40
Delayne Pflingsten	Service	\$500.00
Fairbury Journal News	Service	\$62.10
Fairbury Light & Water Dept	Service	\$481.72
Farmers Cooperative	Service	\$6,816.65
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$2,600.80
Heartland Bank-Hsa	Insurance	\$125.00
Ibaw Local Union 1536	Union	\$222.13
Interstate Power Systems	Service	\$17,850.00
Jeff Co Employee Med Benefit Plan	Insurance	\$7.50
John Deere Financial-Parts	Supplies	\$9.27
Larkins Ace Hardware	Supplies	\$245.12
Max I. Walker Uniform & Uniform & Appare	Supplies	\$197.54
Medica Insurance	Insurance	\$8,824.47
Mutual Of Omaha-Life	Insurance	\$165.49
Nebraska Child Support Payment Cent	Service	\$184.62

Nmc, Llc	Supplies	\$1,109.61
Norris Public Power Dist	Service	\$50.72
Paper Tiger Shredding	Service	\$17.00
Pinnacle Bank	Service	\$120.97
Powerplan	Service	\$2,297.73
R And R Auto Parts	Supplies	\$118.43
Reynolds Oil Co.	Supplies	\$9,344.00
Village Of Daykin	Service	\$64.05
Village Of Plymouth	Service	\$32.00

Communication Equipment Sinking

Charter Communications	Service	\$1,220.78
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Equipment Vehicle Sheriff

Applied Concepts Inc	Service	\$3,289.00
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Fair Fund - \$5160.26

Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$73.12
Back Alley Weld Repair & Fabrication	Service	\$500.00
Black Hills Energy	Service	\$68.31
Central Elementary Fairbury School	Service	\$51.00
David Malchow	Service	\$2,813.50
Dennis Kenning	Service	\$954.94
Dennis Traeger	Service	\$8.99
Diller-Odell Schools	Service	\$13.50
Emma Siebrandt	Service	\$158.24
Fairbury Journal News	Service	\$1,785.28
Fairbury Light & Water Dept	Service	\$1,388.62
Fairbury Transfer Station	Service	\$30.00
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$394.78
Jefferson-Intermediate School	Service	\$51.00
Larkins Ace Hardware	Supplies	\$198.74
Maatschs Oil Company	Supplies	\$138.56
Meridian School	Service	\$21.00
Nebraska Farm Bureau News	Service	\$100.00
Nebraska Rural Radio Assn	Service	\$1,280.00
Ram Exterminators Llc	Service	\$45.00
Rixstine Trophy Co Inc	Supplies	\$73.44
St.Pauls Lutheran School	Service	\$13.50
The Mcbattas Group	Service	\$1,177.20
Tony Likens	Service	\$258.46

Preservation/Modernization

Mips Inc	Service	\$197.03
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911 Em Services - \$246.17

Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$16.62
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$18.05

911 Wireless Services

Century Link	Service	\$3,605.09
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Emergency Management Perf. Grant

Card Service Center-Eisenhauer	Supplies	\$1,580.00
Card Service Center-Mckee	Supplies	\$1,013.93
Fairbury Light & Water Dept	Service	\$88.84

Ambulance Fund - \$30,277.13

Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$2,017.51
Ameritas Life Insurance Corp-Dental	Insurance	\$141.52
Arnold Motor Supply-Auto Value Prts	Supplies	\$162.71
Bound Tree Medical Llc	Supplies	\$100.06
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$2,297.18
M & D Auto Service	Service	\$210.82
Maatschs Oil Company	Supplies	\$133.88
Medica Insurance	Insurance	\$4,193.29
Mutual Of Omaha-Life	Insurance	\$97.91
Penn Care, Inc.	Supplies	\$220.75
U.S.Bank-Voyager Ambulance	Supplies	\$1,224.24

Per NE Statute 23-122 - Biweekly salary and hourly rates – Commissioners \$1,373.57; Elected officials \$2,747.14 to \$3,845.99; Deputy Elected officials \$31.40 to \$40.86; Veteran Service Officer - \$24.00; Bldg and Grounds Dept. Head - \$32.86; EM/PZ/Weed Dept. Head - \$3,724.01; Computer I.T. -\$2955.57 to \$3063.61; Office Clerks/Assistants \$21.31 to \$25.66; GIS Clerk \$31.78; Law Enforcement Deputies \$31.40 to \$34.58; Sergeants \$38.55; Jail Sergeants \$28.58; Jailers \$21.90 to \$25.40; Administrative assistants/Office managers \$21.64 to \$23.93; Attendance Support/Diversion Director \$25.66; Highway Supervisor/Assistant \$33.34; Grader Operators \$22.00 to \$28.74; Truck Driver \$21.00; Ambulance Director \$26.42; EMT's \$19.51 to \$24.20; Paramedics \$26.18; Dispatchers \$23.79 to \$27.23; Supervisor of Communications Center \$29.44; Food Service \$17.09 to \$20.95; Law Enforcement on call \$9.63 to \$18.39; Ambulance standby \$5.85 to \$11.90; **Part time** - Office Clerical/Assistant/Fair/Custodial \$15.00 to \$22.89; Veteran Drivers \$17.74; Election workers \$15.00.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve June 30, 2026 minutes and the 7-7-26 board of equalization minutes
2. Review/sign the public defender contract with Scott Gropp for 7-1-26 to 6-30-2029
3. Review/sign 2025 EMPG grant 25-SR-8726-01 \$48,149.12

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

Greg Neemann, ambulance director present. Neemann reported 23 calls so far this month. He has interviewed for another part-time EMT, who will be finishing paramedic school at the end of the month and the potential of an additional part-time EMT also. The Philips company has sold the monitor product to Heartstream, so Neemann is working with the new company to get quotes on a service contract.

Carmen Hinman, executive director of Hope Crisis Center gave an annual report and presented a funding request for FY '26-'27. Hinman noted the funding request of \$8500 was increased slightly this year due to other funding sources on the federal and state level being cut. Hinman highlighted the financial assistance that was provided to those in need of services and the training hours logged by the staff. 684 victims were assisted in 2025. Hinman commended her team of nine individuals for going above and beyond what is expected. There was a housing fund grant awarded that will enable more funds for relocation services. The local Jefferson County Gives fundraiser was a success this year.

Jeff Nelson, I.T. Dept reported the fiber is hung and they are waiting on Diode to splice 3 places. This would probably be a 2-day project. He is waiting for cooler weather before he starts outfitting the next patrol vehicle. Brad Eisenhauer is attending a 3-day training course in Lincoln for Mindshare relating to the dispatch radio consoles.

Schoenrock asked Nelson to give a report as the Diller Fire chief on the fire conditions out west and his experience while out there assisting. Nelson noted it was challenging terrain and it is very dry with dry lightning, the probable cause of some of the fires.

Schoenrock will represent Jefferson County at the 25th anniversary celebration of Public Health Solutions on Thursday at Doane University. The past leadership back 25 years is invited to attend.

Schoenrock provided updates to the Harbine and Reynolds village boards. He will meet with the Endicott and Steele City village boards tonight and the Diller board in August noting these will be his last visits with the boards as a Jefferson County commissioner.

Schwab will participate in the Project Upstream meeting on Thursday and will participate in the land use webinar on July 23rd.

Schwab will participate in the Communities for Kids (C4K) initiative meeting on July 27th. This is by invitation only right now, as they are establishing a core group to move forward. C4K will help communities better understand local childcare and early childhood needs and develop partnerships and solutions that fit each community.

Schoenrock met with the new Fairbury Public Schools superintendent Roger Stumpf last Wednesday, noting it was a good discussion.

Schwab reminded everyone that county government day is set for November 10th, and noting Tri-County Schools will not attend this year as they rotate which counties they visit.

Jefferson County is to host the next super board meeting on August 20th. Schoenrock will represent the county at this meeting.

The board requested a closed session for strategy.

Moved by Dux, seconded by Schoenrock 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 strategy at 10:12 a.m. Call of vote: Schwab, Dux, Schoenrock voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Moved by Dux, seconded by Schoenrock to go out of closed session at 10:32 a.m. Call of vote: Dux, Schoenrock, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Dux asked for public comments. None heard.

The board went to the law enforcement center for the quarterly jail inspection.

Meeting recessed at 11:06 a.m. Meeting reconvened at 1 p.m. with Dux, Schoenrock, Schwab, Banahan, Riggle and member of the public Bruce Jung present.

Based on information discussed in the earlier closed session, the board took the following action:

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to have Jerry Pigsley, Woods & Aitken represent the county in union negotiations with IBEW 1536 (highway union) for the contract period covering 2027 to 2030. Call of vote: Schoenrock, Schwab, Dux voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Moved by Dux, seconded by Schoenrock to go into board of equalization at 1:07 p.m. Call of vote: Schwab, Dux, Schoenrock voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Property protest hearings 2026-022 to 2026-038 were held. Banahan discussed and the board reviewed damaged property report 2026-043. The board also further reviewed some of the protests from July 7th based on new information provided by the appraisal company and the assessor.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to go out of board of equalization at 4:47 p.m. Call of vote: Dux, Schoenrock, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Meeting recessed at 4:48 p.m. Meeting reconvened on July 15, 2026 at 10 a.m. with Banahan, Schoenrock, Dux, Schwab, Riggle present.

Moved by Dux, seconded by Schoenrock to go into board of equalization at 10:05 a.m. Call of vote: Dux, Schoenrock, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Property protest hearings 2026-033 was held. Kylie Rohr, deputy assessor present. Property protest hearings 2026-039 to 2026-048 were held.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Dux to approve the final decisions on damaged property reports 2026-001 – 003; 020 and 043; property protests 2026-004 – 009; 011 – 022; 024 – 027, 029, 030, 032, 034 – 038. Call of vote: Schoenrock, Schwab, Dux voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to go out of board of equalization at 11:32 a.m. Call of vote: Schwab, Dux, Schoenrock voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Correspondence Listing *Note - all fees listed below have been deposited by the Treasurer into the appropriately noted funds. Received: **General:** \$1720.42 July '26 courthouse rent – State of Nebraska; \$5043.00 April '26 reimbursement shared services – Saline County, Ne; \$150.00 reimbursement DHHS telephone services – State of Nebraska; \$5361.37 June '26 fees Register of Deeds of which \$504.00 has been deposited into the preservation fund – Kristina Riggle, county clerk/register of deeds; \$189.24 June '26 fees – Kristina Riggle, county clerk; \$3984.77 June '26 fees – Shawna Lindblad, clerk of the district court; \$7361.77 SRO contract, \$72,888.01 May '26 LE contract City of Fairbury, \$7361.77 May '26 SRO contract, \$390.00 May '26 title inspections, \$1586.91 docket fees May '26, \$3465.00 2nd qtr PAK sales, \$4219.94 2nd qtr '26 commissary sales, \$897.26 May-June '26 inmate phone calls, \$1851.08 April '26 docket fees, \$360.00 April '26 vehicle inspections, \$72888.01 April '26 LE contract City of Fairbury, \$2935.00 1st qtr PAK sales, \$4386.00 1st qtr commissary sales, \$72,888.01 March '26 law enforcement contract City of Fairbury, \$7361.77 SRO Contract March '26 – all from Nick Georgi, sheriff. **911 Emergency Services:**– \$2.00 Greenfly Networks; \$586.00 Diller Telephone; \$123.00 Diode Communications- all for 911 surcharges. **Communication Sinking Fund:** \$750.00 March '26 reimbursement City of Fairbury; \$750.00 April '26 reimbursement City of Fairbury; \$750.00 May '26 City of Fairbury – Nick Georgi, sheriff. **Ambulance:** \$20,000.00 July '26 patient income – Greg Neemann, ambulance director. **Misc:** Notice State of Nebraska right of way division for upcoming mailing; June '26 documentary stamp tax report – Kristina Riggle, register of deeds.

Meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

I, Kristina Riggle, County Clerk do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a correct report of the meeting of July 14 & 15, 2026. Witness my hand and official seal on July 15, 2026.

Kristina Riggle, County Clerk

Michael T. Dux, Chairman