

The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners met as per notification of July 22, 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.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approve July 14 & 15, 2026 minutes and the 7-21-26 board of equalization minutes
2. Approve SDL for the Fairbury Chamber of Commerce to serve alcohol at the fairgrounds for a concert on 8-15-26.
3. Approve use of courthouse grounds by Fairbury Public Schools for the homecoming crowning and parade on 9-18-2026

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

Schoenrock represented Jefferson County at the Public Health Solutions 25th anniversary celebration leadership luncheon and board meeting.

Schoenrock represented Jefferson County at the Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging board meeting where Marlene Gakle was honored for her service.

Dux represented Jefferson County at the Trailblazer RC&D meeting in Red Cloud. The household hazardous waste collection is set for August 21, 2026 in Hebron and an electronic recycling event is scheduled for September 11th in Fairbury from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Schwab reported on the Project Upstream meeting. Three goals were identified – 1. Work on an after-school program 2. Update the resource guide and make it available electronically 3. Update and educate the community partners more often.

Schwab and John McKee, emergency manager/planning and zoning attended the land use forum last Thursday. This counted as continuing education credit and was a very good forum.

Schwab participated in the C4 group meeting last night. Supporting local childcare providers and identifying local needs were discussed.

John McKee, emergency manager/planning and zoning/weed and Darren Hunter, Verizon representative present. Dux opened the public hearing at 9:18 a.m. for a special use permit file 01-26 for a cell phone tower to be placed in section 5-1-3, roughly ½ mile west on Hwy 8 just outside of Endicott and north of Hwy 8. This was approved at the planning and zoning commission meeting Thursday, July 9, 2026 and the board was provided with the minutes for review. No other public was present to provide additional input. Dux closed the hearing at 9:24 a.m.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Schoenrock to approve special use permit 01-26 for a cell phone tower in section 5-1-3 as presented. Call of vote: Schoenrock, Schwab, Dux voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

McKee discussed LB 663 with designed to speed up the approval process for zoning permits. Data center issues were discussed. McKee reported certified letters for zoning violations have been sent out. Recipients have 30 days to respond to his office regarding the violation. McKee is still awaiting final word from the federal level on the disaster declaration from the May storms. McKee reviewed his proposed budget with the board.

Jason Eyer, highway supervisor and Terry Blas, highway supervisor assistant present. Problem road areas were discussed including a large blow out by Steele City. The department is contacting landowners in the area to see about getting dirt for the project. A tube is ordered with a cost of at least \$15,000. They are hoping to start on the project on Monday. Eyer and Blas reported they are able to get road gravel and rock now. The pit is not producing armor coat type sand, so the armor coating will have to wait.

Eyer presented an oversize permit for Wardcraft Homes and a right-of-way permit for Windstream to install fiber in section 25-2-2.

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to approve the right-of-way permit for Windstream along 710 road to 56990 710 Rd as presented. Call of vote: Schwab, Dux, Schoenrock voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Schoenrock to approve the oversize/overweight permit for Wardcraft Homes to move a home through the county on the approved route. Call of vote: Dux, Schoenrock, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

The board discussed the letter received in correspondence regarding a minimum maintenance road. Blas noted it was maintained on 6-29-26. Blas noted they typically go over the minimum maintenance roads at least twice per year and will go out as requested if needed, but they do not put down gravel or rock.

The board reviewed the acquisition contract and warranty deed from the State of Nebraska for acquiring additional right-of-way from the county for the Hwy 136 project through Fairbury. The county attorney has reviewed/approved all the documents prior to the meeting.

Moved by Schwab, seconded by Schoenrock to approve and have the chairman sign the acquisition contract, associated documents and warranty deed to the State of Nebraska for additional right-of-way for \$13,830.00 as presented. Call of vote: Schoenrock, Schwab, Dux voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Eyer and Blas reviewed the proposed budgets with the board. Laura Bedlan, City of Fairbury was on the agenda to update the board on a grant, but did not attend.

Joe Casson, county attorney, Travis Arnold, maintenance and Nick Georgi, sheriff present. Representatives from MBI Construction and Turbo Roofing also present.

Dux opened the sealed roof bids in read them in the order received:

1. MBI Construction, Fairbury, Ne. 68352 – 60 mil \$248,727.78 – 20 yr warranty
2. McKinnis Roofing, Blair, Ne. 68008 – 60 mil \$231,781.00 – 20 yr warranty/90 mil \$270,386.00 – 30 yr warranty.
3. Turbo Roofing, Lincoln, Ne 68504 – 90 mil \$179,999.00 – 25 yr warranty

4. Alcove Roofing, Omaha, Ne 68136 – 60/90 mil \$170,492.74 – no warranty listed
5. Martino Commercial Roofing, Omaha, Ne 68127 – 90 mil option \$222,472.00 – 20 yr warranty/60 mil option \$198,191 – 20 yr warranty

Moved by Schoenrock, seconded by Schwab to table the bids until August 11, 2026 at 9:15 a.m. so the bids can be thoroughly evaluated. Call of vote: Dux, Schoenrock, Schwab voting aye. Nay none. Motion carried.

Georgi discussed the law enforcement contract with the City of Fairbury and provided information to the board showing the contract cost is not keeping up with actual costs of covering the City. Georgi will propose to the City a 3% increase in the contract cost as provided in the contract. The board agreed with that proposal.

Arnold reviewed his budget with the board.

Shelby Pedersen, executive director of Southeast CASA gave an annual update and the FY 26-27 funding request of \$26,400 which is up from last year. Pedersen noted an increase in the number of children served in Jefferson County last year. They held a volunteer recruiting event with Grand View Eye Care and Beans and Cream coffee truck in Fairbury and had contact with 37 individuals. Volunteers average around 5 to 10 hours per month.

Leroy Bast, treasurer; Jim Carpenter, veterans service officer; Mary Banahan, assessor and Kylie Rohr, deputy assessor reviewed their proposed budgets with the board.

The board reviewed payroll and claims.

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

General Fund – Payroll \$163,818.21

3rd Street Body & Glass Llc.	Services	\$4,272.26
911 Custom, Llc	Services	\$742.00
Aln Lawn Care & Landscaping	Services	\$160.00
Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$23,489.01
Benchmark Government Solutions, Llc	Services	\$225.05
Benchmark Title Co	Services	\$900.00
Black Hills Energy	Services	\$328.84
Card Service Center-Jeff Nelson	Supplies	\$100.00
Central Plains Valuation Llc	Services	\$10,720.00
Cidnet	Services	\$300.00
Darci Pesek	Services	\$145.62
Das State Acct.-Central Finance	Services	\$334.00
Davenport Group,Inc.	Services	\$2,143.20
Defense Technology Llc	Services	\$1,050.00
Dept Of Correctional Services-Fed.	Services	\$13,590.70
Eakes Office Solutions	Supplies	\$14.49
Erin M.Mccartney, Trustee	Insurance	\$109.00
Erin M.Mccartney, Trustee	Insurance	\$174.00
Erin M.Mccartney, Trustee	Insurance	\$139.00
Fairbury Animal Clinic	Services	\$208.80
Fairbury Journal News	Services	\$466.56
Fancy Stitching	Services	\$215.00
Galls	Supplies	\$195.04
Government Forms & Supplies	Supplies	\$1,057.93
Grainger	Supplies	\$1,091.91
Gregory D. Kratz,Kratz Law Office L	Services	\$250.00
Hd Supply Facilities Maintenance	Supplies	\$359.79
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$50,797.09
Hometown Leasing	Services	\$433.93
Jefferson Comm Health & Life-Clinic	Services	\$5,714.25
Jefferson County Sheriff	Services	\$430.24
Larkins Ace Hardware	Supplies	\$7.12
Little Blue Public Water Project	Services	\$42.00
Lynn Peavey Company	Supplies	\$35.02
Midwest Process Services	Services	\$47.20
Motorola Solutions	Services	\$975.00
Nebr Dept Of Revenue	Tax	\$7,662.43
Nebraska Crime Commission	Services	\$364.00
Quadient Finance Usa,Inc	Supplies	\$2,000.00
Quill Corp	Supplies	\$162.39
Region V Systems	Services	\$10.00
Starr Plumbing Llc	Services	\$972.69
Swanson Services Corp.	Supplies	\$358.16
T.O. Haas Tire & Auto #5129	Services	\$1,053.68
Uniti	SERVICES	\$1,209.48
Van Diest Supply Company	Supplies	\$1,145.10
Vfw Post #3113	Services	\$100.00
Vigilnet America Llc	Services	-\$780.00
York Co Sheriff	Services	\$6.50

Highway Fund – Payroll \$33,434.15

Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$2,251.63
Beatrice Sand & Gravel	Supplies	\$12,121.50
Bell Bank Equipment Finance	Services	\$2,982.88
Black Hills Energy	Services	\$53.28
Caterpillar Financial Services Co	Services	\$22,193.85
Deere Credit, Inc.	Services	\$6,360.85
Diversified Safety & Compliance	Services	\$331.00
Fastenal Company	Supplies	\$113.50
First Bank Of Nebraska	Services	\$2,914.81
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$2,560.21
Hometown Leasing	Services	\$67.94
Nebraska Child Support Payment Cent	Insurance	\$184.62
Newman Traffic Signs	Supplies	\$814.15
Norris Public Power Dist	Services	\$45.00
Welsch Trucking, LLC	Services	\$463.14

Highway Bridge & Trust

Bowman Consulting Group Ltd	Services	\$22,505.43
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Communication Equipment Sinking

Windstream	Services	\$184.97
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Fair Fund – Payroll \$13,542.96

Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$186.54
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$1,036.06

911 EM Services – Payroll \$246.17

Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$16.62
Black Hills Energy	Services	\$51.26
Constellation New Energy Gas Div.	Services	\$0.82
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$18.83

911 Wireless Services

Great Plains Communication Inc	Services	\$85.04
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Tourism Fund

Tru By Hilton	Services	\$139.00
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Ambulance Fund – Payroll \$31,160.06

Ameritas Life Ins Corp-Retirement	Retirement	\$2,041.16
Card Services - Gregory Neemann	Supplies	\$42.30
Heartland Bank	Tax	\$2,383.73
Lampton Welding Supply Co Inc	Supplies	\$173.36
One Billing Solutions	Services	\$2,194.38

Dux asked for public comment. None heard. Meeting recessed at 11:45 a.m. Meeting reconvened at 1 p.m. with Dux, Schwab, Schoenrock, Riggle and Brian Blobaum, CPA present.

Blobaum gave an overview of the first draft of the proposed budget.

Shawna Lindblad, clerk of the district court; Tony Likens and Dennis Traeger, fair board; Joe Casson, county attorney; Greg Neemann, ambulance director; Nick Georgi, sheriff; Darci Pesek, extension agent; Brad Eisenhauer, IT Dept and Kristina Riggle, county clerk/register of deeds/election commissioner all reviewed their proposed budgets with the board.

The board continued working on miscellaneous budget items. The board phoned Jerry Pigsley, Woods and Aitken for strategy on contract negotiations.

Correspondence Listing *Note - all fees listed below have been deposited by the Treasurer into the appropriately noted funds. Received: **General:** \$3272.26 NIRMA Insurance claim; \$150.00 DHHS telephone reimbursement – State of Nebraska. **911 Emergency Services:**– \$2.00 Ooma Inc; \$9.00 Alltel; \$12.00 Granite Telecom; \$9.50 Eisner Advisory Group; \$1.00 Compliance Solutions; \$2.00 Compliance Solutions; \$8.00 Compliance Solutions; \$1.00 Simple Voip; \$3.00 Compliance Solutions; \$3.00 Hamilton Long Distance; \$15.00 Unite Private Networks; \$975.90 Spectrum Advanced; \$68.00 8x8 Inc; \$1.00 Comcast IP; \$34.00 Bandwidth; \$1.00 Hughes Networks- all for 911 surcharges. **Tourism:** \$2725.00 May '26 lodging tax – State of Nebraska. **Misc:** Road maintenance request letter – Jeff Bakewell; Pipeline safety letters; Notice of certification of final decision and order from TERC dismissing Case No: 24R 0787 Newton; 2026 plan of assessment for Jefferson County Years 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030 from Mary Banahan, assessor; 2026 cemetery review per statute 77—202.10 indicating no change from Mary Banahan, assessor.

Meeting adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

I, Kristina Riggle, County Clerk do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a correct report of the meeting of July 28, 2026. Witness my hand and official seal on July 28, 2026.

Kristina Riggle, County Clerk

Michael T. Dux, Chairman