

February 3, 2026 9:00 a.m.

The Jones County Board of Supervisors met in regular session. Present Supervisors Oswald, Hall, Schlarmann, Swisher, and Zirkelbach.

Moved by Zirkelbach seconded by Hall to approve the minutes of the January 27, 2026 meeting. All aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Swisher seconded by Schlarmann to approve payroll for the period ending January 25, 2026, as certified by the department heads. All aye. Motion carried.

The Auditor met with the Board for the various items as noted in the motions below and to give an update on the Public Safety Facility project and the replacement of film on the women's restroom door on first floor of the Courthouse.

Moved by Zirkelbach seconded by Schlarmann to suspend the property taxes, per Iowa Code Section 427.9, for Loras Simon, effective immediately, for real estate parcels 0411200010, 0412100005, and 0411200011 for a property located in Washington Township, subject to his continued ownership of said property, and annual certification of eligibility by the Iowa Department of Human Services. All aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Zirkelbach seconded by Schlarmann to appoint Derek Lumsden, a citizen representative, to fill a vacancy on the East Central Iowa Council of Governments (ECICOG) Board of Directors for the remainder of a three year term expiring December 31, 2027. All aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Schlarmann seconded by Hall to direct the Auditor to publish notice of a Board of Health vacancy on the county website and to accept applications until February 17, 2026. All aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Swisher seconded by Hall to authorize the chairman to sign the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 2025 Report. All aye. Motion carried. [2026-013]

The Board gave brief updates on past and future committee meetings.

The IT Coordinator met with the Board to review an updated Jones County Electronic Media and Technology Policy that replaces outdated language and addresses technology uses that were not in existence at the time of the last update.

Moved by Hall seconded by Swisher to approve the updated Jones County Electronic Media and Technology Policy and noting that all employees shall sign the new policy even if they signed the previous version upon hire, and to direct employees using remote access to fill out the remote access form. All aye. Motion carried. [2026-014]

The Engineer met with the Board to set a bid letting for contract rock for calendar year 2026, and to discuss right of way needed from the State of Iowa for a future project on Ridge Road E28.

Moved by Zirkelbach seconded by Schlarmann to accept bids until 9:30 a.m. on February 17, 2026, for project no. M-1326, a contract road rock and placement project. All aye. Motion carried. [2026-015]

Moved by Hall seconded by Schlarmann to approve a Partial Acquisition Contract with the State of Iowa for right-of-way along Ridge Road E28 for Project No. FM-CO53(95)—55-53 in Fairview Township. All aye. Motion carried. [2026-016]

The Board continued updates on previous and future committee meetings.

The Board discussed various options for the re-estimated FY26 budget, to discuss various options for moving Sheriff Deputy pay from the General Basic Fund to the Rural Basic Fund. The Board would like to see the following budget estimates at the next meeting:

- Add 2 Sheriff Deputies to the Rural Basic Fund for a total of 4.
- Add \$1,000/funeral for 4 funerals to the General Assistance budget. This allows for a total of 8 funeral assistance claims per fiscal year.
- A list of General Supplemental uses
- Projection of the Rural Basic levy at \$0.10 step increases.
- To set health insurance rates at the maximum increase since renewal rates are not finalized.

Moved by Schlarmann seconded by Hall to adjourn the meeting at 10:54 a.m. All aye. Motion carried.

Attest: Whitney Hein, Auditor

Joe Oswald, Chairman