**Jewell County Commissioners Meeting Minutes**
**January 5, 2026 – 8:30 a.m.**
**Commissioners Present**: Ed Duskie, Brent Beck, Ervin Underwood
**Also Present**: Myka Zadina, County Clerk

**Jay Johanek-**

- Executive session (see motion below)
- John Deere-
    - Provided a proposal for a new 350 excavator and a quote for the rental we are currently using.
- Discussed the cost the Road and Bridge department is charging to the Solid Waste Department for hauling trash.
- Video Call with PEC
    - Discussed options of vacating roads with bridges that are in critical condition.

**Jen Urbaniak-**

- Discussed the Rural attorney program through Washburn Law,
    - Grant through Dan Hanson
    - Provides $5,000.00 to help with living expenses and a $4,000.00 scholarship.
    - The grant recipient will be placed with full-time attorney.
- Discussed the Solid Waste KDHE Grant
    - Used to purchase recycling equipment and composting equipment
    - Opens March 15th, 2026
- Provided an update for Community Development with a handout

**Vincent Urbaniak-**

- Executive session (see motion below)
- Reviewed the activity report for December.
- Currently working on updating protocols and policies for the state
- EMT classes have completed and they will now be doing continuing education in office.

**Motions & Executive Sessions-**

- *Motion:* **Brent Beck moved, Ed Duskie seconded** to enter **executive session for 10 minutes** starting at 8:32 a.m. to discuss non-elected personnel with **Jay Johanek** present.

Motion passed unanimously. Regular session resumed at 8:42 a.m. with **Brent Beck** moving and **Ed Duskie** seconding to return to executive session for **5 minutes** starting at 8:43 a.m. with **Jay Johanek** present to continue the discussion of non-elected personnel. Motion passed unanimously. Regular session resumed at 8:48 a.m. with **Brent Beck** moving and **Ed Duskie** seconding to return into executive session for **5 minutes** starting at 8:48 a.m. with **Jay Johanek** present to continue the discussion of non-elected personnel. Motion passed unanimously. Regular session resumed at 8:51 a.m. with no action taken.

- *Motion:* **Ed Duskie moved, Brent BECK seconded** to enter **executive session for 10 minutes** starting at 10:10 a.m. to discuss non-elected personnel with **Vincent Urbanaik** present. Motion passed unanimously.
    - *Regular session resumed at 10:20 a.m. with **Ervin Underwood** moving and Brent Beck seconding to accept the write off amount of $28,671.92. motion passed unanimously.*
- *Motion:* **Brent Beck moved, Ervin Underwood seconded** to enter into executive session for **5 minutes** starting at 10:39 a.m. with **Jim Foster** present. Motion passed unanimously.
    - *Regular session resumed at 10:44 a.m. with no action taken.*
- *Motion:* **Brent Beck moved, Ervin Underwood seconded** to approve abatement #2656, # 2658, #2659 and change order #1997. Motion passed unanimously.

**Discussions-**

- The commissioners discussed merit-based raises for 2026.
- Signed bill pay checks and vouchers

**Adjournment-**

- The meeting adjourned at **11:00** a.m.

Ervin Underwood, Member

Ed Duskie, Chairman

Myka Zadina, County Clerk

Brent Beck, Vice-Chairman