

COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS

April 28th, 2025

The Jewell County Commissioners met on April 28th, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. Commissioners Ed Duskie, Brent Beck and Ervin Underwood were present. Myka Zadina, County Clerk, was present at the meeting.

The following were present for the office head meeting and provided an update for their department: Myka Zadina, County Clerk; Anna Porter, County Appraiser; Vincent Urbaniak, Ambulance Director; Don Jacobs, Sheriff; Nora Rhoades, Post Rock Extension District Director; David Walton, Solid Waste Director; Amanda Davis, Register of Deeds; and Kevin Peroutek, Noxious Weed Director, Emergency Preparedness Director and 911 Coordinator. Those absent: Chris Petet, Custodian; Brenda Eakins, Treasurer; Scott Wright, County Attorney; Joel Elkins, General Superintendent and Cindy Becker, Health Administrator.

David Walton, Solid Waste Director, presented the April monthly report. He stated they have been able to burn the burn pit this week with all the moisture we have had. He discussed replacing the solid waste trailer and he stated that the 50ft trailer would work better than 53ft trailer. The state did a follow up inspection regarding corrected violations, and they were impressed with what has been completed at the landfill. David also stated he has reached out to Lochner about getting the C&D pit flagged.

Vincent Urbaniak, EMS Director, stated they have been busy with transfers and now have part-time help. The EMT class taught by Kenny McCary is in full swing with 9 students and is two days a week. Vincent also stated that he will be attending a billing class for Blue Cross Blue Shield in May.

Kevin Peroutek, Emergency Preparedness Director and 911 Coordinator, stated he attended the LEPC meeting where they discussed the most recent blizzard and lessons learned. He also participated in a statewide exercise with the Kansas Department of Health at the Jewell County Hospital.

Kevin Peroutek, Noxious Weed Director, stated they have been spraying every day that they can and that chemical sales have increased. He also stated that he sprayed dandelions at the Solid Waste Department.

Amanda Davis, Register of Deeds, stated Nex-tech installed the new public station on Tuesday and Fidler is installed on it for public users.

Anna Porter, County Appraiser, stated that personal property statements are going out today. She also stated she is still working on the 17% inspections.

Don Jacobs, Sheriff, presented a statistics report for the month of April. The report also stated that the 5th graders at Rock Hills Elementary graduated from the D.A.R.E. Program. On Friday the sheriff's department seized multiple dogs from a home in Esbon and Cause for Paws from Hutchison came and helped without any cost to us. Don requested to make a donation for \$1000.00 to thank them for helping out. He also stated that two officers were fitted for new vest.

Nora Rhoades, Post Rock Extension District, stated Chris has been helping to get the floors waxed and the storage room is now cleaned out. She stated that Economic Development and Post Rock will be working in that area together. Nora also stated she works with Youth Development and has been working with the Health Departments and Abby Elkins on a grant.

Myka Zadina, County Clerk, stated she will be attending the County Clerks Conference this week in Mulvane. She also informed the office heads that we will be receiving new county cell phones on May 6th.

Cindy Becker, Health Administrator, sent an email stating that they are currently working on a disease investigation, and a nuisance complaint. She also went to a billing training last week and received a lot of good

information. She has a training in Wichita this week for vision and KanBe Healthy training so they will be able to offer that service. She also stated they have done a couple interviews for the office manager position.

Ervin Underwood attended the JACDA meeting April 8th and they discussed grants. On April 16th he attended the JCAB meeting. He also stated that Bike Across Kansas will be making a stop in Mankato on June 10th.

Brent Beck attended the LEPC meeting and the Detention Center meeting. He has been looking at road complaints. He also stated the Road and Bridge Department did a lot of work helping with the trailer fire and cleaning up all the trash and that they are greatly appreciated.

Ed Duskie attended the NCRPC meeting and they hired a new CEO. He also attended the LEPC meeting and the Golden Years Club meeting here in Mankato. He has also been looking at the road complaints.

Daren Booth, Theel Insurance, reviewed the Jewell County Plan for January 1, 2025 to March 31st, 2025. Brenda Eakins discussed the amount that we are putting into the Freedom Claims reserve account every month. Darren also explained how the reserve fund works. The Commissioners asked if they were to combine insurance with other entities in Jewell County if it would lower the cost. Daren stated Blue Cross Blue Shield would not allow this since it is two separate entities.

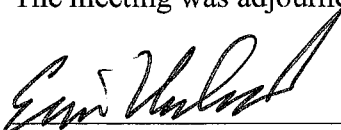
Karen Boden, Pawnee Mental Health, read the proclamation to proclaim May as Mental Health Awareness Month. Ed Duskie moved, and Brent Beck seconded to proclaim May as Mental Health Awareness Month. Karen discussed that they could have two members and an alternate. Karen stated she is the only member at the moment and Mel Brown was the only member for years also.

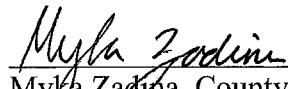
Joel Elkins gave a report from Ryan Standley at Foley on the track loader from the Solid Waste department. Joel stated they are working on grading rock roads, and a new employee will be starting at the end of May and will be running a blade. He discussed the difference in gravel roads vs roads with rock & gravel and discussed the process of laying gravel vs rock. Joel also stated they could remove snow for the Health Department.

Brent Beck moved, and Ed Duskie seconded to approve the minutes of the April 21st Commissioner Meeting.


The Commissioners discussed the county's purchasing policies and guidelines.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m.


Ervin Underwood, Member


Myka Zardina, County Clerk


Ed Duskie, Chairman


Brent Beck, Vice-Chairman