COMMISSIONERS PROCEEDINGS
April 6, 2026

The Jewell County Commissioners met Monday, April 6, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. Commissioners Brent Beck, Ervin Underwood, and Ed Duskie were present. Myka Zadina, County Clerk, was present for the meeting.

David Walton, Solid Waste Director, discussed solid waste fees and if a property is standing then solid waste fees will be charged. He stated if a property owner wants to tear down the home or business, they will have to dispose of the debris at the C&D pit. Once the building is no longer standing, then the solid waste fees can be removed.

Deb Ohlde, North Central Regional Planning Commission, started by thanking Ed Duskie for serving on the board. She then gave an update on current projects they are working on. She stated that they are still working with Economic Development on the grant writing phase of the 2021 Burr Oak City water project. She also stated that the City of Esbon just completed the first phase of their water project and is working on getting funding for the second phase and the City of Mankato is on the second phase of their water project. The last water project in Jewell County is the Rural Water District 1, and she stated they received a grant to do the design and once that is complete, they will be looking for funding to complete the project. She also stated that NCRPC has other programs available such as weatherization, homeland security, housing department and demo to dirt funds. She stated the Dem to Dirt funds has a $5,000.00 match for residential structures that need to be demolished. She ended with stating that the annual dues that come from Jewell County at budget time have a direct match to the Economic Development grant and the dues make it possible for NCRPC to get grant money.

Jay Johanek, Road and Bridge Superintendent, gave an update on recent bridge inspections and stated that the core of engineers gave the go ahead on a few projects where bridges need removed and will be replaced with tubes. He also stated that they have built a cattle guard to place in the entrance of the field for the Berry Pit and discussed the cost of replacing fence that had to be replaced to widen the entrance of the field. Jay also discussed repairs needed on the 94 Caterpillar scraper.

Ed Duskie moved and Ervin Underwood seconded to approve work order 2025-01 with PEC. Motion passed unanimously.

Ervin Underwood moved and Ed Duskie seconded to approve an agreement with the Republic County Rural Water District Number 1. The agreement allows RCRWD NO. 1 to bore a water line under the county road located at a point approximately ½ mile south of M road and 310 Road intersection in Vicksburg Township. Motion passed unanimously.

Vincent Urbaniak, Ambulance Director, presented the monthly activity report for March. He stated that they had 35 responses and 10 transfers. He stated that the new hires are really showing up and really helping with transfers. He also discussed when he would be needing a new ambulance and thought they would be needing one by the end of 2027, start of 2028.

The commissioners signed bill pay checks and vouchers.

Chris Petet, Custodian, stated that he is working on getting a quote for a handicap accessible door for the courthouse back entrance.

Jay Johanek presented the five-year base lease purchase agreement from State Exchange Bank for the purchase of a 2024 John Deere 350P Motor Grader. Ervin Underwood moved and Ed Duskie seconded to approve the lease purchase agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Brent Beck, Chairman

Ervin Underwood, Vice-Chairman

Myka Zadina, County Clerk

Ed Duskie, Member