
Jewell County Commissioners Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2025 – 8:30 a.m.

Commissioners Present: Ed Duskie, Brent Beck, Ervin Underwood

Also Present: Myka Zadina, County Clerk

Department Head Updates

Solid Waste Director – David Walton

- Presented the October report.
- Dale Wright (Road & Bridge) inspected the CAT on Saturday.
- Christies cleared the drain system; work is ongoing.
- New pit expected to be completed within 1–2 weeks.
- Discussed removing trees.

Ambulance Director – Vincent Urbaniak

- Monitoring Medicare payments due to the government shutdown.
- Expecting reduced Medicare reimbursements.
- Ambulance heater repaired.
- Awaiting paperwork for two certified EMTs to finalize hiring.

Custodian – Christ Petet

- Glassman repaired the heater; currently operating well.

Health Administrator – Cindy Becker

- Hosted Health Awareness Day on November 5th.
- Began planning the Candy Cane Lane Fun Run.
- Receiving increased calls as food stamps run out; food pantry supply is low.
- Attended regional public health meeting in Beloit last week.

Interim General Superintendent – Jim Foster

- Continuing rocking roads on the county line.
- Will have rock soon from the Harris pit.

County Appraiser – Anna Porter

- Completed 6-year annual maintenance.
- Nearly finished reviewing 26 records for deletions (watercraft and side-by-sides).
- Mandy Kempton attended training in Topeka.

Noxious Weed Director – Kevin Peroutek

- Hosting next directors' meeting in Mitchell County on November 15th.
- Currently spraying soybean roads.

Emergency Preparedness Director – Kevin Peroutek

- LAPC meeting held November 5th at 6:30 a.m.
- Attended Homeland Security meeting via Zoom last Thursday.
- Working on acquiring an emergency response trailer.

County Clerk – Myka Zadina

- Completed 3 of 9 Certified Election Official trainings.
 - Preparing the November abstract checklist.
 - Early voting underway in the office.
 - Payroll and bill pay scheduled this week.
 - Board worker training tomorrow; public test Wednesday.
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Commissioner Reports

Ervin Underwood

- Attended Jewell County Economic Development and JCDA meetings.
- Recommended checking all backup generators before winter.

Brent Beck

- Working on tax sale.
- Conducting interviews for Road and Bridge Superintendent.

Ed Duskie

- Will attend upcoming North Central Kansas meeting.
 - Working on tax sale.
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Business Items

Employment Agreement – David Walton

- Completed CDL classes per employment agreement.
- *Motion:* Underwood moved, Beck seconded to approve updated employment contract for Solid Waste Director David Walton at **\$43,740 salary plus 3% longevity pay (\$1,312.20)**.
 - **Motion passed unanimously.**

General Superintendent – Jim Foster

- Bridge in Erving Township needs replaced with a tube.
- Rocking to be completed this week, weather permitting.
- Work schedule returned to 5-day weeks.
- Tube at Dean's Feedlot is too large for excavator; developing a plan for placement.

Health Administrator – Cindy Becker

- Discussed grant opportunities and Health 365.

- Provided a list of grants available for application.
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Motions and Executive Sessions

- *Motion:* Duskie moved, Beck seconded to approve **October 13th minutes**.
 - **Motion passed unanimously.**
 - *Motion:* Duskie moved, Beck seconded to enter **executive session for 10 minutes** at 9:22 a.m. to discuss non-elected personnel.
 - Regular session resumed at 9:27 a.m. with no action taken.
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Proclamations and Delegations

Tanya Paul – DVACK

- Read the **Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation**.
- *Motion:* Duskie moved, Underwood seconded to proclaim **October 2025 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month**.
 - **Motion passed unanimously.**

KCAMP and KWORCC Voting Delegates

- *Motion:* Duskie moved, Beck seconded to designate **Myka Zadina** as voting delegate and **Brent Beck** as alternate delegate.
 - **Motion passed unanimously.**

Tax Sale Update – Brenda Eakins


- Halfway through preparing tax sale list; will submit soon.
- Gail Miller to complete title work.

Executive Sessions- General Superintendent Interviews

- Ed Duskie moved and Brent Beck seconded to go into executive session for 5 minutes starting at **9:22 a.m.** to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion passed unanimously. Regular session resumed at **9:27 a.m.** with no action taken.
- Ervin Underwood moved and Brent Beck seconded to go into executive session for **25 minutes starting at 10:00 a.m.** with **Matt Ehlers** present to conduct a job interview. Motion passed unanimously with regular session resuming at **10:25 a.m.** with no action taken.
- Ervin Underwood moved and Ed Duskie seconded to go into executive session for **25 minutes starting at 10:32 a.m.** with **Bill Foster** present to conduct a job interview. Motion passed unanimously with regular session resuming at **10:57 a.m.** with no action taken.
- Ervin Underwood moved and Brent Beck seconded to go into executive session for **25 minutes starting at 10:59 a.m.** with **Nate Blair** present to conduct a job interview. Motion passed unanimously with regular session resuming at **11:24 a.m.** with no action taken.
- Ed Duskie moved and Ervin Underwood seconded to go into executive session for **25 minutes starting at 11:28 a.m.** with **Jay Johaneck** present to conduct a job interview. Motion passed unanimously with regular session resuming at **11:53 a.m.** with no action taken.
- Ed Duskie moved and Ervin Underwood seconded to go into executive session for **7 minutes starting at 11:53 a.m.** with **Jay Johaneck** present for a follow-up interview. Motion passed unanimously with regular session resuming at **12:00 p.m.** with no action taken.

- Ervin Underwood moved and Brent Beck seconded to go into executive session for **25 minutes starting at 12:05 p.m.** with **Mike Reiman** present to conduct a job interview. Motion passed unanimously with regular session resuming at **12:30 p.m.** with no action taken.
- Ervin Underwood moved and Brent Beck seconded to go into executive session for **10 minutes starting at 12:31 p.m.** to discuss non-elected personnel. Motion passed unanimously with regular session resuming at **12:41 p.m.** with no action taken.

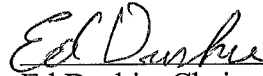
Meeting Adjourned: 12:42 p.m.



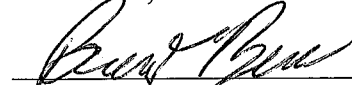
Ervin Underwood, Member



Myka Zedna, County Clerk



Ed Duskie, Chairman



Brent Beck, Vice-Chairman