

Jewell County Commissioners Meeting Minutes

November 24th, 2025 – 8:30 a.m.

Commissioners Present: Ed Duskie, Brent Beck, Ervin Underwood

Also Present: Myka Zadina, County Clerk

Department Head Updates

Ambulance Director – Vincent Urbaniak

- Four individuals passed EMT test
- Online training to renew licenses to handle narcotics
- Busy with transfers
- Medicare started paying bills again and they started to resubmitting claims
- Received the new billing computer from Nex-Tech

Custodian – Christ Petet

- Inspected water back flow for the city
- December 23rd- boiler inspection

Anna Porter – Appraiser

- Preliminary numbers- residential 8-10 % increase
- Getting new construction in 4-6 weeks

Brenda Eakins-

- Taxes should be mailed today
- Turned over tax sale but no update on the next step

Amanda Davis-

- Stated her office is running smoothly.

Myka Zadina- County Clerk

- Completed November Abstract

- Taxes have been generated and sent to the Treasures office
- Pay roll this week
- Preparing for the possibility of a March election.

Brent Beck

- Meetings attended:
 - Detention center meeting in junction city
 - Hospital board meeting
- Hired Jay Johaneck as the new general superintendent for the Road and Bridge Department.

Ervin Underwood-

- Meetings attended:
 - Mankato city council meeting- discussed water district
 - Strategic meeting in Mankato- looking into fixing building downtown
 - JCCDA
 - 107 board of education meeting

Ed Duskie

- Meetings attended:
 - North Central Kansas Regional Planning
 - LEPG
- Road complaints

Office Head ended at 8:40 a.m.

Anna Porter-

- Discussed getting updated Plat books, the most recent year we have for sale is 2022.
- Mapper for our counties can put on together for us but there will be a setup fee of \$1100.00 for the first year.

Cindy Becker-

- WICI got full funding so will start to receive reimbursement but 3-4 months behind

- Health awareness day
- Fun Run coming up
- Annual coat drive
- Christmas stories in the library December 19th

Scott Wright-

- Cases for 2025
 - 25 criminal cases
 - 14 fish and game cases
 - 105 traffic- 265 cases last year- between Troopers and Jewel County
 - 3 children in need of care
 - No juvenile cases
- Attended a County Attorney and District Attorney conference for continuing education
- District attorneys have been getting together to brainstorm and talk for the last 6-8 months. Discussed going from County Attorney to District Attorneys with assistants below him.
 - Legislators would have to pass a statute for this to happen.
- Ervin Underwood asked how to condemn a house due to health reasons. Scott stated that the County has no authority in city limits, but a city can deem it unlivable.

Vincent Urbaniak & Dr. Walker-

- Discussed a contract and pay for Dr. Walker as he would like to continue being the local coroner.
- Vincent stated that Dr. Walker will always be contacted first and if after 30 minutes he can't be contacted he will call the district coroner out of Salina.

Jay Johaneck & Jim Foster – Road & Bridge updates

- Discussed a call from Greg Wilson regarding a tube needing put in- the Commissioners stated it was county business.
- Discussed renting another excavator- 56,000 lb. machine- \$1700 a day \$4,900 for a week
 - Commissioners recommended checking with Deere on cost
- Discussed financing for a motor grader for a government lease.

- If we purchase this motor grader it will be the 12th grader and can re-do routes to work better.
- Discussed motor grader routes and other employees helping out in other territory when needed.
- December 16th will be a demo for mower
- Sent out bid proposals for tires.
- Discussed mowers and bids for new ones.
- Broke down loader- discussed option to repair
- #1 fuel in tanks, chains are ready to go and have spares
- Spoke with KCAMP about patching sky light holes in building behind the shop.
- Discussed the PayScale for CDL and NON CDL employees
- Discussed roads needing rock

Jim Foster-

- Removing a bridge on G rd. off 30 rd. and placing a 8 ft tube.
- Discussed rocking projects by Athens Cemetery and Dispatch.

Motions & Executive Sessions:

- ***Motion:* Brent Beck moved, Ed Duskie seconded to purchase the 2022 john deer 672 and trade in 2010 caterpillar for 25,000.00 for final cost of \$282,000.00. motion passed unanimously.**

General Discussion


- \$100.00 Kiers gift cards for county employee as a Christmas present

Motions

1. **Approval of Minutes- *Motion:* Ervin Underwood moved, Ed Duskie seconded to approve the November 17th, 2025, minutes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Adjournment

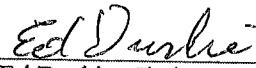
- The meeting adjourned at **10:42 a.m.**




Ervin Underwood, Member



Myka Zadin, County Clerk



Ed Duskie, Chairman



Brent Beck, Vice-Chairman

