Jewell County Commissioners Meeting Minutes
October 6th, 2025 – 8:30 a.m.
Commissioners Present: Ed Duskie, Brent Beck, Ervin Underwood
Also Present: Myka Zadina, County Clerk

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1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

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2. Executive Session – Jim Foster

At 8:31 a.m., Ed Duskie moved, and Ervin Underwood seconded, to enter into executive session for 10 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with Jim Foster present. Motion passed unanimously.
Regular session resumed at 8:46 a.m. with no action taken.

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3. Road & Equipment Discussion – Jim Foster

- Discussed roads that require rock and grading.
- Grinding rock at the county's rock pits.
- Discussed an advertisement for hiring for the department.

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4. Highland Township Trustee Appointment

Ed Duskie moved, and Brent Beck seconded, to accept **Stede Underwood's resignation** as Highland Township Trustee. Motion passed unanimously.

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5. Abatements

Ervin Underwood moved, and Brent Beck seconded, to approve the following abatements:
#2628 through #2639. Motion passed unanimously.

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6. Vincent Urbaniak – Ambulance Department

- At 9:15 a.m., Ed Duskie moved, and Brent Beck seconded, to enter into executive session for 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with Vincent Urbaniak present. Motion passed unanimously.
- Regular session resumed at 9:30 a.m.
- Ervin Underwood moved, and Brent Beck seconded, to approve a **write-off in the amount of $28,653.10**. Motion passed unanimously.
- Vincent presented the **September activity report** with a total of **32 responses**.
- Discussed potential impact of the federal government shutdown on Medicare payments.

7. Resolutions and Agreements

- **Resolution 25-11**: Ervin Underwood moved, and Brent Beck seconded, to adopt Resolution 25-11. Motion passed unanimously.
- **On-Call Agreement with PEC**: Ed Duskie moved, and Ervin Underwood seconded, to approve the agreement. Motion passed unanimously.
- **Meeting Minutes**: Ed Duskie moved to approve the **September 29th meeting minutes**, Brent Beck seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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8. Jeff Sells – Rock Hills Superintendent

- Jeff Sells met with commissioners to discuss upcoming **community meetings**, including a **facility tour scheduled for tonight.**
- Discussion of the **resolution process required by the State Board of Education** for ballot inclusion.
- Emphasis on retaining local students and preparing them for future opportunities.
- Ervin Underwood proposed a **career fair**, which Jeff expressed interest in supporting.
- Jeff Sells emphasized the importance of **open community engagement** and the need for voters to focus on the **facts, not personal feelings**.
- Ed Duskie inquired about **staffing for technical classes**; Jeff confirmed some qualified teachers are in place, with others being sought.
- Jeff closed with appreciation for the commissioners' time and support.

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9. KDHE Consent Agreement

Brent Beck moved, and Ervin Underwood seconded, to approve the **Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) consent agreement**. Motion passed unanimously.

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10. Hiring Discussion- General Superintendent

- **Application Deadline:** October 22 at 4:00 p.m.
- **Interviews:** Scheduled for October 27.

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11. Bridge Concerns – Dan Mohzman

- Reported two additional holes in a bridge. Commissioners agreed Jim Foster should inspect the issue.

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12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at **10:43 a.m.**

Ervin Underwood, Member

Ed Duskie, Chairman

Myka Zadina, County Clerk

Brent Beck, Vice-Chairman