

## **Jewell County Commissioners Meeting Minutes**

**December 8, 2025 – 8:30 a.m.**

**Commissioners Present:** Ed Duskie, Brent Beck, Ervin Underwood

**Also Present:** Myka Zadina, County Clerk

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### **Casey- Foley**

- Delivered 2026 calendars
- Discussed rippers on the motor grader

### **Don Jacobs**

- Attended the Jewell City meeting- stated they are going to sign the 2026 contract but is cutting back to 21 hrs. a week.
- Discussed City of Mankato contract.
- Stated a deputy hit two deer on the way home from junction city in the patrol vehicle.
- Discussed shift differential starting at 12:30 instead of at 5:00 p.m. on Friday.
- Discussed KPNF

### **Mike Rezkalla & Karen Boden- Pawnee Mental Health**

- Presented a state of mental health in America report
- Collaborated with mental health America of the heartland to provide a training for law enforcement in Mankato.
- State building a facility in Wichita
- Partnership created with area jails- jail liaison position that will help jails with post discharge. Liaison is a free service for the jails.
- Celebrated Pawnee Mental Health's 69<sup>th</sup> anniversary in November
- New Day campaign- aimed to bring more attention the service Pawnee Mental Health provides
- STARS Camp- ages 5-17 years old- free camp for children with mental health diagnosis
- Telehealth with the Jewell County Health Department- an established client with Pawnee can walk into the Jewell County Health Department and have appointment with the Telehealth.

- Mike stated he appreciates Jewell County's support and support of their mission
- Karen Boden states she will be with Pawnee Mental Health for another 4 years, she also stated we can appoint another member and that Commissioners can also be on the board.

### **Alex Larson- Phone Call**

- Discussed raises and how it will affect the 2026 budget
  - Stated that raises can be given and we will have to look at the budgeted at the end of 2026 to see if it will need to be amended.
  - Stated that when preparing the budget, they undershoot revenue so there could be more revenue than expected.

### **Discussions-**

- Merritt based raises
  - Office heads would complete 6-month evaluations and then 12-month evaluations
  - Merritt raises could possibly be given in a lump sum amount or percentage increase to hourly pay.
  - Will discuss more and make plan for 2027

### **Adjournment**

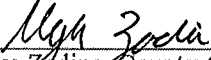
- The meeting adjourned at **10:10** a.m.

### **Multi-County Meeting Attendance**

- Commissioners attended **multi-county meeting** at the **Osborne County Veterans Building**
  - Participants: **Jewell, Mitchell, Smith, and Osborne Counties**
  - Topics discussed: **starting wages, merit-based raises, health insurance and new hires for Smith Counties and Jewell Counties Road and Bridge Department.**
  - **Next meeting** to be hosted by **Smith County**



Ervin Underwood, Member



Myka Zedina, County Clerk



Ed Duskie, Chairman



Brent Beck, Vice-Chairman

