

February 28, 2025 10:00 a.m.

The Jones County Board of Supervisors met in special session. Present Supervisors Hall, Oswald, Schlarmann, Swisher, and Zirkelbach.

Moved by Oswald seconded by Swisher to approve three quit claim deeds transferring streets within the Baker & Sandusky Addition in Fairview that were vacated on December 3, 2024, to Tony McCarthy and Marcia McCarthy, Gregory L. Heims and Jill Heims, and to Barner, Inc. All aye. Motion carried. [2025-023, 2025-024, 2025-025]

The Engineer and Assistant to the Engineer met with the Board for the approval of a partial acquisition contract and a project development certification.

Moved by Zirkelbach seconded by Hall to approve a Partial Acquisition Contract with Free-Range Ranch LLC for right-of-way along County Rd. X31 for a RCB Culvert replacement project number BRS-CO53(96)- -60-53. All aye. Motion carried. [2025-026]

Moved by Oswald seconded by Hall to approve the project development certification with the Iowa DOT for project number BRS-CO53(96)- -60-53 stating that the county is in compliance with the notification requirements for relocating utilities and has acquired all right-of-way associated with the project. All aye. Motion carried. [2025-027]

The Board and Auditor discussed several FY26 budget related topics including increasing the rural services levy rate and decreasing the general supplemental levy rate, and potential wage increases for elected officials and non-union staff.

Moved by Oswald seconded by Zirkelbach to approve a 3% wage increase for the Board of Supervisors, 4% wage increase for the Sheriff and Treasurer, a 5% wage increase for the Auditor and Recorder, and a 6.5% wage increase for the County Attorney, subject to formal action the FY26 budget hearing. On roll call vote: Oswald aye, Swisher nay, Hall nay, Zirkelbach aye, Schlarmann aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Zirkelbach seconded by Oswald to approve a 4% wage increase for all non-elected and non-union staff except for the JETS drivers and office assistant who will receive a 4.5% increase and the JETS Director, VA Administrator, IT Coordinator, Facilities Maintenance Director, Jail Administrator, Civil Office Manager, Attorney Secretary, Secondary Road Office Manager, Community Services Assistant, and Senior Dining site manager, cook, kitchen assistants, and transport staff who will receive a 5% increase for FY26 budgetary purposes only. All aye. Motion carried.

The Board members gave brief updates on past and future committee meetings.

The County Attorney gave comments on the ECR MHDS Region meeting and then transition process.

Moved by Swisher seconded by Oswald to adjourn at 11:40 a.m. All aye. Motion carried.

Attest: Whitney Hein, Auditor

John Schlarmann, Chairman