JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PROCEEDINGS
January 5, 2026

At 8:30 A.M., Chair Dimmitt called the meeting of the Board of Supervisors to order. The meeting was held in the first-floor meeting room of the Jefferson County Courthouse.

Board members present were: Lee Dimmitt, Chairman; Susie Drish, Vice-Chairman; Joe Ledger, Supervisor.

It was moved by Dimmitt, seconded by Drish to nominate Susie Drish as Chairman and Joe Ledger as Vice-Chairman of the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors. All "Aye". Motion carried.

It was moved by Dimmitt, seconded by Ledger that the minutes for the December 22nd and 29th, 2025 meetings be acknowledged. All "Aye". Motion carried.

Supervisors met with the Courthouse Maintenance Supervisor.

Supervisors met with the County Engineer.

It was motioned by Dimmitt to create a line item in the BOS budget for FY26/27 for snow removal. Ledger seconded. Dimmitt and Ledger- "Aye". Drish- "Nay".

Drish motioned to re-appoint DeWayne Heintz as the County Weed Commissioner for calendar year 2026. Dimmitt seconded. All "Aye". Motion carried.

The Board met with the Ambulance Director.

It was moved by Drish, seconded by Dimmitt to approve the current board and committee assignments for the members of the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors as discussed. All "Aye". Motion carried. A listing of assignments is available for review on the bulletin board in the Courthouse lobby and on the County website.

It was motioned by Dimmitt, seconded by Ledger to approve the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

Be it resolved, by the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors, that the following authorizations are hereby effective for the 2026 calendar year:

1.) County officials and employees are authorized to attend meetings and schools of instruction at county expense.

2.) The Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is authorized to execute leases and/or deeds of conveyance for and on behalf of Jefferson County.

3.) The County Auditor is authorized to exercise the authority granted in and as provided by Chapter 331.506, subsections 2 & 3, 2026 Code of Iowa.

4.) The County Engineer is designated, authorized and empowered on behalf of the board of supervisors, to execute the certificate of completion of work and final acceptance thereof in accordance with plans and specifications therefore in connection with all farm-to-market construction projects in Jefferson County.

Resolution passed on this 5th day of January, 2026.

AYES:
Lee Dimmitt
Susie Drish
Joseph Ledger

NAYS:
None

ATTEST:
Christy L. Conner
County Auditor

Supervisors discussed the County Compensation Commission Board Members for 2026. Dimmitt motioned to approve the members with the knowledge that two of the members need replaced. Ledger seconded. All “Aye”. Motion carried.

It was moved by Drish, seconded by Ledger that the following newspapers be designated as official newspapers of Jefferson County, Iowa: The Southeast Iowa Union/Fairfield Ledger, Fairfield, Iowa and The Clarion-Plainsman, Packwood, Iowa. Drish and Ledger- "Aye". Dimmitt- "Nay". Motion carried.

It was motioned by Ledger, seconded by Drish to approve the following resolution: Drish "Aye". Ledger "Aye". Dimmitt "Nay". Motion carried:

RESOLUTION

CONSTRUCTION EVALUATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Iowa Code section 459.304(3) sets out the procedure if a board of supervisors wishes to adopt a "construction evaluation resolution" relating to the construction of a confinement feeding operation structure; and

WHEREAS, only counties that have adopted a construction evaluation resolution can submit to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) an adopted recommendation to approve or disapprove a construction permit application regarding a proposed confinement feeding operation structure; and

WHEREAS, only counties that have adopted a construction evaluation resolution and submitted an adopted recommendation may contest the DNR's decision regarding a specific application; and

WHEREAS, by adopting a construction evaluation resolution the board of supervisors agrees to evaluate every construction permit application for a proposed confinement feeding operation structure received by the board of supervisors between February 1, 2026 and January 31, 2027 and submit an adopted recommendation regarding that application to the DNR; and

WHEREAS, the board of supervisors must conduct an evaluation of every construction permit application using the master matrix created in Iowa Code section 459.305, but the board's recommendation to the DNR may be based on the final score on the master matrix or may be based on reasons other than the final score on the master matrix;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF JEFFERSON COUNTY that the Board of Supervisors hereby adopts this construction evaluation resolution pursuant to Iowa Code section 459.304(3).

Susie Drish
Chair, Board of Supervisors
Date: 1/5/26

ATTEST:

Christy L. Conner
County Auditor
Date: 1/5/26

Supervisors met with Andy Meader with Liberty Communications to discuss completion of broadband agreement. Discussion tabled.

Drish moved, seconded by Ledger to approve the hiring of Laney Bowers as a seasonal/part time County Conservation Naturalist intern at a rate of $15.00/hr effective December 29, 2025. All "Aye". Motion carried.

It was motioned by Dimmitt, seconded by Drish to ask Ed Kelly to facilitate a meeting with Symmetry Music Festival coordinators and Mr. Nelson and Mr. Thornton. All "Aye". Motion carried.

It was moved by Drish, seconded by Dimmitt to increase the County's excess liability coverage. All "Aye". Motion carried.

Committee Reports: Dimmitt reported on Progressive Housing meeting. Drish and Ledger had no reports.

Public Comment: Ed Kelly gave an update on a pending lawsuit.

It was moved by Dimmitt, seconded by Ledger to allow the claims against the county in the amount of $151,636.20 and to direct the county auditor to issue checks against the various funds of the county in payment of the claims allowed. All "Aye". Motion carried.

It was moved by Dimmitt, seconded by Ledger to adjourn. All "Aye". Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Christy L. Conner
County Auditor

Susie Drish, Chairman
Board of Supervisors