



JASPER COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JULY 16, 2026

The Jasper County Board met in regular session on Thursday, July 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at the Jasper County Building, Board Room, 204 West Washington Street, Newton, Illinois. The meeting was called to order by Board Chairman Warfel and the Pledge of Allegiance. The following board members were present: Chairman Jason Warfel, Vice-Chairman Ron Heltsley, A.C. Pickens, Doug Weddell, James Judson, Eric Spiker, Jessica Schackmann, and Austin Francis. Michael Geier was absent.

Public Comments: Anthea Zumbahlen thanked the board for letting the Jasper County Museum go through the courthouse building and gather items for the museum.

Adoption of the agenda. There was no objection, the agenda was adopted as distributed.

Reports:

County Departments:

Ambulance Department – June 71 – 911 Calls; 42 – Transfers. Ambulance Service provided coverage at the Jasper County Fair. Service held training that covered new medications and equipment.

Highway Department – Construction Engineering services with Stone & Waggoner PLLC for Section 25-06124-00-BR on a bridge project in North Muddy Township utilizing Township Bridge Program (TBP) funds will need Board approval. This project is located on Township Road 1000N, 6 miles west of Newton. On Friday, July 10, 2026, a letting was held for the construction of Section 25-06124-00-BR on a bridge in North Muddy Township. The low bid was submitted by C-Hill Civil Contractors from Campbell Hill, IL in the amount of \$343,740.00. This bid was approximately 3.8% below the approved engineer's estimate. A Resolution is being presented to the County Board for approval. Preliminary / Construction Engineering services with Stone & Waggoner PLLC for Section 26-11122-00-BR on a bridge project in Willow Hill Township utilizing Township Bridge Program (TBP) funds will need Board approval. This project is located on Township Road 1000N, 2.25 miles west of Willow Hill. Preliminary / Construction Engineering services with Stone & Waggoner, PLLC for Section 26-10135-00-BR on a bridge project in Wade Township utilizing Township Bridge Program (TBP) funds will need Board approval. This project is located on Township Road 1150E, approximately .25 miles south of Newton. A Bridge Aid Petition with Grove Township along with a Joint Resolution between Jasper County/Grove Twp. and Effingham County/St. Francis Twp. is being submitted to the County Board for approval. This is for the construction of a box culvert located on the county line in Grove Township. IDOT has approved the Pavement Preservation program. Approximately two-thirds of the oiling on County roads has been completed, with the remaining work expected to be finished within the next two weeks, weather permitting.

Health Department – Total Number of clients served for the month of June was 1,017. Nursing – 465; Behavioral Health – 49; Environmental Health – 61. They are gearing up for the Jasper County Cancer Support Bingo on October 1. If anyone would like to donate a prize or a theme basket, please contact the Health Department. All proceeds will benefit the Jasper County Cancer Support Fund. Next Board of Health meeting will be held July 27th at 5:30 pm.

County Positions/Services:

Building Maintenance – Kurt Beirman going to get any items for security including panic buttons, cameras equipment out of the courthouse. Panic buttons will be in the temporary offices. Ed Francis from EMA would like a hook up for the generator they have at the storage building/EMA building in case needed for emergency use. Matt Tarr will look into it and if not could get a quote from Ambraw Power.

Jasper County Courthouse – Courthouse offices are completely moved. The move has gone as good as expected. Pickens complimented the elected officials and probation on the work they have done for the move. It has been a lot of extra work.

Information Technology – Courthouse items have been moved for the most part, and getting items set up.

Animal Control – County Calls 21, City Calls 11, 1 Reported Bite, 3 Pets Relinquished, 3 Dogs Impounded. Kennel inspection and license renewal completed and satisfactory in all categories. Dogs are slowly finding homes, but kennel remains full. If interested in adopting or fostering contact dispatch if want a meet and greet. Make sure your dogs are microchipped so they can be identified and returned.

Elected Officials:

Treasurer- Reports from Bigard were sent in the board packet. The total income for June was \$246,305.53. The expenses for June were \$342,211.87. Total income less expenses for June a net loss of \$95,906.34. Fiscal year 2025/2026 income was \$2,195,893.33. Less Expenses were \$2,639,729.67 with a net loss of \$443,836.34.

Other Elected Officials/Offices –
County Clerk – In Packet

Consent Agenda: The Following items were on the consent agenda: Approval of Jasper County Board, June 18, 2026 Meeting Minutes; Approval Of North Muddy Township Construction Engineering Services Agreement With Stone & Waggoner ; Adoption Of Resolution For Construction Of North Muddy Township Bridge; Approval Of Willow Hill Township Construction Engineering Services Agreement With Stone & Waggoner; Approval Of Wade Township Construction Engineering Services Agreement With Stone & Waggoner; Adoption Of Joint Bridge Aid Petition Resolution Jasper/Grove Township & Effingham/St. Francis Township; File County Reports; and Allow Claims. Weddell moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Schackmann seconded the motion. Motion carried on a voice vote. The Consent Agenda has been adopted.

Old Business:
No Old Business

New

No New Business

Business:

Board Comments: Spiker went by courthouse and wanted to recognize the county officials for getting the job done. Schackmann wanted to also thank the county officials for all the hard work and extra time they have put in. Judson thanked Warfel for the work he does for the board packet.

Chairman's Comments:

HOPE Trust Meeting: July 23-24, 2026 HopeTrust Annual Conference – St. Charles, MO

UCCI Meeting: July 26-28, 2026 Annual Conference – Galena, IL

Events: July 29, 2026 The Indiana Rail Road Event 4:00 p.m. – Palestine, IL

August 25, 2026 TGM Lis Open House 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Lis, IL

The board dashboard is in the board packet which is online under the meeting. Trying to put monthly reports on it to be able to look at month to month to see the changes. The courthouse and the effort the elected officials have went to and working after hours. Thanked Anthea Zumbahlen and Jennifer Hintischer for preserving Jasper County History. Thanked Pickens and Schackmann for walking through the building with them. Treasurer office preparing to send out tax bills. The county tax rate did not increase but increase would be due to the EAV and individual property assessments. The county is one of many taxing districts. Warfel went on to tell the percentage of tax bill for the different taxing districts. Signs have been put up at courthouse telling where new offices are and court will be held in Effingham.

Executive/Closed Session – The Board does have an executive/closed session to discuss: Personnel 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). There was no action taken following the executive/closed session, and the board adjourned the meeting from the executive/closed session. Spiker moved for the board to enter an executive session under the following exception: Personnel (exception 1). Francis seconded the motion. Francis, Heltsley, Judson, Pickens, Shackmann, Spiker, Warfel and Weddell voted yes with a roll call vote. Geier was absent. The Board entered an Executive Session at 6:21 pm.

Schackmann moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 pm. Francis seconded the motion. Motion carried on a voice vote.

The Next Board Meeting will be on Thursday, August 20, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. [Audit Review 5:00 p.m.]

Amy Tarr, Jasper County Clerk