



JASPER COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 18, 2026

The Jasper County Board met in regular session on Thursday, June 18, 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, and Jessica Schackmann. Michael Geier and Austin Francis were absent.

Public Comments: No public comments

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

Reports:

County Departments:

Ambulance Department - 911 Transports 62; Transfers 27; Accidents 10; Refusals 19; Discharges 2; Mutual Aid Standby 9. The new ambulance will be here this fall.

Highway Department – The mowing of the county highway right of ways started in May and is approximately half complete. The Renewal of the Material Tax Resolution is being submitted to the County Board for approval. This renewal is required to be placed before voters on the ballot every five years. Funds generated by the Material Tax are solely dedicated to the purchase of rock and oil for the maintenance of County roads. This is strictly a renewal and does not impose an additional tax. 1991 to purchase materials. 60 miles of gravel 2002 2003-2006 oil prices 6 to 7 ton ½ roads sealed and chipped ¼ roads sealed each year. Currently \$3.38 19 per ton still be able to be to ¼ seal and chip. Could cover 13 miles of county highways would be 1/5 if did not have the tax. Cost .0833 per \$100 assessed value.

Not a New Tax.

Health Department – 910 clients served. Safe Sitter Babysitting Class had 25 attendees. Next Board of Health meeting will be held July 27th at 5:30 pm.

County Positions/Services:

Building Maintenance – Last meeting approved the 2 insulated doors, and they are ordered for the county building small board room.

Jasper County Courthouse – Plans to moving the offices.

Information Technology – Express concerns on the move, better information passed down. Working on configuring the 2 buildings in the next couple of weeks.

Animal Control – 3 dogs adopted, 1 returned to owner, 3 other dogs who have adoptive families are waiting for vetting to be finished. (spay/neuter).

Elected Officials:

Treasurer- Reports from Bigard were sent in the board packet. The total income for May was \$454,913.96. The expenses for May were \$406,343.44. Total income less expenses for May a net of \$48,570.52. Fiscal year 2025/2026 income was \$1,949,587.80. Less Expenses were \$2,297,517.80 with a net loss of \$347,930.00.

Other Elected Officials/Offices –

County Clerk – In Packet

Regional Office – In Packet.

Consent agenda. The following items were on the consent agenda this evening: Approval of County Board May 28 & June 2, 2026 Meeting Minutes; Fourth Judicial Circuit Appointment of Walter Lookofsky as Public Defender for Jasper County; Adoption of Resolution Authorizing the Treasurer and County Board Chairman to Request/Disburse Funds for Construction Loan; File County Reports; and Allow Claims. Schackmann moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Weddell seconded the motion. Motion carried on a voice vote. The Consent Agenda has been adopted.

Old Business:

No Old Business

New Business:

Item A. – Adoption of Resolution for Renewal of the Material Tax

Rock & Oil Maintenance of County Roads

The Renewal of the Material Tax Resolution was submitted to the County Board for approval. The renewal of the Material Tax is required to be placed before voters on the ballot every five years. Funds generated by the Material Tax are solely dedicated to the purchase of rock and oil for the maintenance of County roads. *This is strictly a renewal and does not impose an additional tax.* The Material Tax is part of the tax funds levied by the County. For 2026, the Levy was \$215,000. With the adoption of this resolution, the County Board is authorizing the renewal of the Material Tax to be placed on November 3, 2026, ballot. Judson moved for the adoption of the resolution for renewal of the Material Tax to be placed on the ballot. Spiker seconded the motion. Heltsley, Judson, Pickens, Shackmann, Spiker, Warfel and Weddell voted yes with a roll call vote. Francis and Geier were absent. The resolution was adopted.

Board Comments: Weddell thoughts and prayers for Effingham and Coles County residents and businesses who were affected by the tornado that went through last evening.

Chairman's Comments:

Non-Emergency Offices & Departments Closed:

Friday, June 19, 2026 – Juneteenth Holiday

Friday, July 3, 2026 – Fourth of July Holiday Observance

Community Events:

June 21-27, 2026, Jasper County Fair – Fairgrounds

July 3, 2026, Jasper County 250th Celebration – Ste. Marie, IL

HOPE Trust Meeting:

July 23-24, 2026, HopeTrust Annual Conference – St. Charles, MO

UCCI Meeting:

July 26-28, 2026, Annual Conference – Galena, IL

Heltsley moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 pm. Weddell seconded the motion. Motion carried on a voice vote.

The Next Board Meeting will be on Thursday, July 16, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

Amy Tarr, Jasper County Clerk