

The Fremont County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, in the Fremont County Courthouse Boardroom, with Clint Blackburn, Dustin Sheldon, and Jeff Shearer present. A quorum was declared, and the meeting was officially called to order at 9:00 a.m. Minutes of the previous board sessions were read and approved. The agenda was approved as posted.

Let the records show that Assistant Engineer Robbie Kromminga, Assessor Vicki Kirkpatrick, Nina Embree, and Jared Noock were present at this meeting.

Assistant Engineer Robbie Kromminga met with the board for the signing of the following:

Motion by Sheldon to allow Chairman Blackburn to sign IDOT payment voucher for HGM Associates for engineering services for BROS-CO36(95) - - 8J-36 for \$17,083.84 per agreement through 03/15/26. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Shearer to allow Chairman Blackburn to sign IDOT payment voucher with HGM Associates for engineering services for FM-CO36(83) - - 55-36 for \$27,954.85 per agreement through 3/15/26. Motion carried unanimously.

The board discussed the acceptance of MidAmerican Energy repair work and completion of obligations under the Road Use Agreement. Assistant Engineer Kromminga stated they have been reimbursed for the rock and work that's been done. He said they did find some erosion that had been there a while. He said that Engineer Davis has recommended signing and moving forward. Supervisor Shearer asked if this would end all payments. Kromminga said yes, but we still have a one-year window if something pops up. Motion by Sheldon to accept that obligations have been met by MidAmerican Energy according to the road use agreement under advisement of the county engineer. Motion carried unanimously.

The board discussed the purchase of software for the assessor, auditor, recorder, treasurer, and secondary road department. Chairman Blackburn and Vice-Chairman Sheldon both agreed that we have been discussing issues with our current software provider for well over a year. The auditor and assessor discussed the lack of help when there are issues with our current software company. Motion by Sheldon to enter the contract with ReGov Solutions for software services for the assessor, auditor, recorder, treasurer, and secondary roads. Motion carried unanimously.

The board discussed a hiring freeze. Vice Chairman Sheldon discussed the fact that they are hearing talk at the state level and from other counties that they are considering hiring freezes. Some counties have already implemented hiring freezes. He discussed the issues sustaining raises for the county. He said the board would consider it on a case-by-case basis. Blackburn said it would be countywide offices. It is more of a freeze/review with no hires without board approval. Chief Deputy Bothwell told the board he wanted to let them know that they had made an offer to someone for an open floor jailer position prior to this being talked about. He said he just wanted to be upfront and let them know in advance. Blackburn said that he knows it is not pleasant to work a man down, but it is better than telling someone they no longer have a job. He said he spoke with HR and agreed that hirings need to be reviewed across the board so every office in the county is handled in the same manner. The supervisors all agreed that they need to be mindful of the budget. Motion by Shearer to implement a hiring freeze requiring board review before any office in the county fills a vacant position. Motion carried unanimously.

As previously discussed on March 18, 2026, the board talked about the sale of the old jail facility by public auction with sealed bids. They agreed that everything goes with it as-is. Motion by Sheldon to declare the real estate locally known as Lots 3 & 4 in Block N, City of Sidney, Iowa, a surplus property and authorize the chairman to sign a resolution to that effect. Motion carried unanimously.

#### RESOLUTION NO. 2026-11

#### A RESOLUTION DECLARING SURPLUS PROPERTY AND PROPOSING DISPOSITION BY PUBLIC AUCTION

WHEREAS, Fremont County, Iowa, is a municipal corporation existing under the laws of the State of Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, Fremont County, Iowa, owns certain real property locally known as the old Fremont County Jail on the corner of Cass and Ohio Streets, in Sidney, Iowa, as shown in the attached Plat of Survey and legally described as follows:

LOTS 3 and 4 of Block N, in the City of Sidney, Fremont County, Iowa, according to the recorded plat thereof.

WHEREAS, Fremont County, Iowa, no longer has use for the building or land and it should be declared surplus and sold by sealed bid with all proceeds from the sale deposited in the general fund of Fremont County, Iowa; and

WHEREAS, the surplus property was in use as the Fremont County Jail for many years and has a special nature and history; and

WHEREAS, Fremont County, Iowa, reserves the right to reject all submitted bids if it is determined that it is in the best interest of the County to do so; and THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the above-described real estate is declared surplus property

and shall be disposed of by sealed bid to be submitted to the Fremont County Auditor by 4:30 pm on April 30, 2026, with a proposed purchase price and detailed proposed use with demonstrated ability to achieve its proposed use.

Passed and approved by the Fremont County Board of Supervisors on April 1, 2026.

ATTEST:

/s/ Dee Owen  
Fremont County Auditor

/s/ Clint Blackburn, Chairman	aye
/s/ Dustin Sheldon	aye
/s/ Jeff Shearer	aye

Motion by Shearer to proceed with the sale by sealed bid with conditions laid out by the county attorney. Motion carried unanimously. The full bid conditions are available in the auditor's office, on the Fremont County Website, and will be published in the official county newspapers.

Motion by Shearer to approve payment to Atchison-Holt Electric Coop for taller electrical poles for the Hwy 2/129 Drainage District project. Blackburn, aye; Shearer, aye; Sheldon, abstain.

Claims were approved for April 3, 2026.

Chairman Blackburn stated that he spoke with the new HR provider, Attorney Evyn Perry, at Jackson Lewis. They are working with the Teamsters to find a resolution to issues caused by stipends distributed at the sheriff's office. Problems with the legality of distributing the stipends were discovered during preparations for union negotiations. They believe the board was given incorrect advice.

At 9:35 a.m., with no further business, Shearer motioned to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:



Dee Owen, Auditor



Clint Blackburn, Chairman