

The Fremont County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Wednesday, May 20, 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 session were read and approved. The agenda was approved as posted.

Let the records show that Engineer Dan Davis, Purchasing Agent Drew Bartholomew, Treasurer Alise Snyder, Recorder Tarah Berry, Attorney Peter Johnson, Assistant Auditor Cassie Gilbert, Jan Norris, and Josh Heard were present at this meeting.

At 9:00 a.m., the Page County Board of Supervisors phoned the boardroom to discuss maintenance of the Johnson Run Drainage Ditch. Present in the boardroom were Chairman Blackburn, Vice Chairman Sheldon, Supervisor Shearer, Auditor Owen, Cassie Gilbert, Attorney Johnson, Recorder Berry, Engineer Davis, Purchasing Agent Bartholomew, Treasurer Snyder, Josh Heard, & Jan Norris. Present by telephone were Page County Auditor Kristin Wagoner, Supervisor Judy Clark, Supervisor Todd Maher, and Supervisor Brian Rogers with the Page County Board of Supervisors. Page County Board said they were approached by the City of Shenandoah regarding ditch maintenance that is needed for Johnson Run. The city looked at it and said some trees need to be removed and the ditch cleaned out. The city got a bid from SWIA Parking Lot Maintenance for \$36,595.00 to do the work. Supervisor Clark would like someone from both boards to go look at the work that needs to be done. Chairman Blackburn said that it needs to be looked at to get a scope of work, and then it needs to be put out for bids. Both boards said they understood that the policy is that if it is in city limits, Shenandoah would pay for the work and be reimbursed by Johnson Run Drainage District. Currently, Johnson Run has \$68,286.78 in the account. Supervisor Maher said he would meet either Blackburn or Sheldon, as well as City Administrator AJ Lyman, in Shenandoah on Friday after lunch to view the ditch. Shearer was not available on that date. Blackburn said he would get a hold of Maher to set a time when he knew what would work for him or Sheldon.

At 9:15 a.m., Sheldon moved to go into a public hearing on the proposed 2025/2026 budget amendment. Motion carried unanimously. Present at this hearing were Auditor Owen, Sheldon, Supervisors Blackburn, Sheldon, and Shearer. Also present were Engineer Davis, Purchasing Agent Bartholomew, Treasurer Snyder, Recorder Berry, Attorney Johnson, Assistant Auditor Gilbert, Jan Norris, and Josh Heard. At 9:17 a.m., hearing no comments and with no objections, motion was made by Sheldon to go out of public hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Shearer to approve the budget amendment and Resolution 2026-18. Sheldon, aye. Blackburn, aye.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-19**

**RECORD OF HEARING AND DETERMINATION ON THE BUDGET AMENDMENT**

**And CHANGE OF APPROPRIATIONS**

On this 20th day of May 2026, the Fremont County Board of Supervisors met in session for the purpose of amending the current operating budget adopted April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The notice, time, and place of hearing were published on April 3<sup>rd</sup> & April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The amendment was taken up and considered, and taxpayers heard for or against the amendment as follows, and the amendment passed:

<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Public Safety & Legal Services	4,133,020	4,195,644	62,624
Roads & Transportation	5,801,000	6,505,184	704,184
Physical Health & Social Services	456,162	458,662	2,500
Administration	2,368,957	2,380,957	12,000
Capital Projects	2,565,000	6,580,000	4,015,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,324,139</b>	<b>20,120,447</b>	<b>4,796,308</b>

**Revenues**

Intergovernmental	7,541,448	10,869,372	3,327,924
Miscellaneous	110,133	367,467	257,334
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,651,581</b>	<b>11,236,839</b>	<b>3,585,258</b>

**Appropriations**

Sheriff	2,882,648	2,945,272	62,624
Secondary Roads	8,366,000	13,085,184	4,719,184
Social Services	22,200	24,700	2,500
Non-Departmental	2,775,272	2,787,272	12,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,046,120</b>	<b>18,842,428</b>	<b>4,796,308</b>

Amendment for the road department, grants, capital projects, public safety costs, shelter care, and legal expenses.

Motion to approve made by Shearer.

ATTEST:

/s/ Dee Owen, Auditor

/s/ Clint Blackburn, Chairman

aye

/s/ Dustin Sheldon

aye

/s/ Jeff Shearer

aye

Motion made by Sheldon to approve the amended IDOT Budget. Motion carried unanimously.

Engineer Dan Davis met with the board for the following:

Motion by Shearer to allow Chairman Blackburn to sign IDOT Payment Voucher with HGM Associates for engineering services for preliminary design for 310th Steet/J-64 for \$43,972.50 per agreement through April 30, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Drew Bartholomew, Purchasing Agent for Secondary Roads, met with the board regarding the purchase of a road grader for FY27. He said he received two bids. Those bids were as follows: 1. Ziegler Cat – offered no trade and had to add a high-performance circle for \$499,757.00. Bid 2. Murphy Tractor (John Deere) – offered a \$25000 trade-in for a total bid of \$381,205.00, with the trade-in included, and it comes with the high-performance circle. He also stated they have a service tech for John Deere in Clarinda that responds quickly. Murphy would still do any warranty work. Shearer asked if the money was already budgeted. Davis and Bartholomew confirmed that it is and that this is for FY27. Bartholomew said their department is primarily John Deere at this time. Motion by Shearer to accept the bid from Murphy Tractor. Motion carried unanimously.

At 9:25 a.m., Sheldon briefly left the meeting.

At 9:29 a.m., Sheldon returned to the meeting.

Jan Norris met with the board to update them on the carbon pipeline. She told the board that on 5/13/26, Summit filed a notice of intent to withdraw certain segments of the planned pipeline. She said this includes Corning and Shenandoah Green Plains. She said there are 200 miles projected to be removed, but there would be 800 miles remaining, all of it being north of I80. She said it appears there will be no CO2 pipeline, but Summit's press release says they will continue to evaluate future expansion opportunities. She said the press release says the project will travel through Nebraska for Wyoming sequestration, but there is no filing with the IUC saying so. It didn't remove the trunkline crossing the Missouri River into South Dakota. She stated that Summit filed an amendment asking not to be required to declare where the final route will be. They also asked that the permits in the Dakotas no longer be a condition of Iowa construction and that all dockets be consolidated. She discussed signed easements, ordinances that need to be re-evaluated, eminent domain, data centers popping up, and the need to be proactive at the local level. She ended by saying this demonstrates the power of the people standing together.

The board discussed the previous action taken on February 18, 2026, regarding the rates for single and dual-family insurance policies. The union employees have in their agreement that the single policy employees are not required to pay anything for single policies. The auditor stated she doesn't think it is fair for those employees not covered in the union to be required to pay when others are not. Motion by Shearer to rescind the motion from February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026, requiring employees with a single health insurance plan to contribute \$100 per month toward their policies and for the county to pay the cost of two single policies for dual-employed families beginning for FY27. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Sheldon that the county will pay for the cost of two single policies for the dual-employed family policies beginning FY27. Motion carried unanimously.

The board discussed the award of the bid for Lots 3 and 4 of Block N in Sidney, IA, also known as the former Fremont County Jail. Attorney Johnson said that the bid met all the requirements and that the board could go ahead with the award. Motion by Shearer to award the bid to Josh Heard for \$7,509.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Sheldon to approve the renewal of the cigarette/tobacco/nicotine/vapor permit for Pilot Travel Centers, LLC. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Shearer to approve the change in ownership filed for Pilot Travel Centers, LLC. Motion carried unanimously.

Assistant Auditor Cassie Gilbert presented the board with the levy information on the board-controlled drainage districts. The board reviewed the information. Motion by Sheldon for 0% levy for Kilpatrick Ditch. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Shearer for 0% levy for Prairie Township Relevy. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Sheldon 0% levy for Scott Township Drainage District. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Sheldon for 25% levy for Schultz Ditch Drainage District. Motion carried unanimously. The board discussed having Waubonsie Relevy Trustees come in to update them on their upcoming project.

Motion by Shearer to approve Resolution No. 2026-20 for a change in appropriations. Motion carried unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2026-20**

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Fremont County Board of Supervisors, this 20th day of May, 2026, that the following change in appropriation be made:

Expenditures:

Change Appropriation:

Nondepartmental	01000 06210 490 99	-\$200.00
Landfill	11000 06020 475 71 13	+\$200.00

Motion to approve made by Shearer.

ATTEST:

/s/ Dee Owen, Auditor

/s/ Clint Blackburn, Chairman

aye

/s/ Dustin Sheldon

aye

/s/ Jeff Shearer

aye

Claims were approved for May 22, 2026.

At 10:02 a.m., with no further business, Shearer motioned to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

  
Dee Owen, Auditor

  
Clint Blackburn, Chairman