

The Fremont County Board of Supervisors met in special session to reorganize for 2026 on Friday, January 2, 2026, in the Fremont County Courthouse Boardroom, with Clint Blackburn and Dustin Sheldon present. Let the record show that Jeff Shearer was not present for this meeting. A quorum was declared, and the meeting officially called to order at 9:06 a.m. Minutes of the previous board session were read and approved. The agenda was approved as posted.

Let the records show that Assistant Engineer Robbie Kromminga was present for this meeting.

The board approved the following resolutions to reorganize the board for 2026:

Motion by Sheldon to approve Resolution No. 2026-1 setting board chairman and vice-chairman. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-1

WHEREAS, motion was made by Sheldon to appoint Clint Blackburn as Board Chairman and Dustin Sheldon as Board Vice-Chairman.

WHEREAS, the Board Chairman may make motions and vote as any other member of the Board.

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Fremont County Board of Supervisors this 2nd day of January 2026, that Supervisor Blackburn is appointed Board Chairman and Supervisor Sheldon is appointed to the position of Vice-Chairman.

ATTEST:

/s/ Dee Owen
Fremont County Auditor

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

Motion by Sheldon to approve Resolution No. 2026-2 for board committees. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-2

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Fremont County Board of Supervisors this 2nd day of January, 2026, that the 2026 committee appointments are as follows:

Supervisor Sheldon – Welcome Center Board, West Central Development, Landfill Commission, Local Emergency Response, Southwest Iowa Juvenile Emergency Services Board, Loess Hills Alliance, and Safety Committee.

Supervisor Blackburn – DECAT Board, DHS Service Advisory Board, Emergency Management Commission, Zion Recovery Board, Fourth Judicial District 28E Board, Board of Health, Corner Counties Early Childhood, Workforce Development, East & West Nishnabotna WMA, and REAP Commission.

Supervisor Shearer – Waubonsie Mental Health, Tourism Board, Loess Hills Authority, Hungry Canyons Authority, Hungry Canyons Alliance, Southwest Iowa Transit, Southwest Iowa Planning Council, SCIA, Regional Planning Affiliate Board, and Local Emergency Response.

Balckburn, Sheldon, and Shearer appointed to E911 Board with one vote.

Motion was made by Sheldon to keep appointments the same.

ATTEST:

/s/ Dee Owen
Fremont County Auditor

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

Motion by Sheldon to approve Resolution No. 2026-3 setting meeting dates and times. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-3

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Fremont County Board of Supervisors this 2nd day of January 2026, that the Board will hold its regular meetings on Wednesday of each week in the office of the Fremont County Courthouse, Sidney, Iowa, commencing at 9:00 a.m. until business is concluded. Meetings for 2026 will begin on January 8, 2026.

Motion made by Sheldon.

ATTEST:

/s/ Dee Owen
Fremont County Auditor

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

Motion by Blackburn to approve Resolution No. 2026-4 for official newspapers. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-4

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Fremont County Board of Supervisors this 2nd day of January 2026, that the Fremont-Mills Leader-Beacon and The Hamburg Reporter be designated as the County's official newspapers for 2026.

Motion to approve made by Blackburn.

ATTEST:

/s/ Dee Owen
Fremont County Auditor

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

Motion by Blackburn to approve Resolution No. 2026-5 for eminent domain commission. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-5

RESOLUTION APPOINTING EMINENT DOMAIN COMPENSATION COMMISSION

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Fremont County Board of Supervisors this 2nd day of January 2026, that the following persons are appointed as members of the Eminent Domain Compensation Commission for the year 2026.

PROPERTY VALUE OCCUPATION: Chris Johnson, Sidney, IA 51652, Karen Berry, Sidney, IA 51652, Phil Worcester, Sidney, IA 51652, Nicholas Clark, Tabor, IA 51653, Cindy Gregg, Hamburg, IA 51640, Kendra Johnson, Farragut, IA 51639,

Jay Longinaker, Randolph, IA 51649. REAL ESTATE: Denise Hammer, Tabor, IA 51653, Cory Gordon, Randolph, IA 51649, Dan Holliman, Hamburg, IA 51640, Nancy Vanatta, Sidney, IA 51652, Jenna Gregory, Sidney, IA 51652, Janell McIntyre, Farragut, IA 51639, Doug Shirley, Sidney, IA 51652. CITY PROPERTY OWNERS: Staci Shearer, Farragut, IA 51639, Rita Lorimor, Sidney, IA 51652, Alan Dovel, Hamburg, IA 51640, Tina Apperson, Hamburg, IA 51640, Kristin Blackburn, Tabor, IA, 51653 Brendon Hardy, Sidney, IA 51652, Paul Hutt, Sidney, IA 51652. FARMERS: John Askew, Thurman, IA 51654, Bob Benton, Tabor, IA 51653, H. Frances Lorimor, Sidney, IA 51652, Dave Roberts, Sidney, IA 51652, Pat Sheldon, Percival, IA 51648, Steve Lorimor, Farragut, IA 51639, Justin Ewalt, Sidney, IA 51652.

Motion to approve made by Blackburn.

ATTEST:

/s/ Dee Owen
Fremont County Auditor

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

Motion by Sheldon to approve Resolution No. 2026-6 authorizing the auditor to issue warrants for payment. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-6

Authorization of County Auditor to Issue Warrants

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of Fremont County, Iowa, hereby authorize the Fremont County Auditor, Dee Owen, to issue warrants for fixed charges including, but not limited to freight, postage, utilities, telephone service, contractual services, insurance premiums, and invoices allowing discounts. Any prepayment of civil service fees submitted by the County Attorney's Office or County Sheriff's Office and emergency general assistance claims. These claims shall be audited and allowed at the next regular claim date. The County Auditor is further authorized to issue warrants for salaries and payrolls as approved by the Board of Supervisors, all according to Section 331.506 of the Code of Iowa.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fremont County Board of Supervisors adopt the Resolution - Authorization of County Auditor to Issue Warrants for 2026.

ATTEST:

/s/ Dee Owen
Fremont County Auditor

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

Motion by Sheldon to reappoint Randy Moyer as weed commissioner for 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Sheldon to reappoint Kelli Woltemath, D.O., as medical examiner for 2026 and David Owen and John Travis as medical investigators for 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Sheldon to set the mileage rate at \$.70 per mile, effective January 1, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Sheldon to approve Resolution No. 2026-7 to reappoint staff of the Fremont County Auditor. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-7

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Fremont County Board of Supervisors this 2nd day of January 2026, that the following individuals shall be approved as staff for the Office of the Fremont County Auditor, as requested by Fremont County Auditor Dee Owen. The effective date of appointment shall be January 2nd, 2026: Cassie Gilbert – Assistant Auditor; Jessica Richardson – Assistant Auditor; Paige Stoaks – Assistant Auditor.

Motion made by Blackburn.

ATTEST:

/s/ Dee Owen
Fremont County Auditor

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

Motion by Sheldon to approve Resolution No. 2026-8 to reappoint staff of the Fremont County Sheriff. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-8

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the Fremont County Board of Supervisors this 2nd day of January, 2026, that the following individuals shall be approved as Deputies for the Fremont County Sheriff's Department, as requested by Fremont County Sheriff Kevin Aistrope. The effective date of employment shall be January 1, 2025: Timothy Bothwell - Chief Deputy, Steven Owen – Lieutenant, Andrew Wake – Sergeant, Ashton Luke – Sergeant, Mitchell Bowden – Deputy, Logan Roberts – Deputy/SRO, Jake Degase – Deputy, Dennis Paulson – Deputy, Dalian Melgoza – Deputy. Motion was made by Sheldon.

ATTEST:

/s/ Dee Owen
Fremont County Auditor

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

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

Motion by Sheldon to sign IDOT payment vouchers for HGM Associates for Engineering services for FM-CO36(83) - - 55-36 per agreement through 12/15/2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Sheldon to sign IDOT payment voucher for HGM Associates for engineering services for BROS-CO36(95) - - 8J-36 per agreement through 12/15/2025. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Sheldon to appoint Chairman Blackburn as an alternate for SWIPCO Policy Council. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Sheldon to reappoint Susan Shepherd as the economic and business development representative for SWIPCO Policy Council. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Blackburn to table action on signing application for Payment No. #4 for the HWY 2/I-29 Drainage District. Motion carried unanimously.


Motion by Blackburn to table action to approve payment for Woods Tucker, PLLC, for legal services for the HWY 2/I-29 Drainage District. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Blackburn to table action to approve payment for Houston Engineering for professional services for the HWY 2/I-29 Drainage District. Motion carried unanimously.

Claims were approved for January 2, 2026.

At 9:30 a.m., with no further business, Sheldon motioned to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:


Dee Owen, Auditor
Clint Blackburn, Chairman