

**JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD MINUTES
TUESDAY, July 14, 2026, 7:00 P.M.**

Chair, Steve Nass, called the meeting to order.

County Clerk Audrey McGraw called the roll, all members being present in person except Drayna who was present via Zoom.

Supervisors Groose, Hafften, Tracy, and White were absent.

District 1.....	Jenifer Quimby	District 2.....	Gary G. Skalitzky
District 3.....	Robert Preuss	District 4.....	Francine Gies
District 5.....	James B. Braughler	District 6.....	Kerry L. Kneser
District 7.....	Dwayne C. Morris	District 8.....	Michael Wineke
District 9.....	Bruce Degner	District 10.....	Mark Groose
District 11.....	Elizabeth Hafften	District 12.....	Matthew Tracy
District 13.....	Michael Foster	District 14.....	Kirk Lund
District 15.....	Steven J. Nass	District 16.....	Meg Turville-Heitz
District 17.....	Phil Ristow	District 18.....	Brandon White
District 19.....	Dave Drayna	District 20.....	Kathi Cauley
District 21.....	John C. Kannard	District 22.....	Blane Poulson
District 23.....	George Jaeckel	District 24.....	Roger Lindl
District 25.....	Matthew Foelker	District 26.....	Amanda Golson
District 27.....	Joan Callan	District 28.....	Anthony Gulig
District 29.....	Amanda Kaiser	District 30.....	Walt Christensen

Skalitzky led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Luckey certified compliance with the Open Meetings Law.

Approval of the Agenda. Poulson moved to approve as drafted. Seconded by Turville-Heitz and passed.

Braughler moved to approve the County Board minutes from June 09, 2026. Seconded by Poulson and passed.

Communications:

County Clerk McGraw presented the following communications:

1. Notice of Public Hearing from the Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Committee for a hearing to be held on July 16, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.
2. Treasurer's Monthly Report.

Public Comment: None

Special Order of Business:

1. Retirement Recognitions.
2. Annual Reports: Human Services Director, Brent Ruehlrow; Corporation Counsel Danielle Thompson; Register of Deeds, Staci Hoffman; and UW Extension Chrissy Wen, Area Extension Director. The annual reports were

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received, placed on file, but not printed in the minutes pursuant to Board Rule 3.03(13).

3. Education Session on the state of EMS in Jefferson County and proposed solutions given by County Administrator, Luckey.

Committee Reports, Resolutions, Proclamations, and Ordinances:

Ristow, Building and Grounds Committee Chair, Resolution No. 2026-16. Authorizing Contract for the Gate Operators at the Highway Maintenance Property

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County Administrator is authorized to enter into a contract with the lowest responsible bidder, Power Gate Opener System, in the amount of \$43,418.

Fiscal Note: Insurance proceeds in the amount of \$39,000 have been received for this project. The remaining \$4,418 will be paid by the Highway Department. No budget amendment is necessary.

Ristow moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2026-16. Seconded by Jaeckel and passed.

Jaeckel, Finance Committee Chair, Resolution No. 2026-17. Funding a part-time Public Health Nurse position in the Health Department and amending the 2026 budget

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors authorizes the use of Health Department carryover funds to fund the part-time Public Health Nurse Position and amends the 2026 budget accordingly.

Fiscal Note: Funding for this position will be provided by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services' Public Health Infrastructure Grant. A budget amendment increasing intergovernmental revenue and expense by \$12,352 will be necessary to reinstate the position. This resolution authorizes the Finance Director to make the necessary budget amendments to enact the resolution. This is a budget amendment. Passage of this resolution requires a 2/3 affirmative vote (20 of 30 votes from total membership).

Jaeckel moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2026-17. Seconded by Christensen and passed.

Ayes 27 (Quimby, Skalitzky, Preuss, Gies, Braughler, Kneser, Morris, Wineke, Degner, Hafften, Foster, Lund, Nass, Turville-Heitz, Ristow, Drayna, Cauley, Kannard, Poulson, Jaeckel, Lindl, Foelker, Golson, Callan, Gulig, Kaiser, Christensen), Noes 0, Abstain 0, Absent 3 (Groose, Tracy, White), Vacant 0.

Jaeckel, Finance Committee Chair, Resolution No. 2026-18. Authorizing Contracting with The Sigma

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Group for Environmental Remediation Services and Delegating Budget Management Authority for the CITY NORTH Redevelopment Project and Amending the 2026 budget in the Administration Department

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors designates The Sigma Group as its general project manager and consultant for the environmental consulting and remediation tasks associated with the former Highway Department site and authorizes the County Administrator to enter into all contracts and work order authorizations necessary to accomplish this work.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator is authorized to unilaterally execute work authorizations up to 110% of the high cost estimate for each task and work authorizations greater than 110% up to 120% shall be co-signed by the County Administrator and County Finance Director. Any work authorization that exceeds 120% of the high cost estimate shall be approved by a majority vote of the county board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Administrator and The Sigma Group will provide updates to the Finance Committee and other interested parties as requested.

Fiscal Note: This contract will be funded by general fund surplus for 2026 which will be sufficient to cover the entire cost of this contract. This resolution authorizes the Finance Director to make the necessary budget adjustments to enact the resolution. This is a budget amendment. Passage of this resolution requires a 2/3 affirmative vote (20 of 30 votes from total membership).

Jaeckel moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2026-18. Seconded by Poulson and passed. Ayes 27 (Quimby, Skalitzy, Preuss, Gies, Braughler, Kneser, Morris, Wineke, Degner, Hafften, Foster, Lund, Nass, Turville-Heitz, Ristow, Drayna, Cauley, Kannard, Poulson, Jaeckel, Lindl, Foelker, Golson, Callan, Gulig, Kaiser, Christensen), Noes 0, Abstain 0, Absent 3 (Groose, Tracy, White), Vacant 0.

Jaeckel, Finance Committee Chair, Resolution No. 2026-19. Authorizing Jefferson County to submit, enter a contract, accept a WEDC Site Assessment Grant (SAG), and create a budget amendment for a former grocery store site in Watertown, WI and amending the 2026 budget in the Administration Department

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors authorizes
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the Jefferson County Administrator to submit an application to the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation for a Site Assessment Grant in an amount not to exceed \$250,000; enter into any related grant contract or agreements with Cady Building LLC; accept awarded grant funds; create any necessary budget amendments; and execute all documents necessary to administer the grant.

Fiscal Note: The grant is a pass-through to a private developer. Please see the attached Budget Adjustment or Amendment Request form for the proposed adjustments to the 2026 budget. This is a budget amendment. County Board approval requires a two-thirds vote of the entire membership of the County Board (20 votes of the 30 member County Board).

Jaeckel moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2026-19. Seconded by Braughler and passed. Ayes 27 (Quimby, Skalitzy, Preuss, Gies, Braughler, Kneser, Morris, Wineke, Degner, Hafften, Foster, Lund, Nass, Turville-Heitz, Ristow, Drayna, Cauley, Kan-nard, Poulson, Jaeckel, Lindl, Foelker, Golson, Callan, Gulig, Kaiser, Christensen), Noes 0, Abstain 0, Absent 3 (Groose, Tracy, White), Vacant 0.

Braughler, Human Resources Committee Chair, Resolution No. 2026-20. Adopting Jefferson County Artificial Intelligence Policy

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the attached Jefferson County Artificial Intelligence Policy is hereby adopted by the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors.

Fiscal Note: AI licensing is expensive and can have direct but hidden costs such as storage of the data generated by AI. Use of AI should be periodically evaluated on a cost-benefit basis to ensure that the County receives an acceptable return on its investment.

Braughler moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2026-20. Seconded by Quimby and passed.

Morris, Law Enforcement & Emergency Management Committee Chair, Resolution No. 2026-21. Thanking Johnsonville Sausage for the Donation of Hazardous Materials Equipment and amending the 2026 budget in the Emergency Management Department

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors hereby expresses its sincere gratitude to Johnsonville Sausage for their generous donation and recognizes their valuable contribution to the safety and resilience of Jefferson County.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Jefferson

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County hereby formally accepts the donation and amends the 2026 budget accordingly.

Fiscal Note: The value of this equipment is estimated at \$12,000. This resolution authorizes the Finance Director to make the necessary budget amendments to enact this resolution. The equipment has been received by Jefferson County Emergency Management, properly documented, and is being securely stored in the Hazardous Materials trailer maintained by the Johnson Creek Fire Department under the direction of Chief Ben Patterson, ensuring appropriate handling, accountability, and readiness. This is a budget amendment. Passage of this resolution requires a 2/3 affirmative vote (20 of 30 votes from total membership).

Morris moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2026-21. Seconded by Kneser and passed. Ayes 27 (Quimby, Skalitzky, Preuss, Gies, Braughler, Kneser, Morris, Wineke, Degner, Hafften, Foster, Lund, Nass, Turville-Heitz, Ristow, Drayna, Cauley, Kannard, Poulson, Jaeckel, Lindl, Foelker, Golson, Callan, Gulig, Kaiser, Christensen), Noes 0, Abstain 0, Absent 3 (Goose, Tracy, White), Vacant 0.

Christensen, Parks Committee Chair, Resolution No. 2026-22. Authorizing the purchase of a replacement Snowmobile Trail Bridge funded through the Wisconsin Snowmobile Trail Aid Program and amending the 2026 budget in the Parks Department

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors hereby authorizes Jefferson County to enter into a contract with Custom Manufacturing, Inc. to build and install a recreational snowmobile bridge as approved and fully funded by the Wisconsin DNR Snowmobile Program.

Fiscal Note: This \$56,800 purchase is covered 100% by the Wisconsin DNR Recreational Snowmobile Trail Aid Program. This project was not included in the 2026 budget. This resolution authorizes the Finance Director to make the necessary budget adjustments to enact this resolution. This is a budget amendment and requires a 2/3 vote of the County Board for approval.

Christensen moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 2026-22. Seconded by Gulig and passed. Ayes 27 (Quimby, Skalitzky, Preuss, Gies, Braughler, Kneser, Morris, Wineke, Degner, Hafften, Foster, Lund, Nass, Turville-Heitz, Ristow, Drayna, Cauley, Kannard, Poulson, Jaeckel, Lindl, Foelker, Golson, Callan, Gulig, Kaiser, Christensen), Noes 0, Abstain 0, Absent 3 (Goose, Tracy, White), Vacant 0.

Poulson, Planning and Zoning Committee,

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introduced the following report:

REPORT TO THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS by the Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Committee recommending approval of petitions to amend the official zoning map of Jefferson County.

Poulson, Planning and Zoning Committee, introduced Ordinance No. 2026-07. Amending Official Zoning Map

WHEREAS, the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors has heretofore been petitioned to amend the official zoning map of Jefferson County, and

WHEREAS, Petitions R4664A-26, R4686A-25, R4687A-26, R4688A-26, R4689A-26, R4690A-26, R4691A-26 and R4692A-26 were referred to the Jefferson County Planning and Zoning Committee for public hearing on February 19, 2026, and June 18, 2026, and

WHEREAS, at its meeting on June 29, 2026, the Planning and Zoning Committee considered the request to amend the Official Zoning Map of Jefferson County after conducting a public hearing regarding the requested amendment, and after receiving a recommendation from the affected Town, hereby make the following recommendation to the Board of Supervisors in open session, and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Committee has found that the criteria and standards set forth in s. 91.48 of the Wisconsin Statutes and ss. 22-56(b) of the Jefferson County Zoning Ordinance for rezoning out of an A-1 Exclusive Agricultural zone have been met and the petitions are consistent with the Jefferson County Comprehensive Plan and Farmland Preservation Plan as identified in the Decision of the Planning and Zoning Committee, and

WHEREAS, consistent with the recommendations of the Planning & Zoning Committee, the Board of Supervisors finds, where applicable, the standards set forth in s. 91.48 of the Wisconsin Statutes and ss. 22-56(b) of the Jefferson County Zoning Ordinance for rezoning out of an A-1 Exclusive Agricultural zone are met by the proposed amendment to the official zoning map, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED THAT the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors does amend the official zoning map of Jefferson County as follows: **Poulson moved for the adoption of Ordinance No. 2026-07. Seconded by Jaeckel and passed.**

Supervisors Kannard and Preuss abstained from voting due to a potential conflict of interest.

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Public Comment: (General) 2 members of the public spoke.

1. Braughler congratulated the Fair Park department on a successful fair this year.
2. Jim Cosgrove, Sullivan, spoke in reference to flock cameras.

Announcements:

Supplemental information presented at the July 14, 2026, Jefferson County Board meeting will be available at the County Clerk's office upon request during regular Courthouse hours or on the County's website at www.jeffersoncountywi.gov.

There being no further business, Jaeckel moved that the Board adjourn. Seconded by Gulig and passed at 8:30 p.m.