

# **FORD COUNTY BOARD MINUTES**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

## **A. CALL TO ORDER:**

The County Board of Ford County met pursuant to adjournment in the Ford County Board Room of the Ford County Jail in Paxton on Monday, February 9, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. The meeting was called to order by Ford County Chairman Chase McCall.

## **B. ROLL CALL:**

The roll call showed the following board members in attendance: Gene May, Kelsie Vaughn, Greg Niewold, Sarah Mussman, Tim Nuss, Tom McQuinn, Cindy Ihrke, Garrett Kerber, Lesley King, Vice Chairman Carson Vaughn and Chairman Chase McCall. Mr. Ferguson was not present.

## **C. PROCLAMATION:**

Sheriff Johnson

## **D. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:**

Chairman Chase McCall.

## **E. APPROVAL OF THE BOARD AGENDA:**

- Mr. Nuss made the motion to accept the Agenda. Mr. Kerber seconded it.

Voice Vote - Carried

## **F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- Mrs. King made the motion to approve the **JANUARY 12, 2026 County Board Minutes**. Mr. Nuss seconded it.

Voice Vote - Carried

## **G. COMMUNICATIONS:**

## **H. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR:**

- Kirk M. waived his turn to speak due to the absence of Ginger Boas with the U of I Home Extension.
- Glenn with Ford Co. Public Health Dept. updated the board on monthly activities and explained the need for the appt. for a new Public Board of Health member.
- Bob L. former Chairman of the board, explained how the U of I Home Extension Levy benefits 4-H and the master garden program each year.

## **I. OPPORTUNITY FOR OTHER ELECTED OFFICIALS/DEPT. HEADS TO ADDRESS THE BOARD:**

- Chief Probation Officer Harrison spoke briefly about former Chief Probation Officer Sally Wolf who has published a book entitled Restorative Justice Up-close and also that Marshall, the Probation Emotional Support Dog, was recognized by IPCSA as the first Emotional Support Dog for Probation.
- EMA Whitebird went through his monthly report, introduced 3 volunteers and briefly spoke on his deputy recently resigning.
- SOA Bruens spoke on Board of Review and receiving a Final 1.0 from the State of IL.
- Ginger Boas with the U of I Home Extension who was delayed, was asked to speak to the board and explain how the money levied each year benefits the programs.
- Kirk M. was allowed to speak his concerns/questions to Ms. Boas and the board about the U of I Home Extension.

## **J. APPROVAL OF ALL SUBMITTED ELECTED OFFICIAL/DEPT. HEAD REPORTS:**

- Mr. Niewold made the motion to accept all submitted Elected Official/Dept. Head Reports. Mr. McQuinn seconded it.

Voice Vote - Carried

## **K. VERBAL COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

### **I. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

- Chairman McCall stated he reached out to MCS about tablets for the board members possible future use.

### **II. FARM COMMITTEE:**

- Mr. Niewold stated they would be meeting soon.

### **III. FINANCE COMMITTEE:**

- Mrs. Mussman moved to **approve all Finance claims** recommended from the Finance Committee for approval.  
Mr. Niewold seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mrs. Mussman moved to **approve all ARPA claims recommended from the Finance Committee** for approval.  
Mr. Niewold seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mrs. Mussman stated the Finance & Sheriff's committee will be trying something new with reviewing the claims next month, they will review the claim sheets ahead of each meeting instead of reading the claims allowed during each meeting.

### **IV. HIGHWAY COMMITTEE:**

- Mr. Nuss moved to **approve all claims recommended from the Highway Committee.** Mrs. C. Ihrke seconded it.  
Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mr. Nuss made a motion to **adopt Resolution 26 - 12 (Engineering Service Agreement for bridge replacement 1540 E / 500 N).** Mrs. C. Ihrke seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mr. Nuss stated there will be a Rural Transportation meeting on February 17, 2026 at 9:00 A.M. at the Hwy. bldg.

### **V. INSURANCE & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:**

- Mrs. King will be calling a meeting soon.

### **VI. SHERIFF'S COMMITTEE:**

- Mr. C. Vaughn moved to **approve all claims recommended in the Sheriff's Committee.** Mrs. Mussman seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mr. C. Vaughn stated the Sheriff's committee will also try to review the claim sheets before the meeting instead of reading the claims allowed during the meeting. He also stated the committee may look into a different day to meet.

### **VII. ZONING COMMITTEE:**

- Chairman McCall stated new laws go into effect June 1, 2026 & text amendments need to be done before Oct. 2026.

### **VIII. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES:**

- Mr. Kerber moved to **approve all submitted committee meeting minutes.** Mrs. King seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried

### **L. SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS: (\* = Chairman of that committee)**

- I. 708 BOARD KING
- II. 9-1-1 NUSS
- **Mr. Nuss stated the next meeting will be on Feb. 11, 2026 at 7:00 P.M. in Paxton at the Fire station.**
- III. CIRMA McCALL/C. VAUGHN/IHRKE
- IV. ECCA McCall
- V. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FERGUSON/NUSS/K. VAUGHN
- VI. EXTENSION MUSSMAN
- **The upcoming meetings will be March 4, Aug. 6 and Nov. 2026.**
- VII. FORD COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT. McCALL/NUSS
- VIII. MOBILE REGION 8 SHERIFF JOHNSON/McCALL
- IX. REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION McCALL/C. VAUGHN
- **Met last Monday, went over the Audit which had a clean finding.**
- X. UNION AFFAIRS McCALL/McQUINN
- XI. WIA McCALL/NIEWOLD

**M. OLD BUSINESS:**

- Chairman McCall explained that last month the board paid the final claim for the previous copier lease however, now the previous copier company is asking for \$5,900.00 to cover a shipping fee and to wipe the data from the machines. He then asked the board if they would like to pay the new fees or explore owning the old copiers and finding a way of disposing of them by the board? After discussion, Mr. Nuss made a motion to explore owning and disposal by the board. Mrs. K. Vaughn seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried  
(A few Nays were heard)

**N. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- Chairman McCall stated there was no reason today to enter into Executive Session.

**O. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Mr. C. Vaughn made a motion to **adopt Resolution 26 - 19 (Agreement between U of I Home Extension & Ford Co.)**. Mr. May seconded it. Roll Call - Unanimous
- Mr. Niewold made a motion to **adopt Resolution 26 - 20 (Appt. of S. Johnson to Ford Co. Housing Authority Board)**. Mr. Kerber seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried
- Mr. C. Vaughn made a motion to accept the appt. of Dr. P. Belle to Ford Co. Public Health Bd. Mrs. Mussman seconded it. Voice Vote - Carried
- Mr. Nuss stated ROSC will be meeting Feb. 24, 2026 @ 8:30 A.M. via zoom & the Ford Co. Network Pannel will meet on Feb. 11, 2026 at CRCC.

**P. ADJOURNMENT:**

- Mr. C. Vaughn moved to adjourn; Mr. Kerber seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 7:36 P.M. Voice Vote - Carried

**Q. PROCLAMATION:**

- The next monthly meeting will be held on **Monday, March 9, 2026 at 6:00 P.M.** Sheriff Johnson

Respectfully Submitted,  
Amy Frederick, Ford County Clerk & Recorder

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

**FORD COUNTY BOARD MEETING**

**February 9, 2026**

ROLL CALL Present = P Absent = A	BOARD MEMBER	FINANCE CLAIMS RECOMMENDED IN FINANCE COMMITTEE		ARPA CLAIMS RECOMMENDED IN FINANCE COMMITTEE		HWY. CLAIMS RECOMMENDED IN HIGHWAY COMMITTEE		SHERIFF CLAIMS RECOMMENDED IN SHERIFF COMMITTEE		RES. 26 - 19 U OF I HOME EXTENSION AGRMNT FOR FY 2026		YES		NO	
		YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO
P	MAY, Gene	X		X		X		X		X					
P	VAUGHN, Kelsie	X		X		X		X		X					
A	FERGUSON, Randy	-		-		-		-		-					
P	NIEWOLD, Greg	X		X		X		X		X					
P	MUSSMAN, Sarah	X		X		X		X		X					
P	NUSS, Tim	X		X		X		X		X					
P	McQUINN, Tom	X		X		X		X		X					
P	IHRKE, Cindy	X		X		X		X		X					
P	KERBER, Garrett	X		X		X		X		X					
P	KING, Lesley	X		X		X		X		X					
P	VAUGHN, Carson (VC)	X		X		X		X		X					
P	McCALL, Chase (CHAIR)	X		X		X		X		X					
<b>RESULTS = PASSED OR FAILED</b>		<b>PASSED</b>		<b>PASSED</b>		<b>PASSED</b>		<b>PASSED</b>		<b>PASSED</b>		<b>PASSED</b>		<b>PASSED</b>	
		11	0	11	0	11	0	11	0	11	0	11	0	11	0

COUNTY CLERK: AMY FREDERICK