

**FORD COUNTY BOARD SPECIFICALLY
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
BUDGET MEETING
FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2026**

The Finance Committee met on Friday, July 24, 2026 at 9:00 A.M. in the Small Courtroom at the Ford County Courthouse.

Finance Chair, Sarah Mussman called the meeting to order at 9:07 A.M.

Roll call showed the following in attendance: Greg Niewold, Carson Vaughn, Gene May, Finance Chair Sarah Mussman. Mr. Ferguson was not present. Department heads: Kelsie Vaughn, Taylor Burnett, Pam Bruens, Jennifer Harrison, Kasi Schwarz, Chad Johnson, Andrew Killian, Alan Harwood. Also, Cindy Ihrke, Tom McQuinn and Shannon Cornett.

Mr. Niewold made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Vaughn seconded the motion.

Voice Vote – Unanimous

There was no public comment.

Under new business, Mr. Vaughn made a motion to discuss and review the FY2027 preliminary budget. Mr. Niewold seconded the motion.

Voice Vote – Unanimous

Discussion: Mrs. Mussman opened discussion stating that the presented budget is preliminary and that no adjustments have been made. The income was a conservative approach and based off of 4-year actuals.

Zoning income may change.

The goal is to have consistency among departments. (Keeping statute requirements in mind)
Some departments have salaries that are reimbursed (Sheriff, Supervisor of Assessments, States Attorney, Public Defender, and Probation)

Preliminary budgets were reviewed by department. Budgets were explained, questions were able to be asked and addressed in open discussion.

Mrs. Mussman is hopeful that the County Board can work collaboratively with the Public Building Commission to obtain a levy amount.

No Old Business

No Safety Report

Mr. Vaughn made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Niewold seconded the motion.

The meeting ended at 11:13 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Kelsie Vaughn
Ford County Clerk & Recorder