

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 5, 2026

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, October 5, 2026, with Commissioners Ron Jarman, Jeff Wilson and Kenny Aulbach present. Auditor Tammy Justice and County Attorney Grant Reeves were also present.

Ron Jarman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. with the Pledge to the American Flag.

MINUTES

- Minutes of the Regular Session held on September 21, 2026, were presented. Jeff Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second, by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

- Accounts payable claims for October 5, 2026, in the amount of \$562,625.32 were presented. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the claims. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for October 9, 2026, in the amount of \$270,612.23 was presented. Jeff Wilson moved to approve the payroll claims. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Tammy Justice presented the Commissioners with snow removal quotes from Vogel's Florist and Landscaping LLC. Jeff Wilson moved to retain Vogel's Florist and Landscaping LLC. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice advised the Commissioners that they had received two (2) letters of interest for the vacated seat on the Area Plan and BZA Board. Ron Jarman recommended holding interviews for the open seat. Jeff Wilson moved to set up interviews with the two (2) interested parties. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice advised the Commissioners that the cyber liability renewal application was complete and requested permission to return it. Kenny Aulbach moved to submit the renewal application. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice advised the Commissioners she is currently working on the other liability insurance forms.

COURTHOUSE RENOVATION

- Ron Jarman advised the Commissioners that the first meeting regarding the courthouse renovation project is to take place today, Monday, October 5, 2026.
- Ron Jarman advised the Commissioners that the school board is entertaining the idea of letting the county move into the old school administration office building while the renovation project is ongoing.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- Director Jodi Harr advised the Commissioners that a congratulatory party for Highway Superintendent Jerry Sitton's 50-year anniversary was held. Harr publicly thanked USI Consultants, Floyd Crim and Sons, Asphalt Materials and Butler Fairman and Seufert for their donations.
- Director Jodi Harr updated the Commissioners regarding HR changes.
- Director Jodi Harr advised the Commissioners that Auditor Tammy Justice, Auditor Assistant Heather Carlton and herself had received continuing education certificates through AIC.
- Director Jodi Harr updated the Commissioners on current job openings and staffing.

EMA

- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for the 2026 EMPG Grant in the amount of \$23,500.00 for salary reimbursement. Jeff Wilson moved to approve applying for the grant. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Chuck Kemker advised the Commissioners that he will be meeting with Duke regarding the meter base.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- Dixie Meyer extended thanks to everyone who attended the Rush County annex open house.
- Dixie Meyer advised the Commissioners that the open part-time food inspector/vital records position had been filled.
- Dixie Meyer updated the Commissioners regarding the upcoming adult health screening event. Meyer stated she would have multiple vendors available for the event as well.

ASSESSOR

- Assessor Elect Anna Reynolds requested the Commissioners approval to create a full-time deputy position in the Assessor's office for November and December 2026 to start training. Reynolds stated there are funds in the 2026 budget to pay this person. Jeff Wilson moved to allow the position and advertise to hire. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

SHERIFF

- County Attorney Grant Reeves for Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners that sheriff deputies have provided security detail for Hobbs Security in the past. Hobbs Security is requesting security details for a substation on 600 S. and State Rd 3 on a limited basis. Deputies would be paid \$42.00 per hour, and their letter of liability had been submitted. Jeff Wilson made a motion to move forward with signing the contract upon County Attorney Grant Reeves' approval. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners that the vehicle that sustained engine damage in the flood is repaired and back on the road.
- Sheriff Allan Rice updated the Commissioners regarding the purchase of new vehicles.
- Sheriff Allan Rice updated the Commissioners regarding the upcoming K-9 golf outing.

- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners that there will be a trunk or treat held in the parking lot on October 29, 2026.
- Sheriff Allan Rice reminded the Commissioners that he will be out of state October 7-13, 2026.

HIGHWAY

- Superintendent Jerry Sitton presented the Commissioners with the monthly highway report for September 2026.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised the Commissioners the highway department has a 20-year-old trailer that the bed is rusted out and tires are bad. Sitton advised the trailer is not worth fixing and would like permission to sell it to junk. County Attorney Grant Reeves advised the Commissioners they would have to declare the trailer as surplus before selling it. Jeff Wilson moved to declare the 20-year-old trailer as surplus. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised the Commissioners that there are a couple of bridges that need inspected immediately and recommended not waiting on federal aid funding to move forward. Sitton questioned the Commissioners on if funds are available in either the solar or cum cap funds to pay for the engineering fees. Sitton stated the construction fees would come out of his road and street fund. Ron Jarman advised Sitton that they would have to get direction from the county council and get back to him.

MISC.

- Ron Jarman updated the Commissioners on fiber optics.
- Ron Jarman advised the Commissioners three (3) quotes had been received for the EMA building.
- Kenny Aulbach advised the Commissioners that Shirley Richmond of Carthage is requesting permission to close 800 W. on October 17, 2026, from 6:00 pm to 11:00 pm for the town's Halloween party. Jeff Wilson moved to allow closing of 800 W. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Ron Jarman advised the Commissioners that the UPS for the courthouse is 6 to 8 months out for shipping. Jarman advised that he had received a quote from Mitsubishi of \$50,351.20 to receive the UPS within 10 days. Jeff Wilson made a motion to move forward with the new APC brand unit and the cost not to exceed \$50,351.20. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Jeff Wilson made a motion to adjourn. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. motion carried.

/Ron Jarman/
Ron Jarman

/Kenny Aulbach/
Kenny Aulbach

/Jeff Wilson/
Jeffery Wilson

ATTEST:

/Tammy Justice/
Tammy Justice, Auditor