

REGULAR SESSION RUSH COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

June 29, 2026

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, June 29, 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 June 15, 2026, were presented. Jeff Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CLAIMS

- Accounts payable claims for June 29, 2026, in the amount of \$386,461.62 were presented. Kenny Aulbach moved to approve the claims. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PAYROLL

- Payroll for July 2, 2026, in the amount of \$271,740.79 was presented. Jeff Wilson moved to approve the payroll claims. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

EMA

- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for the 2026 SHSP Trailer grant in the amount of up to \$150,000.00 with no county match. The purpose of the grant is to provide a mobile command center to ensure that service and order is maintained by serving as a communication hub during emergency situations. Jeff Wilson moved to apply for the 2026 SHSP Trailer grant. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for the 2026 SHSP Radio grant in the amount of up to \$150,000.00 with no county match. The purpose of the grant is to help bridge communication gaps by providing reliable multi frequency communication, enabling more coordinated and effective multi-agency responses to a wide range of incidents from everyday emergencies to large-scale disasters. Kenny Aulbach moved to apply for the 2026 SHSP Radio grant. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Director Chuck Kemker requested approval from the Commissioners to apply for the Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan (MHMP) grant in the amount of \$10,000.00 with a 25% county match. The purpose of the grant is to update the multi-hazard mitigation plan, which must be updated every five (5) years. Ron Jarman noted that the county match of \$9,000.00 will be more like 48% instead of 25%. Jeff Wilson moved to apply for the MHMP grant. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried. Kemker also requested approval from the Commissioners to sign the letter of intent for the State Hazard Mitigation Officer. Kenny Aulbach moved to sign the letter of intent. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.

- Director Chuck Kemker updated the Commissioners on the new RAVE notification system.

AUDITOR

- Auditor Tammy Justice requested the Commissioners sign off on the yearly Covered Bridge Certification form certifying that Rush County has five (5) covered bridges. Kenny Aulbach moved to sign the certification form. Second, by Jeff Wilson. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice requested approval from the Commissioners to allow her to ask the County Council to transfer a total of \$115,000.00 in fund Cum Cap of which \$60,000.00 is coming from Repairs and Maintenance and \$55,000.00 is coming from Technology and Software to Courthouse Renovations. Jeff Wilson moved to allow the auditor to request the transfer. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice requested the Commissioners approval for the county attorney contract that is required by SBOA. Jeff Wilson moved to sign the contract. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.
- Auditor Tammy Justice requested the Commissioners ratify a letter that Jeff Wilson sent to the Rush County Community Foundation regarding the old Milroy school building. Jeff Wilson updated the Commissioners on the reason for sending the letter. Kenny Aulbach moved to ratify the letter to the Rush County Community Foundation. Second, by Ron Jarman. All were in favor. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

- Superintendent Jerry Sitton advised the Commissioners that the 2nd Covered Bridge would be closed for a few days for repairs to the roof. Sitton also advised that he would have crews out chip sealing.

SHERIFF

- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners that on June 18th the sheriff's association conducted a round table discussion with state legislatures regarding mental health in county jails.
- Sheriff Allan Rice updated the Commissioners regarding coverage for fair week as well as the rest of the county.
- Sheriff Allan Rice advised the Commissioners that he still had jail positions open.
- Sheriff Allan Rice notified the Commissioners of hot water issues in the jail.

IT

- Director Randy Herbert presented the Commissioners with an updated contract with Schneider for the GIS upgrade for approval. Herbert advised that the auto renewal clause in the contract had been changed to Schneider would contact the client before moving forward. Herbert advised the Commissioners that the county would need some type of yearly support with Schneider to help with layers on the GIS system. Ron Jarman requested Herbert add the yearly contract charge to his 2027 requested budget. Jeff Wilson moved to sign the contract with Schneider. Second, by Kenny Aulbach. All were in favor. Motion carried.

MISC

- Paul McDaniel, resident of Manilla, requested an update from the Commissioners regarding the damage to a tree and surrounding ground on his property. Ron Jarman advised McDaniel that he checked with the county highway department and surveyor and no one authorized spraying on his property.
- Jeff Wilson advised the Commissioners that he had received a call from Phil Gahimer regarding water issues at Cross & Pearl Street. Wilson requested the highway department and surveyor work together to see if this is a county issue.
- Ron Jarman updated the Commissioners regarding fiber optics and BEAD funding.
- Ron Jarman addressed the topic of no property taxes that legislatures are trying to pass.
- County Attorney Grant Reeves updated the Commissioners on the courthouse bond sales.
- Jeff Wilson updated the Commissioners regarding the ongoing blight projects throughout the county.

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

/Ron Jarman/
Ron Jarman

/Kenny Aulbach/
Kenny Aulbach

/Jeff Wilson/
Jeffery Wilson

ATTEST:
/Tammy Justice/
Tammy Justice, Auditor