

The Fremont County Board of Supervisors met in regular session on Wednesday, October 7, 2026, in the Fremont County Courthouse Boardroom, with Clint Blackburn and Jeff Shearer present. Let the record show that Dustin Sheldon was not present for this meeting. A quorum was declared, and the meeting was officially called to order at 9:00 a.m. Minutes of the previous board session were read and approved. The agenda was approved as posted.

Let the record show that Richard Mullen and Jim Olmstead were present in the boardroom for this meeting.

Motion by Shearer to approve Resolution No. 2026-40 Approving & Authorizing a Form of Loan Agreement & Authorizing & Providing for the Issuance of \$1,240,000 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, Series 2026A, & Levying a Tax to Pay the Notes; Approval of the Tax Exemption Certificate. Motion carried unanimously. The full text of the resolution is available in the auditor's office.

Motion by Shearer to approve Resolution No. 2026-41 Approving 28E Agreement with Fremont County Sanitary Landfill Commission for the Issuance of \$1,240,000 General Obligation Capital Loan Notes, Series 2026A. Motion carried unanimously. The full agreement is available for viewing in the auditor's office.

Regarding the chief deputy stipend, none of the board members have heard anything on the MOU/resolution for the stipend. Motion by Shearer to table action on the stipend for the chief deputy. Motion carried unanimously.

Richard Mullen with Resilient Recovery Counseling met with the board regarding a resolution supporting state legislative action to ban the sale of Kratom, 7-Hydroxymitragynine (7-OH), and related synthetic or concentrated Kratom-Derived products. He spoke to the board about this becoming a big problem in Iowa. He said Kratom is a leaf-based opiate. He discussed the deceptive packaging. He said that concentrated 7-OH products are substantially different from ordinary Kratom leaf. He said the effects are very extreme. He said they come in tablets, capsules, gummies, liquid shots, drink mixes, and extracts. He said there were 14,449 kratom exposure reports from 2015–2025. He said reports increased approximately 1,200%. Supervisor Shearer asked whether it would ban the plant itself. Mullen said it wouldn't ban the plant and that there is always another substance behind it. He said that Kratom wasn't initially an issue, but now it has been modified. He said that with 7-OH, Iowa took a stand quickly. Blackburn asked if this resolution just supported the state's stance and wanted to make sure that the board isn't going above and beyond what the state is looking at. Mullen said it is not going above and beyond; it is just a measure of support.

Motion by Shearer to sign the Resolution No. 2026-42 supporting state legislative action to ban the sale of Kratom, 7-Hydroxymitragynine (7-OH), and Related Synthetic or Concentrated Kratom-Derived Products. Motion carried unanimously. The full text of the resolution is available in the auditor's office.

There was no action on policies and procedures for the sheriff's office.

Auditor Owen presented the board with an addendum to the sheriff's office union contract regarding stipends. The union has signed and agreed to it. This is a formality so the auditor's office can begin to pay the stipends and back pay as agreed to. Motion by Shearer to approve the addendum. Motion carried unanimously.

Jim Olmsted met with the board about a drainage claim for a revised easement. He explained that Les Robbins had a small piece of land that was not usable in the drainage district. Robbins had another surveyor involved, and he will split up and sell those, but there is a .4632 acre piece that isn't usable. Olmsted explained that if you take that at \$15,000 per acre, it comes out to \$6498.00. Olmsted said the claim is legitimate, and Scott Schram at IDOT approved paying it. Motion by Shearer to approve the payment for Hwy 2/I29 Drainage District for revised easement. Motion carried unanimously.

Olmsted updated them on the petition that Matt Woods is working on and appointing trustees. He said the issue is that in Iowa Code it talks about agricultural land, and this is mostly commercial. He said these are commercial owners, not individuals. They are trying to find trustees and would like the board's suggestions.

Supervisor Shearer discussed the law enforcement contract issue and the possibility of a special tax on the truck stop area. He said he was given examples of Sioux City and Des Moines. He reached out to Woodbury County, and they said that with Local Option you can't levy more. Auditor Owen gave the board some information regarding a special law enforcement district but wasn't sure that was possible. She said she will see if she can gather more information, but it is still an extra tax for the taxpayers.

In other business, the Recorder's Monthly Report for September was approved.

Claims were approved for October 9, 2026.

At 9:55 a.m., with no further business, Shearer moved to adjourn. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:



Dee Owen, Auditor



Jeff Shearer, Member Board of Supervisors