

Jefferson Co. Supervisors approve money for sheriff's legal fees

By Andy Hallman,
Southeast Iowa Union

FAIRFIELD – The Jefferson County Board of Supervisors voted 2-1 to reimburse the attorney fees of Sheriff Bart Richmond during its meeting Monday, March 24.

Supervisors Joe Ledger and Lee Dimmitt voted in favor of the motion to reimburse Richmond's legal fees, which now amount to just under \$41,000. Supervisor Susie Drish was the lone "no" vote, arguing that state code did not allow the county to reimburse Richmond for his legal fees. Richmond first requested reimbursement for his attorney fees at the supervisors' meeting on March 10, arguing that this was money he spent defending himself after Jefferson County Attorney Chauncey Moulding placed him on the Brady-Giglio list in June 2024, a list of law enforcement officials the prosecutor believes to

be unreliable. A district court judge sided with Richmond and ordered his name removed from the list on Feb. 27.

Ledger made the motion to reimburse Richmond's legal fees, saying that, since Richmond had filed his case against the Jefferson County Attorney's Office to get his name off the list, he could not use the county attorney's office as his legal counsel, forcing him to hire his own attorney. He said that he met with Moulding to discuss the case in early March to inquire about how many hours and dollars the attorney's office had spent on the case.

Ledger said that Moulding indicated he would meet with the other two supervisors independently to receive this information. Drish said she had not met with Moulding, though at Monday's meeting clarified that she had talked to him over the phone but not met with him

in person. Dimmitt said Monday he had not met with Moulding to discuss the case.

Ledger said that he was informed that the county attorney's office had been working on this case after hours and not involving county staff, but Ledger said he later learned that county staff were involved.

Moulding was not present for Monday's meeting. The Union reached out for comment but had not received a response by press time.

Ledger said he was still asking for the hours and dollars spent on the case to be presented to the supervisors, and for any appeals of the district court judge's decision to cease. Moulding had filed an appeal of the district court's decision to the Iowa Supreme Court. Ledger asked Assistant County Attorney Elizabeth Estey if she knew whether or not that appeal was still active or if it had been dropped,



The Jefferson County Board of Supervisors meets in the Jefferson County Courthouse on Monday, March 24. (Image courtesy of Jefferson County Board of Supervisors)

and she said she did not know.

Dimmitt said the supervisors have no jurisdiction on whether the county attorney appealed the decision or not. He asked Ledger how the county should pay Richmond's legal fees, such as which fund it would come out of. Ledger said his motion would cover Richmond's legal fees so far but no future legal fees, and "if Chauncey pursues it, take it out of his salary to pay Bart."

A member of the audience asked the supervisors if they could stop

the county attorney's office from spending any more money on the case. Dimmitt said they could not since the county attorney's budget is outside their jurisdiction, unless the county attorney asks for more money than was appropriated to his office.

Dimmitt acknowledged that the county was looking for ways to cut the budget, and pointed to their action earlier in the meeting not to fill a vacancy in the secondary roads department through at least the end of the fiscal year. That's

why he wanted any reimbursement of legal fees to be for a set amount. Ledger's motion called for the \$40,932 in reimbursement to come out of the supervisors' budget for the next fiscal year, and to be given to Richmond once he presents invoices for that amount. Drish said in explaining her vote against the motion that the state code only allows reimbursement to a county official for a public purpose, and that this did not qualify.

Call Andy Hallman at 641-575-0135 or email him at andy.hallman@southeastiowaunion.com

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LEGAL NOTICES

SEMCO Solid Waste Agency Paid Bills February 2025		
02/18/2025	2B4G LLC	-60,796.57
02/18/2025	Bill Sloop	-517.71
02/18/2025	Eurofins Environment Testing N Central	-19.00
02/18/2025	Iowa Communities Assurance Pool	-7,211.00
02/18/2025	Lindsey Boys Sales LLC	-384.75
02/18/2025	Weikert Iron & Metal Recycling	-200.00
02/18/2025	WMPF Group, LLC.	-60.60

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF PROBATE OF WILL, OF APPOINTMENT OF EXECUTORS, AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS
CASE NO. ESPR038602
THE IOWA DISTRICT COURT FOR KEOKUK COUNTY
IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF **KAREN SUE STARR, Deceased**
To All Persons Interested in the Estate of Karen Sue Starr, Deceased, who died on or about January 9, 2025:
You are hereby notified that on March 17, 2025 the Last Will and Testament of Karen Sue Starr, deceased, bearing date of November 21, 2013, was admitted to probate in the above-named court and that Deborah Neff and Brenda Starr have been appointed Executors of the estate. Any action to set aside the will must be brought in the district court of said county within the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice to all heirs of the decedent and devisees under the will whose identities are reasonably ascertainable, or thereafter be forever barred.
Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned, and creditors having claims against the estate shall file them with the clerk of the above-named district court, as provided by law, duly authenticated, for allowance, and unless so filed by the later to occur of four months from the date of the second publication of this notice or one month from the date of mailing of this notice (unless otherwise allowed or paid) a claim is thereafter forever barred.
Dated March 19, 2025.
Deborah Neff, Co-Executor of Estate
27523 280th Street
Ollie, IA 52585
Brenda Starr, Co-Executor of Estate
107 North Locust Street
Richland, IA 52585
Katie E.M. Lujan, ICIS#: AT0005126
Attorney for Executors
Washington Law Office, LLP
211 West Washington Street
P.O. Box 867
Washington, IA 52353
Date of second publication 3rd day of April 2025

A Porter from Fairfield
H Hammes from EBF
A Hammes from EBF
OE-Out:
2024-2025
R Pherigo to Cardinal (family move)
R Pherigo to Cardinal (family move)
V Tubb to Cardinal (family move)
2025-2026
L Fritz to Washington
S Dage to Washington
W Stevens to EBF
B Book and B Book to Van Buren HSAP
E Echelberry, I Echelberry, and A Echelberry to Sigourney
Resignations
None at this time
New Hires
None at this time
Transfers/Volunteers
Amy Steigleder from K-6 Art/TAG to 7-8 Science/TAG
Cassidy Steinhart from Instructional Coach to Elementary Classroom
Alison Diers 1st Grade Teacher Non Renewal / Staff Reduction
Paige Inole 6th Grade Teacher Non Renewal/Staff Reduction
Gabrielle Okones 6th Grade Teacher Non Renewal/Staff Reduction
The consent items were seconded by Mike Davis. Motion carried 6-0.
None at this time
Action Items
2025-2026 Proposed Calendar
Mike Davis motioned to approve the Proposed 2025-2026 Traditional School Calendar with shortened days. Seconded by Josh Arendt. Roll Call vote was taken: Josh Arendt-vay, Korney Baumberger-vay, Mike Davis-vay, Ray Fear-vay, JJ Greiner-vay, JD Olinger-vay. Motion carried 6-0.
Pekin CSD FY24 Audit
Ray Fear moved to accept the FY24 Audit as presented. Seconded by Josh Arendt. Motion carried 6-0.
AEA Purchasing
Ray Fear motioned to approve the AEA Purchasing agreement. Seconded by Korney Baumberger. Motion carried 6-0.
Shared IT Agreement - GPAEA
Ray Fear motioned to approve the Shared IT Agreement with Grant Wood AEA. Seconded by JD Olinger. Motion carried 6-0.
SRO Agreement - 2 Years
JD Olinger motioned to approve the SRO Agreement with Jefferson County. Seconded by Josh Arendt. Motion carried 6-0.
Waive Ineligibility period for OE out Student 2025-2026
Mike Davis motioned to not waive ineligibility period for the open enrollment out student. Seconded by Korney Baumberger. Roll Call vote was taken: Josh Arendt-vay, Korney Baumberger-vay, Mike Davis-vay, Ray Fear-vay, JJ Greiner-vay, JD Olinger-vay. Motion carried 6-0.
Administrative Reports
Administrative reports were presented to the board for viewing by the Superintendent, Principals, Business Manager, and Transportation Director.
Items/Topics for Next Board Meeting

LEGAL NOTICES

A public hearing will be held March 24 for the budget as well as a special meeting regarding personnel changes. At the next regular board meeting, the second public hearing will be held for the budget.
Adjournment
Mike Davis moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m. Seconded by Korney Baumberger. Motion carried 6-0.
General Fund
AGRI LAND FS, INC 9,798.14
AHLERS & COONEY P.C. 820.00
AIRGAS USA, LLC 688.08
ALL AMERICAN TERMITE & PEST CO 190.00
ALLIANT ENERGY 16,778.64
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES 995.24
ARNOLD MOTORS SUPPLY 178.25
BLICK ART MATERIALS 41.55
BURLINGTON NOTRE DAME, INC 49.00
CAPITAL ONE 191.92
CENTRAL IOWA DISTRIBUTING, PTN 5,132.45
CLAYTON RIDGE CSD 8,362.52
CONNELLY SANITATION, INC 912.25
DEMCO, INC. 118.90
DENNIS EASTMAN 126.80
ENERGAGE, LLC 2,682.22
GLOBAL DIRECT PART 109.94
GRAINGER 153.72
GREAT PRAIRIE AREA EDUCATIO 19,537.47
IMO HUTS, INC. 204.49
INDIAN HILLS COMM. COLLEGE 9,118.98
IOWA ASSN. OF SCHOOL BUSINESS OFFICIALS 245.00
IOWA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS 350.00
IOWA REPAIR SHOP 735.36
JOHNSON FITNESS & WELLNESS 10,627.00
KALONA COOPERATIVE TECHNOLOGY COMPANY 357.06
KCII 113.52
LIQUID NETWORX 189.80
MASTERCARD 823.50
MEDICAL ENTERPRISES, INC. 52.00
MENARDS 794.56
MID AMERICA PUBLISHING CORP 108.40
MIKE'S PARTS & SERVICE 86.58
NALCO WATER 485.84
OTTUMWA COMMUNITY SCHOOL 6,143.40
OTTUMWA GLASS 954.50
OTTUMWA RADIO 1,099.56
PURCHASE POWER - PITNEY BOWES 741.99
PEPPER J.W. & SONS 335.99
RED LION RENEWABLES 1,752.45
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR 431.16

SCHOOL BUS SALES 288.26
SINCLAIR NAPA 558.67
BILL SLANEY 150.00
SOLUTION TREE 2,266.67
THRYV (DIGITAL) 15.00
THRYV 13.49
THRYV 16.47
TIMBERLINE BILLING SERVICES ILLC 1,111.68
TRIPLE Q QUESTIONS 140.00
SARAH VAUGHN 165.00
VENTRIS LEARNING 90.00
WAPELLO RURAL WATER 628.25
WARDSCIENCE 696.52
KLYNT WEBER 211.68
DALE WICKENKAMP 275.77
WMPF GROUP, LLC 360.62
YOTYS, INC. 299.00
109,905.31
Management Fund
SUI INSURANCE COMPANY 17,590.00
PPPEL Fund
MARCO 562.05
SHI INTERNATIONAL CORP 2,623.38
3,185.43
Activity Fund
JOHN SIMMONS 101.06
KEVIN CLEMENSON 102.14
BRENT BLAKELY 87.56
RYAN MILLIKIN 88.64
JOHN SIMMONS 101.06
JACK PEDERSEN 96.74
LANA LODGE 150.00
DEBBIE IVERSON 150.00
MATT CLENDINENG 150.00
DILLION JACOBSON 150.00
CRYSTAL JAMES 150.00
JACK MAUMUND 150.00
RYAN MILLIKIN 88.64
MICHAEL PETKEWEC 150.00
LE COX 150.00
COLLIN KEPNER 150.00
PAYTON JAEGER 150.00
ALL FOR KIDZ 1,532.00
BONNETT WHOLESALE FLORISTS, INC 336.00
CAPITAL ONE 407.51
ALLEN CHAPMAN 43.53
DANCO 2,229.40
ELITE SPORTS 276.00
FRESH START DISTRIBUTORS LLC 1,087.06
FROGTOWN JAVA 60.00
IMO HUTS, INC. 214.98
IOWA FCCL A 600.00
IOWA HIGH SCHOOL SPEECH ASSN. 155.00
KATRINA JACOBS 33.36
JOLLY FARMER 8,087.78
JOSTENS 1,950.40
LYNX SYSTEM DEVELOPERS, INC 175.00
MASTERCARD 4,148.69
PACKWOOD LOCKER 335.30
PEKIN HOT LUNCH FUND 1,040.88
PELLA HIGH SCHOOL 150.00

PRAIRIE FLOWER BAKERY 280.00
REV ROBOTICS LLC 19.31
SIDELINE POWER 1,134.00
26,462.04
Nutrition Fund
ANDERSON ERICKSON 2,809.14
EMS DETERGENT SERVICES 316.50
MARTIN BROTHERS DISTRIBUTING 16,853.21
19,978.85

**Pekin School District
Board of Education Meeting
- Work Session
Pekin School Media Center
Packwood, IA 52580
March 10, 2025 - 5:34 p.m.
Opening**

President J.J. Greiner called the work-session to order and acknowledged a quorum
Board members present: Josh Arendt, Korney Baumberger, Mike Davis, J.J. Greiner, JD Olinger.
Absent: Sherry Bemis, Ray Fear
Also present: Liz Goodwin, Shawn Dorman, Kaye Gilbert.
Adoption/Approval of Agenda
Korney Baumberger moved to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Josh Arendt.
Motion carried 5-0.
Non-Action Items - Work Session
Budget Discussion
Kaye Gilbert gave a presentation on the certified budget.
Adjournment
Mike Davis moved to adjourn the work-session. Seconded by Korney Baumberger. Motion carried 5-0. The adjournment time was 5:55 p.m.

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Pekin Public Hearing Notice
The Pekin Board of Education will have a public hearing prior to the regular monthly Board Meeting. The purpose of the Hearing is to receive input regarding the FY 26 budget. The hearing will be held at the regularly scheduled board meeting to be held at 6:00 P.M., April 14, 2025 in the media center of Pekin Community School, 1062 Birch Avenue, Packwood, IA.
**Pekin School District
Board of Education Meeting
Pekin School Media Center
Packwood, IA 52580
February 10, 2025 6:00 P.M.
Public Hearing for the
2025-2026 School Calendar**
President J.J. Greiner called the meeting to order.
Board members present: Josh Arendt, Korney Baumberger, Mike Davis, Ray Fear, J.J. Greiner, and JD Olinger.
Absent: Sherry Bemis
Also present: Jeff Maeder, Kaye Gilbert, Shawn Dorman, Liz Goodwin
Adoption/Approval of Agenda
JD Olinger moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Josh Arendt. Motion carried 6-0.
Proposed 2025-2026 School Calendar
President J.J. Greiner opened the public hearing to hear public comment on the 2025-2026 School Calendar. No public comments.
Adjournment of Public Hearing
Ray Fear moved to adjourn the public hearing. Seconded by Mike Davis. Motion carried 6-0.
The time was 6:01 pm.
Regular Board Meeting - 6:01 pm
President J.J. Greiner called the meeting to order and acknowledged a quorum.
Board members present: Josh Arendt, Korney Baumberger, Mike Davis, Ray Fear, J.J. Greiner, and JD Olinger.
Absent: Sherry Bemis
Also present: Jeff Maeder, Kaye Gilbert, Shawn Dorman, Liz Goodwin
Adoption/Approval of Agenda
JD Olinger moved to approve the agenda. Seconded by Josh Arendt. Motion carried 6-0.
Visitors and Public Forum
Public Forum
Kids Corner - None at this time
Consent Agenda
Ray Fear moved to approve the following consent items.
Minutes
The minutes of the February 10 and February 17 meetings.
Finance Report
Business Manager Gilbert submitted a current financial report of the district.
Payment of Bills and Credit Card
General Fund bills - \$109,905.31;
Management bills - \$17,590; Day Care bills - \$0; SAVE bills - \$0; PPEL bills - \$3185.43; Debt Management bills - \$0; Scholarship bills - \$0; Activity bills - \$24296.20; Prepaid Activity bills - \$2,165.84; Hot Lunch bills - \$13,671.04.
Open Enrollment Requests
OE-In:
2025-2026