

Now on this 4th day of May 2021, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas met in regular session with Chairman Wes Bainter presiding. Others present were Joe Bainter, Buck Mader, Joe Pratt County Attorney and County Clerk Heather Bracht. Guests were Carolyn Meyer and The Sheridan Sentinel.

Wes Bainter called the meeting to order.

Everyone in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pratt stated he had not had time yet to review the road issue at 80E discussed the previous week with Larry Cressler.

Carolyn Meyer was recognized and distributed information for May 6, 2021, National Day of Prayer. Meyer requests the board declare May 6, 2021 a National Day of Prayer and asks that at noon, people are allowed and encouraged to come to the east doors of the courthouse for a time of personal prayer. Wes Bainter made a motion to approve the Proclamation seconded by Joe Bainter. Carried 3-0. Three more letters of support for opting out of the National Heritage Area program were received by the board of commissioners. Bracht presented a bid from NexTech for a firewall for the public health office in the amount of \$159.00/mth. Wes Bainter made a motion to approve the bid, seconded by Mader. Carried 3-0. Karl Pratt had reached out to Bracht and Janet Bainter, City Clerk, to attend a zoom meeting for a demonstration from GovBuilt for a joint website. The bid was presented to the board. Viktorija Briggs from The Sheridan Sentinel stated that the individual who does the graphic design for them does websites. Briggs will contact him and have him contact Karl Pratt to set up a time to talk.

Joe Herskowitz, Road & Bridge Supervisor, came to the table. Herskowitz had checked the fuel supply and he feels they are good for another month. Herskowitz voiced his concerns about road conditions and acknowledged that the roads are getting more torn up after the rains. There are just not enough employees to keep up. Wes Bainter stated the county needs to contract for road "dragging". The board and Herskowitz discussed ideas to try and resolve the problems. Wes Bainter stated he has talked to farmers and they are ready to get on the roads. Wes Bainter stated he built a "drag" and gave it to Leroy Reitcheck to try. There was discussion about what happens to the trash etc. that is pulled up. Mader stated he would like to see how it works before we start paying someone to do it. Bracht said there were no signed documents that had been approved for this job and no amount specified for pay. Bracht will contact Reitcheck and have him come to next weeks meeting to discuss in more detail.

Tm Hansen, NWLEPG Director entered the meeting. Hansen was present to discuss the new Model Sanitary Code book that had been created. This document was prepared by KDHE and went to the boards who are involved in the organization. Each of the board of commissioners for these counties decide whether to adopt the new code document, it is not mandatory. Hansen stated that nothing had been updated in 30 years and some of the changes are just in the verbiage used. Hansen stated that a board needs to be created which would include the county attorney, a commissioner, a realtor, banker and someone from the community who would represent Sheridan County. They would review the new document and take out what was not pertinent for Sheridan County. Hansen said they needed to be proactive when looking at the new county codes. There was discussion about hiring someone to replace Hansen who was to retire in December 2020. The discussion within the NWLEPG board was increasing fees on septic and water systems to fund insurance for the incoming person. This is a discussion only at this time. No final decision has been made.

Joyce Kinderknecht, Licensed Addiction Counselor entered the meeting. Kinderknecht discussed the need for a substance abuse center in Northwest Kansas which is High Point

Advocacy and Resource Center. High Point Advocacy had come to the board for funding two years ago. Due to covid in 2020, it was not revisited. They are asking for \$11,000 which would come from the Alcohol Fund. Kinderknecht stated that High Point Advocacy has the building and license to operate but they are not officially open yet. Staff are volunteering their time free. Thomas County has done a lot for High Point Advocacy, but they cannot support them alone. Kinderknecht advised the board that maybe half of the nine counties have contributed this year. Pratt stated that there is a lack of mental health and drug and alcohol help in this area. Joe Bainter made a motion to donate \$11,000 to High Point Advocacy from the Alcohol Fund. Mader seconded the motion. Carried 3-0.

Wes Bainter made a motion to approve the April 27, 2021 minutes as presented. Joe Bainter seconded the motion. Carried 3-0.

The board again discussed private individuals “dragging” the county roads.

Renee Wagoner, Public Health Nurse/Administrator entered the meeting. Wagoner presented a bid from NexTech to upgrade all the computers at the public health office. Total cost was \$21,278.94. Wagoner stated she needs a third person in her office. Someone from the Thomas County Health Department came last week and states that things have not been reconciled for several years. Wes Bainter stated he would support hiring a part-time person at 20 hrs. a week, not full time. Wagoner stated that the grant money she is receiving in the amount of \$112,000 can be used for wages so the funds are there. After discussion, Joe Bainter made a motion to offer the job to Ashtynn Pfannenstiel, full time at \$15.00/hr., no overtime. Mader seconded the motion. Carried 3-0. Wagoner will talk with NexTech and try and shave down the bid for computers a bit. This information will be given to Bracht to relay to the board.

No further business, Wes Bainter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joe Bainter. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 8:00 in the courthouse foyer.

Attest: _____
County Clerk

Chairman