

Now on this 1st day of February, 2022, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas met in regular session with Chairman Wes Bainter presiding. Others present were Mike “Buck” Mader, Joe Bainter, Joe Pratt County Attorney and County Clerk Heather Bracht. Guests were Carolyn Meyer and The Sheridan Sentinel.

At 8:00 a.m. Wes Bainter called the meeting to order.

Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Darrick Zerr, City of Hoxie Mayor, Jim Erwin, Street Commissioner, Kevin Schoendaler, Water Commissioner, Paul Wassinger, City of Hoxie Police, Sheriff Brandon Carver, Undersheriff Brian Diercks and Communications Director Dana Hess came to the table. Carver distributed a copy of the proposed Sheridan County/City of Hoxie 2022 Law Enforcement Agreement. Carver stated that a wage of \$22.00/hr. came about as the median wage for Carver, Diercks, Babcock and Cousins. Carver continued by stating that records would be kept in the dispatch office that would track when law enforcement was out on city business and the city would then be billed for those hours only. Carver’s proposal would not charge for “on call” time, only if law enforcement had to respond to an incident. There was discussion about the current schedule for law enforcement. Carver distributed a printout of a slide presentation which showed elected official duties and responsibilities, 2021 stats for the Hoxie police department and the Sheriff’s office, consolidation savings, totaling an estimated \$132,567, pros and cons of consolidating and expenses and budgets for both departments. The biggest change if consolidating would be there would not be an officer strictly patrolling just the city. Carver stated he didn’t care if there was consolidation of the two law enforcement agencies, but everyone needed to look at the big picture. Carver went on to say he believes it should be placed on the ballot and let the taxpayers decide. There was discussion about the difficulty in hiring someone to come to rural Kansas and patrol a one-mile radius. Wes Bainter’s feeling is \$30,000/annually or \$2,500/month, not an hourly wage for a three-month period and see what it looks like at the end of that time-period. Dispatch will track the calls and expense for those three months so there is an accurate detail of the job done. Both boards will take the Agreement home to review and let Eland & Pratt or Carver know of any changes they might like to see made and then plan on coming to the next meeting on February 8, 2022 to approve and sign.

Pratt distributed Road Drag Repair Agreement along with bullet points for contract requirements. Joe Herskowitz, Road & Bridge Supervisor distributed new mowing/dragging road maps divided in to eight sections. Herskowitz is in the process of figuring out the miles of primary and secondary roads in each section and will have those numbers next meeting.

Brice Cronn, Northwest Local Environmental Protection Group came to the table. The board asked Cronn to come and discuss the three-acre rule in the revised Sheridan County Sanitary Code. Cross stated that prior to the revision it had been two acres. Cronn went on to say that there is some latitude there in the decision-making process as it pertains to this rule. Mader made a motion to approve the revised Sheridan County Environmental Sanitary Code seconded by Wes Bainter. Carried 3-0.

The board discussed with Herskowitz the Mowing Agreement. The new Agreement will be a three year contract reflecting a maximum of five mowings on the primary roads and no more than three mowing for secondary roads, keeping in mind planting and harvest time. Herskowitz stated the Noxious Weed Director quit last Friday. Evan Turley had been working with Higby so knows the weed department. Turley will start taking the necessary tests so he can treat weeds and prairie dogs. Herskowitz will check with Nutrien and see if they can help with a prairie dog application that needs to be done this month. Herskowitz distributed information on a used excavator at Foley Industries he feels would do the county a lot of good to purchase. Foley

would take two of our graders on trade-in. Cost with trade-ins would be \$50,129 which includes a 4' bucket. The county countered with \$50,129 with the 4' bucket, a 36 mth/1000 hr warranty (valued at \$3,760) and a 2' bucket. (Foley did not respond by the end of the meeting). Wes Bainter stated the recycling trailers the hospital refurbished to be used for other things are too nice to put back to recycling. Mader made a motion to purchase two trailers from Better Built Trailers at \$4,800/ea to be used for recycling in Selden. Joe Bainter seconded the motion. Carried 3-0. The landfill is being inspected today. Herskowitz will talk with the state representative later and find out about the rules for accepting tires. The landfill passed inspection.

Wes Bainter made a motion to approve the January 25, 2022 minutes as presented. Joe Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0.

Joe Bainter made a motion, seconded by Mader, to approve the January 28, 2022 payroll. Carried 3-0.

At 10:34 Joe Bainter made a motion to enter into executive session for a period of five minutes for the discussion of non-elected personnel. Mader seconded. Carried 3-0. Present were the board and Bracht. The door opened at 10:39 with no decision.

The following payroll was reviewed and approved by the board:

General	\$ 82,850.15	Road & Bridge	\$ 23,628.99
Nox. Weed	\$ 1,596.10	Public Transp.	\$ 1,534.00

At 11:06 a.m. with no further business, Joe Bainter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mader. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 8:00 in the courthouse foyer.

Attest: _____
County Clerk

Chairman