

Now on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2023, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas met in regular session with Chairman Mike "Buck" Mader presiding. Other members present were Joe Bainter, Kyle Ahlenstorf, Joe Pratt County Attorney and County Clerk Heather Bracht.

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

Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joe Herskowitz, Road & Bridge Supervisor and Evan Turley, Noxious Weed Director came to the table. Turley presented the 2022 End of the Year report for noxious weed and the 2023 Annual Noxious Weed Management Plan for Sheridan County. The board reviewed all documents. Mader made a motion to approve and sign both documents, seconded by Bainter. Carried 3-0. Turley advised the board he is in the process of getting bids for chemicals and should have them by next week. Herskowitz stated there is a need for a reliable pickup for the noxious weed department. Turley had two trucks there was some interest in. Herskowitz will contact Hoxie Implement and see if they are thinking of trading off any of their current trucks and about using one of the tractors as a trade-in unit. Pratt and Turley discussed the prairie dog bill for the landowner in the northwest part of the county. Turley will come up with the invoices that show the actual amount the county spent on the chemical and then Pratt and Turley will go talk with the landowner about the bill. Herskowitz discussed the Teeter bill and the fact that it was more than five months old. Herskowitz took responsibility, stating it was in his "junk" mailbox and he missed seeing it. The bill was re-sent again in January and the clerk's office received it to pay in March. Jesse Thompson submitted an estimate for work on 70S/70-150E in the amount of \$7,000. Mader made a motion, seconded by Bainter to approve the work to be done by Thompson. Carried 3-0. The board and Herskowitz discussed Thompson doing the work on the roads and the possibility of the road department doing the work as that is their job and it would be nice for them to get the "good job" pats. Herskowitz stated the new employees are not able to pull shoulders yet. There was discussion about several roads and dragging. Herskowitz advised the board he has a full staff now. There was discussion on some specific warrants. The gravel contracts have been sent out.

Dave Anderson, Director of Clinical Services at High Plains Mental Health came to the table. Anderson reported on the services provided by High Plains Mental Health. Anderson discussed with the board the need for beds for psychiatric patients in the 20-county area, stating there are plans in the works. Anderson asks that the budget for 2024 remain the same at \$18,000. Anderson ended by asking the board to reach out if there are ever any questions.

Pratt asked the board if they had thought about increasing the court appointed hourly rate of pay from \$85.00/hr. to \$120.00/hr. There was discussion about this. Ahlenstorf made a motion to increase the rate of pay for court appointed attorneys to \$125.00/hr. Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0. Pratt will put together an agreement for both Pratt Real Estate and Midway Realty to become the realtors for the home located at 1241 Pine. Mader stated he would like the commission to be a flat \$5,000. Mader made a motion to proceed with the Agreement, incorporating the flat commission rate of \$5,000. Ahlenstorf seconded the motion. Carried 3-0.

The board reviewed two bids for Yokohoma Geo AT 10 ply tires for the sheriff's Tahoe. Mader made a motion to accept the low bid from Bainter Oil for four Yokohoma tires at a cost of \$249.00/ea. Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0.

The letter of support for Options applying for tax credits was approved on a motion by Ahlenstorf and second by Mader. Carried 3-0. The letter was signed and will be emailed to Options.

Ahlenstorf gave a brief overview of the recovery plan meeting held in Oakley (pertaining to after an emergency). Bainter advised the board that the Western Prairie RC& D meeting will be held on Thursday. The Northwest Kansas Planning & Development zoom meeting will be held on Wednesday evening. Ahlenstorf stated he will ask Deb Kaufman, EMS Director to attend an upcoming meeting to discuss EMS.

The March 21, 2023 minutes were approved as presented on a motion by Mader and second by Ahlenstorf. Carried 3-0.

Ahlenstorf made a motion to approve the March 24, 2023 payroll as presented. Mader seconded. Carried 3-0.

Bainter made a motion, seconded by Ahlenstorf, to approve the March 28, 2023 warrants as presented. Carried 3-0.

Mader stated the Hoxie Golf Club is working on repairing some of the cart paths at the golf course. Mader suggests that the county donate millings to spread where they are making repairs. By consensus, the board agreed to donate the necessary millings. Mader will talk with Herskowitz about the county crew taking care of delivering the millings or having them delivered if one of the gravel drivers is out.

The following warrants and payroll were reviewed and approved by the board:

General	\$ 110,112.68	Road & Bridge	\$ 79,982.03
Forfeiture	\$ 28.55	Spec Hwy	\$ 10,900.00
VIN	\$ 100.67	Nox Weed	\$ 3,078.02
E911	\$ 3,392.34	Public Transp	\$ 1,928.72
Landfill	\$ 792.81		

At 10:08 a.m. with no further business, Bainter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mader. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. in the commissioner room.

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman