

Now on this 1st day of August, 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, County Attorney Joe Pratt and County Clerk Heather Bracht. Guest was The Sheridan Sentinel.

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 Harold Murphy came to the table. Murphy discussed the Selden road and the damage that has been done with heavy trucks coming through when the road is muddy due to weather conditions. There are things that can be done like signage but law enforcement and the legal process would need to enforce. The board thanked Murphy for coming. Representatives from Murphy Tractor and Foley Equipment were present and presented quotes for new graders. There was discussion about the equipment. Murphy Tractor will check their inventory for used and get back with Herskowitz.

Don Koerperich, Emergency Manager entered the meeting. Koerperich gave an update on what he has been doing with emergency management. Koerperich stated he is attending health care coalition meetings every other week, representing emergency management and EMS somewhat, regular LEPC meetings, sending out Code Red warnings for inclement weather, working on an active shooter exercise, cybersecurity test that will happen through dispatch and has submitted the paperwork to KDEM for informal review. Koerperich advised the board that his title is full-time EMT. Koerperich was asked and there was discussion about the EMS Director job, pay and duties. Koerperich stated he is not interested in “state” politics. The board was advised by Koerperich that he does the billing but no follow-up billing and that there is no overlap with public health and emergency management. There was discussion about the pager schedule and Koerperich advised that he would not cover the empty spots that no one signs up for during the week or weekends. Koerperich will be invited back to talk with the board again.

Joe Pratt, County Attorney and JoEllyn Agrabright, District Court Administrator, came to the table to discuss the video presentation and conferencing equipment needed for the courtroom which they had asked the county to pay for. The board discussed with Agrabright their concerns and she answered questions. The county would be responsible for repairs/maintenance on the equipment. Ahlenstorf made a motion to approve paying the \$16,000 seconded by Mader. Carried 3-0. This money will come from the oil depletion fund, if possible. If not, the capital improvement fund. Pratt advised the board that of the \$41,000 requested \$20,000 will come out of the law library fund, \$5,00 from the diversion fund and the balance of \$16,000 from the county. Pratt advised the Bracht that he had submitted the letter to Jim Myers for the audit.

Bainter made a motion to amend the agenda to include EMS Director Deb Kaufman. Mader seconded. Carried 3-0. Kaufman stated that Global Medical Response is coming to meet with Decatur County on August 8 and would the board like them to come visit about EMS. The board would like to hear information from them so Kaufman will get back with Bracht about a time.

Joe Herskowitz, Road & Bridge Supervisor, returned to the table. Meyer Electric went to the landfill and looked at the office building. A bid was presented in the amount of \$2,725 for new switches and receptacles, light fixtures and conduit. Mader made a motion to approve the bid, seconded by Bainter. Carried 3-0. A bid was received from JT Grader Service in the amount of \$3,200 to elevate, do ditch work and culvert work for 2 miles at 100W/Hwy 24 and south two miles. Mader made a motion to approve the bid seconded by Ahlenstorf. Carried 3-0. The county now has the bridge decking material for the bridge located at 80E/10N. This will be started on when they next have downtime. There was discussion about road 70E and 80S to the Redline. There are several holes and the road is 2-3' lower than the field. Doug Cass looked at the road and presented a bid of \$1,500-\$2,000/mile to work on it. Ahlenstorf made a motion to approve Cass working on the road seconded by Bainter. Carried 3-0. There was more discussion about roads and culverts.

The July 25, 2023 minutes were approved on a motion by Bainter and second by Mader. Carried 3-0.

The July 28, 2023 minutes of the special meeting were approved as amended on a motion by Ahlenstorf and second by Mader. Carried 3-0.

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

The board amended the agenda to include Rodrigo Hernandez on a motion by Mader and second by Bainter. Carried 3-0. At 10:18 Mader made a motion to enter into executive session for a period of 25 minutes for the discussion of non-elected personnel. Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0. Present were the board, Bracht, Pratt and Hernandez. The door opened at 10:43 with no decision. Hernandez exited the meeting.

At 10:46 on a motion by Bainter and second from Mader, the board entered into executive session for a period of 15 minutes for the discussion of non-elected personnel. The motion carried 3-0. Present for the executive session was the board, Bracht and Pratt. The door opened at 11:00.

At 11:03, Joe Herskowitz returned to the meeting. At 11:03, Bainter made a motion to enter into executive session for a period of 30 minutes for the discussion of non-elected personnel. Mader seconded. Carried 3-0. Present were the board, Herskowitz, Bracht and Pratt. The door opened at 11:33 and Bainter made a motion to extend the executive session for a period of 15 minutes. Mader seconded. Carried 3-0. The door opened at 11:38 with no decision being made. Herskowitz exited the meeting.

The board discussed personnel issues and graders. The board will review the bid from Murphy for a used John Deere if there is one available and make a decision at the next meeting.

The following payroll was approved by the board:

General	\$ 81,184.86	Road & Bridge	\$ 28,263.03
Noxious Weed	\$ 1,885.85	Public Transp.	\$ 757.75
Landfill	\$ 1,871.19	MV	\$ 1,298.23

At 11:48 a.m. with no further business, Mader made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ahlenstorf. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, August 8, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. in the commissioner room.

Attest: _____
County Clerk

Chairman