

Now on this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2024, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas met in regular session with Chairman Mike "Buck" Mader presiding. Other members present were Joe Bainter, David Stithem, Joe Pratt, County Attorney 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 Jerol DeBoer, Penco Engineering, came to the table. Herskowitz stated the machine that is in North Platte has the new engine in. It will be tested this week and hopefully by the end of the week or first part of next week it will be picked up. Blade #256 had a steering pump that went out, which shut the machine down. The system was flushed and hopefully that has fixed the problem. The road in the Angelus area has been worked on again. Road & bridge is hauling gravel out and working it in. The Grinnell road is full of pot holes as it did not have gravel ripped in when it had been worked previously. Road & bridge will use the ripper to rip in the gravel and re-lay it. There was discussion about the work done at 10E to 40N as well as work done on a road in Selden. Road & bridge will haul gravel up to Selden and Leroy Spresser has said he would spread it where needed. There was discussion about concrete at the landfill. There is quite a bit there. Herskowitz will check with Wade Zodrow about crushing it. Herskowitz had also been contacted by Wildlife and Parks about concrete for Sheridan Lake. Blades are continuing to run out in the county. There was a brief discussion about gravel pits. Stithem asked who determines what signs need replaced. DeBoer stated that if the county feels a sign is not correct, a study needs to be done. DeBoer stated that signage placement is reviewed for the FAS routes. The board and Herskowitz discussed the bridge at 50W/110-120S. The county had done some work previously but the whole deck needs reviewed. DeBoer discussed the cost share project on Sheridan Ave. to 10W. DeBoer had been contacted by Scott Foote advising he wants 10W paved from Highway 24 to his home, approximately one mile. Foote is willing to pay for the project from 10W at the Catholic Cemetery to his home and wants the county to pay for 10W at the Catholic Cemetery North Highway 24 or for the other property owners to chip in to pay for the work. The board stated the county does not have the funds to pave the road from Highway 23 at 10W South to Sheridan Avenue. The bid information for road 10W could be calculated at the same time as Sheridan Ave. to 10W but not included for billing purposes. Foote will be invited to attend an upcoming commissioners meeting.

Pratt stated he has sent the letter to the individual pertaining to mowing but has not yet heard a response.

Stithem made a motion to approve and sign the three Treasurer's abatements presented. Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0.

Bainter made a motion to approve the February 6, 2024 minutes as amended seconded by Stithem. Carried 3-0.

Bracht advised the board that correspondence had been sent to Nex Tech LLC asking to terminate phone and internet services effective immediately. This was only mailed last week. No response has been given. Correspondence received from NWKS Planning & Development was distributed for the board to review. Stithem attended a NWKS Planning & Development meeting via zoom and stated there is grant money out there for rental

assistance. Karl Pratt, Economic Development, will be contacted. Stithem made a motion seconded by Mader to sign the Vyve Service Order for Microsoft 365. Carried 3-0.

Marie McDaniel, Register of Deeds and Shirley Niermeier, County Treasurer, came to the table. The board asked them to come to discuss the dress code. Mader stated the dress code has gotten a little lax over the last few years. Casual Friday has become casual Monday through Friday. The Employee Handbook has not been followed. The handbook states "Employees are expected at all times to present a professional, businesslike image ...". The commissioners cannot control the employees but the elected officials have to follow the handbook. Niermeier asked if office shirts could be paid for out of her budget and the board stated yes, as long as the budget is there.

Stithem made a motion, seconded by Mader to approve the February 9, 2024 payroll and February 13, 2024 warrants. Carried 3-0.

There was discussion about a different vehicle for the appraiser's office. The appraiser feels like they do not need the four-door pickup truck, that an AWD SUV would be fine. MC Auto submitted bids and Bracht will contact Alan Heim and a dealership in Colby.

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

General	\$ 72,945.34	Road & Bridge	\$ 23,972.20
Noxious Weed	\$ 2,572.63	Landfill	\$ 12,470.78
Public Transp	\$ 1,230.05	Offender	\$ 163.90

At 9:40 a.m. with no further business, Stithem made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mader. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, February 20, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. in the commissioner room.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman