

Now on this 5<sup>th</sup> day of March, 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 came to the table along with Justin Armknecht, City Superintendent. Armknecht was at the meeting to discuss with the board the citywide cleanup. It is set for April 1-3 with April 4-5 being extra days if needed. Herskowitz will check on being able to get the chemical trailer. No tires or batteries will be collected. The county will waive the city’s dumping fees during that time. By consensus, the board approved the dates and waiving of fees. Armknecht stated that if the county is unable to get the chemical trailer, chemicals can be picked up at a later date. Herskowitz gave a report of the CAT class that was held the previous week. There was a two hour power-point presentation and then everyone went out to the machines. The employees worked on road maintenance, pulling shoulders and how to build a crown. CAT will come back on the 13<sup>th</sup> to review with the more experienced personnel. There was a brief discussion about signs. There was a page that had not been signed in the signage documents for KDOT so this was taken care of by the Chairman. A bid was received from Adam Teeter for road work on 90S/130-150W. The work would entail pulling shoulders and elevate as needed. Estimated cost of the project is \$11,500. Mader made a motion to approve the estimate from Teeter in the amount of \$11,500 seconded by Stithem. Carried 3-0. The 2010 JD grader had the differential go out. Bids were received from Weller Tractor Salvage and Murphy. Herskowitz states he feels they can make the repair themselves and should take one day. Mader made a motion to accept the low bid from Weller Tractor Salvage in the amount of \$19,000 for a rear axle assembly unit. Stithem seconded. Carried 3-0. A rear tire was blown on the backhoe. Bids were received from Town & County, Bainter Oil and Great Western Tire. Mader made a motion, seconded by Bainter to purchase two rear Carlisle 19.5L-24/12 Car Ground Force 625 tires from Town & Country at a cost of \$565.00/ea. and two front tires Carlisle 12.5/80-18 from Bainter Oil Service at a cost of \$299.00/ea. Carried 3-0. Herskowitz gave an update on work the department has been doing. There was a discussion about prairie dogs. There have been some phone calls and sightings. Herskowitz will talk with Evan Turley, Noxious Weed Director. The board reminded Herskowitz that no jake brakes are allowed in city limits. There was a county employee using them.

Mindy Harting, Appraiser came to the table. Harting distributed the 2023 and 2024 Abstract of Appraised and Assessed Values. Harting advised the board that values went up for everything except ag land which dropped approximately 9%.

Jennifer Emmert, Acquisition Supervisor for KDOT, came to the table. Emmert distributed information pertaining to the acquisition of county property prior to the Hwy 23 project. There were questions and answers. Emmert advised the board KDOT would be at the 4H building today from 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. to answer questions from the public and meet with anyone who had questions. Some changes will be made on the information presented to the board and will be sent to Bracht for the board’s approval and signature.

KDOT's Project Authorization Agreement for the reconstruction of K-23 was presented for approval and signatures. By consensus, the Agreement was approved and signed by the Chairman of the board and Bracht.

Pratt stated there is a KDOT meeting on March 7 and Kevin Schoendaler will attend, representing Sheridan County. The meeting will be live streamed on the KDOT Facebook page.

Mader advised the board that Herskowitz was contacted by Scott Foote and advised that he (Foote) had purchased millings for road 10W from Hwy 24 south to his home and East on Sheridan Ave. to the Elks. Foote asks for the county to spread the millings and then if one of his employees could maintain the road with feedlot equipment. After discussion the board agreed that Herskowitz needs to continue the conversation with Foote. The county would want some type of agreement for this work.

Mader made a motion to approve and sign the various Treasurer Abatements/Addds as presented. Stithem seconded. Carried 3-0.

On a motion by Mader and second by Stithem, the February 27, 2024 minutes and February 28, 2024 special meeting minutes were approved as presented. Carried 3-0.

Bracht presented the annual meeting dues for KNRC in the amount of \$5,000. The board agreed to pay it this year but should review prior to next year.

At 10:08 a.m. with no further business, Bainter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Stithem. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. in the commissioner room.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman