

Now on this 12th day of January, 2021, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas met in regular session with Chairman Wes Bainter presiding. Others present were Joe Bainter, Buck Mader and County Clerk Heather Bracht. Guests were Doyle Kauk, Agnes Winter, Renee Wagoner, Carolyn Meyer and The Sheridan Sentinel.

District Magistrate Judge John Cahoj swore in County Clerk Heather Bracht, Treasurer Shirley Niermeier, Register of Deeds Dawn Marie Jones, Commissioner District #2 Buck Mader, Commissioner District #3 Joe Bainter and Sheriff Brandon Carver.

Wes Bainter called the meeting to order.

Carver presented a bill totaling \$3,285 for the new Digiticket program to work with the CAD System. This is for a two-year support and maintenance program as well as licensing. Mader made a motion to approve the bill, seconded by Joe Bainter. Carried 3-0. Carver stated they will try to get grant funding for this but will need to initially be paid out of the sheriff's expenditure line. Carver advised the board it appears the Thomas County jail will potentially be ready the 2nd week of February.

Bracht presented information for Public Health showing income and expenses for the year 2020. This was discussed briefly. Bracht had presented the board with a document showing total mowing expense as well as hauling and excavating that was paid to independent contractors. Bracht had been questioned at the last meeting about executive session and the individual stated that things said in executive session could be shared with the public, using discretion. After discussion with legal counsel Bracht stated that executive session is a closed meeting. What happens/said in executive session is NOT open record and is not to be shared. Bracht ran this by the County Attorney as well and he agreed. Wes Bainter stated that the hospital is not able to help with IT due to the programs the county uses. Bracht stated she will talk to NexTech again this week to clarify the bid received and that she had talked with G & H Computer Services out of Oakley as well and is waiting for a call back with a bid.

Curtis Higby, Noxious Weed Director, came to the table. There is continuing education that he and Evan Turley need to complete. The class is an entire week. Joe Bainter made a motion to approve the continuing education seconded by Wes Bainter. Carried 3-0. Higby stated they are gaining on the treatment of prairie dogs. They have covered over 3,000 acres with approximately 640 acres to go. Some areas will have to be retreated. There have been 71 found dead which are disposed of (buried), the rest have died underground.

Joe Herskowitz, Road & Bridge Supervisor came to the table as well as Jerol DeBoer from Penco Engineering. There was discussion of bridges. The two low water crossing bridges, #56 & #58 have been approved to be done. KDOT will reimburse the county up to \$200,000 for this work. The low water crossing bridges have to be built by a contractor. Herskowitz will come up with specs for the two low water crossing bridges. Bridge #97 located on the Graham/Sheridan County line needs to be repaired/replaced prior to harvest. DeBoer will talk with the Graham County Commissioners about this bridge. Bridge #82 by the Rogers farm has a hole in it. Herskowitz will advertise for bids to repair/replace these two bridges. DeBoer stated that the feedlot road had been surveyed yesterday and that the crown needed to be corrected before it is paved. The feedlot road will be put out for bid by the end of January with alternates for the bridge, to include a concrete deck and new rails as well as flair out rails at each end and for the road leading up to the bridge on each end. The county will do the dirt work so will need 30 days notice to get it completed. There are two other bridges that the county should be able to take care of when there is some down time. Penco Engineering is still working with the landowner at bridge #57. The board thanked DeBoer for coming in.

At 8:53, Wes Bainter made a motion to enter in to executive session for the discussion of non-elected personnel for a period of 8 minutes. Mader seconded the motion. Carried 3-0. Present were the board, Bracht and Herskowitz. The door opened at 9:02 with no decision being made.

Shirley Niermeier, Treasurer, entered the meeting. Niermeier distributed the 2020 4th quarter financial report for the county. Reports showing tax distributions made in 2020 and who they were made to, interest earned in 2020 compared to 2019 as well as the hospital bond information were also distributed. Niermeier stated that over 6.7 million was to be distributed to taxing entities prior to January 20. Niermeier answered questions pertaining to the sales tax.

The board discussed paying for the new grader outright as there is money available in the special equipment fund. Bracht had not received back the lease documents for the board to review. Wes Bainter contacted Dan William at First State Bank via phone and asked about the lease documents. William stated they had been sent to the home office and should be received by the end of the week. William was advised the county would make a decision next Tuesday after the documents had been reviewed. The board discussed two bridges that they feel the road & bridge employees can take care.

Renee Wagoner was recognized. Wagoner states she spoke with Melissa Wachendorfer, Public Health Nurse/Administrator and Miranda Mosier, LPN and feels more comfortable with what needs to be done at Public Health. Wagoner stated that she would like to know if there are residents in the county who want to see new things. She is open to discussing new ideas. The school is excited and supportive of her taking on this new position. February 16 will be her first day at Public Health as the Nurse/Administrator. The board thanked her for taking the job and told her if she needed anything, to let them know.

Wes Bainter made a motion, seconded by Joe Bainter, to approve the Treasurer's abatements as presented. Carried 3-0.

Mader stated he had been contacted by a USD #412 employee who stated the school had been charged for two pickup loads of misc. stuff at the landfill. They have never been billed before. Wanted to make sure this was correct. After discussion, the board stated there are no exceptions, everyone will be billed.

The board approved the landfill operator's salary being paid out of the landfill fund and the noxious weed director's salary to be paid out of the noxious weed fund.

Wes Bainter made a motion, seconded by Mader to approve and sign the following Resolutions. Motion carried 3-0:

Res. 21-01 Commission/Vice-Commission Chair; Res. 21-06 Public Health Nurse; Res. 21-07 Election Board Salaries; Res. 21-08 Freedom of Information Officer; Res. 21-09 EMS/EMT's; Res. 21-10 Cancellation of Outstanding Checks; Res. 21-11 County Purchasing Policy; Res. 21-13 KPERs Designated Agent; Res. 21-14 Depository Bank; Res. 21-15 AHA Training Center; Res. 21-16 Airport Board; Res. 21-17 High Plains Mental Health Board Rep; Res. 21-18 DSNWK Board Rep; Res. 21-20 Emergency Preparedness Appointments; Res. 21-22 NWKS JJA Board Rep; Res. 21-23 At-Large Airport Board Member; Res. 21-24 Fair Board Appointments; Res. 21-25 NWKS Planning & Development Board Appointment; Res. 21-26 NWKS LEPA Board Appointment; Res. 21-28 Fees for Copies; Res. 21-30 GAAP Principles; Res. 21-35 Area Agency on Aging Board and Res. 21-37 County Newspaper.

Wes Bainter made a motion to designate The Sheridan Sentinel as the official county newspaper. Joe Bainter seconded the motion. Carried 3-0.

Wes Bainter made a motion to approve the January 6, 2021 minutes as amended. Joe Bainter seconded the motion. Carried 2-0.

Wes Bainter made a motion, seconded by Mader, to approve the warrants as presented. Carried 3-0.

Joe Bainter stated he would be bringing information in at a later meeting pertaining to the county mowing.

The Sheridan Sentinel thanked the board for making them the official county newspaper for 2021.

The following warrants were approved:

General	\$ 51,466.01	Road & Bridge	\$ 715.18
Tech Fund	\$ 472.40	SPARKS	\$ 4,210.85
Nox Weed	\$ 202.99	Public Health	\$ 1,031.79
Publ Trnsp	\$ 442.83		

No further business, Wes Bainter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joe Bainter. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 8:00 in the courthouse foyer.

Attest: _____
County Clerk

Chairman