

Now on this 8th day of March, 2022, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas met in regular session with Chairman Wes Bainter presiding. Others present were Mike "Buck" Mader, Joe Bainter and County Clerk Heather Bracht. Guests were The Sheridan Sentinel, Ron Farber, Leroy Reitcheck, Brad Gourley, Brendon Gourley, Jerry Spresser and Dustin Shaw.

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

Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

At 8:01, Wes Bainter made a motion to enter into executive session for a period of 15 minutes for the discussion of non-elected personnel. Mader seconded. Carried 3-0. Present were the board, Pratt, Herskowitz and Bracht. At 8:15 the door opened, and Joe Bainter made a motion to extend the executive session for a period of 15 minutes. Wes Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0. The door opened at 8:32. Mader made a motion to approve the following low bid mowing contracts: Brendon Gourley, Sections 1 & 2 at \$104.00; Leroy Reitcheck Section 3 at \$103.00; Brendon Gourley Section 4 at \$109.00; Dustin Shaw Section 5 at \$114.00; Brendon Gourley Section 6 at \$114.00 and Brad Gourley Sections 7 & 8 at \$99.00. Wes Bainter seconded the motion. Carried 3-0. Sections 5 & 6 were determined by a coin toss as Shaw and Gourley had the same bid. Mader tossed the coin and Shaw called in the air. Shaw won Section 5 and Brendon Gourley Section 6. The bid amount is per mile for mowing both sides of the road. Other bids were received but were higher than those selected. Mader brought up and discussed the billing, timely notification to the county that mowing has been completed so it can be checked and the three-strike rule, meaning if you do not perform the mowing in a manner that meets the approval of the road supervisor over three times in a one-year period, the Mowing Agreement can be terminated by the county and re-bid. The Road Drag Agreement for Brendon Gourley for Section 6, Brad Gourley for Section 7 and Danny Shaw for Section 4 were approved. All are aware that proof of purchase of a road drag or purchasing a road drag from the county must be done by the end of the day today. By consensus the board agreed to purchase fuel from Bainter Oil before the prices get any higher. Herskowitz stated he had talked with Jeff Stewart, KDOT about the bridge the county received correspondence on. Stewart stated it is the bridge 10 miles North of Hoxie on Highway 23. Work won't begin for three to four years. Herskowitz discussed the low water bridge to be built at 20E and south. Herskowitz feels road & bridge employees can build the low water crossing. There are three employees who can do concrete, they are close to town so if something came up, they would be able to take care of it. There was then discussion about the employees needing to be working the roads, not building low water crossings. The graders need to be out, drags are for maintenance. When it's time to blade roads, we need to be blading roads. No decision was made.

Deb Kaufman, EMS Director and Brandon Carver, Sheriff came to the table. Kaufman stated the timeline for the ambulance has been moved up and should be here the end of March or first of April. Total cost of the ambulance is \$167,995. Wes Bainter made a motion to use \$80,000 of the ARPA money to fund the ambulance and the remaining \$87,995 will come out of the Special Ambulance Fund. Mader seconded. Carried 3-0. Kaufman has talked with the hospital about the old ambulance and they do not have a decision yet on whether they want it. Carver and Kaufman discussed new radios and why the current radios can't just be updated. Carver will get another bid from Motorola in Great Bend and come to the next meeting. Carver stated the time frame to get a contract for a 2023 Tahoe is 5 days and will be in May. The vehicle, which will replace Undersheriff Diercks pickup, would not be delivered until November 2022. Carver will get bids from Superior Emergency Response Vehicles and J & R Car & Truck. Bracht stated that the ARPA funds can be used to purchase the vehicle. There was discussion about grants for radios. Kaufman stated they had received a SAVVIK Foundation grant in conjunction with the American Ambulance Association (AAA) which is being used for ambulance reporting

resources. Two students are testing in Ellinwood this Saturday and the other student later in the month.

Duane & Ann Wente came to the table. Wente was there to discuss the junk pile next to their house on Main Street. Wente stated employees from Bainter Construction come over and throw trash (cans and cigarettes) down in the vacant lot which blows into their yard. They feel they should have more consideration. Mader stated he wasn't sure this was in the county's jurisdiction, probably more a civil case or City of Hoxie. Wente stated she had read on the internet an article which stated in 31 states (one of them being Kansas) there is a law that says once a property owner turns 75 the property taxes freeze. No one was aware of this so Pratt went and asked Minday Harting, Sheridan County Appraiser, to come down. Harting stated she is not aware of a statute but she will reach out to the State and clarify. Wente went on to discuss the roads in the NE part of the county, specifically Adell & Bowcreek Townships. Wente stated you need to have 4-wheel drive to get down the road and into their pasture to check the cattle. Wente feels the commissioners should drive every road in their district annually. They are atrocious. The board stated they agree the roads need work but with zero moisture they are not able to be worked.

Bracht distributed trade-in information for the 2014 Ram pickup the county is looking to purchase from MC Auto. MC Auto is allowing \$5,150 trade-in for the 2001 Chevy pickup and 2009 Dodge Minivan making the cost of the truck \$21,750. Wes Bainter made a motion to approve purchasing the 2014 Ram pickup at a cost of \$21,750. Joe Bainter seconded. Carried 2-1 with Mader abstaining. Joe Bainter made a motion to approve the Treasurers Abatement seconded by Wes Bainter. Carried 3-0. Bracht presented the State of Kansas Department of Health and Environment Grant Application Signature Page for the Board of Health (commissioners) to approve and sign. The grant period is July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023 and total aid expected to receive is \$97,849.20. This includes the balance of COVID-19 ELC Expanding Infrastructure funding, Immunization Action Plan (IAP), Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) and State Formula (SF). Joe Bainter made a motion to approve and sign seconded by Mader. Carried 3-0. Bracht will prepare a letter of support for DSNWK's application for Kansas Community Service Tax Credits to make improvements to their homes, centers and offices.

At 10:18, Joe Bainter made a motion to enter into executive session for a period of five minutes for the discussion of non-elected personnel. Wes Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0. Present were the board and Bracht. The door opened at 10:23. Wes Bainter made a motion to make a counteroffer on the parcel the board is trying to purchase. Joe Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0. Bracht will let Pratt know the specifics.

The following warrants were reviewed and approved by the board:

General	\$	2,703.76	Road & Bridge	\$	228.20
VIN	\$	555.74	ARPA	\$	35,000.00
Nox. Weed	\$	153.17	Public Transp.	\$	38.05

At 10:30 a.m. with no further business, Joe Bainter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mader. Carried 3-0. There will be no meeting on March 15. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, March 22, 2022 at 8:00 in the courthouse foyer.

Attest: _____
County Clerk

Chairman