

Now on this 25th day of October, 2022, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas met in regular session with Chairman Wes Bainter presiding. Others present were Joe Bainter, Mike “Buck” Mader, County Attorney Joe Pratt and County Clerk Heather Bracht. Guest was the Sheridan Sentinel.

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

Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joe Herskowitz, Road & Bridge Supervisor, came to the table. Herskowitz stated they pulled the shoulders on the road leading to Southern Star. Spore will haul millings and the county will spread on the road. The “weight limit” bridge signs are being replaced. The signage program doesn’t replace the bridge signs. Herskowitz will check with Jerol DeBoer with Penco to see if our application was accepted into the program. The county was awarded funds through the cost share program in the amount of \$500,000 for the work to be done on Sheridan Ave. to 10W. Herskowitz distributed a map of the landfill. Western Coop will come out and put up a new pole by the new cell so the Bomag can be plugged in right there when coming out of the cell. Cost is estimated at \$58/mth for five years. By consensus this was approved. Wes Bainter stated a nice job was done on the Elks Ranch bridge and the other road work done on 110N back east. Other road work was discussed. Herskowitz stated the overtime will shorten now that it is cooler. Fuel will be delivered. Wes Bainter made a motion to amend the agenda to include Mike Beckman. Joe Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0. Beckman started by saying there is a family who doesn’t care. He stated the prairie dogs are so thick there is no way the county employee can treat them by himself. The same family has cattle out every day in everyone’s corn. Fence is torn to the ground. Prairie dogs are eating the crops. Evan Turley, Noxious Weed Director, will contact Stevenson and see when they are going to treat musk thistle. The discussion continued with comments that there are too many acres involved now. Pratt stated he will talk with Sheriff Carver about the cattle problem. Turley will contact 7K Ranch LLC and get a price to treat the prairie dogs. Beckman stated a lot of landowners don’t even know they have a problem. The commissioners are committed to eradicating prairie dogs and will continue to work on a plan. Turley stated it is better to dope when it is cold outside and the prairie dogs don’t want to leave the hole. Turley will purchase additional chemical to treat. The board thanked Beckman for coming. There was discussion about mowing in Section 5. Millings are being deposited at the shop. Herskowitz spoke with Jef Stewart/KDOT and nothing is planned to start on Highway 23 south until 2025, March – October. The K123 project will probably not be done till January. There was discussion about recycling. The baler is back working.

Bracht read a recommendation from the Sheridan County Republican Committee to the commissioners which read “*The Sheridan County Republican Party wishes to share a concern about potential conflict of interest regarding employees of federally funded tax-exempt organizations serving as county commissioners.* The party would appreciate your consideration on the matter for future potential candidates.” Wes Bainter stated the commissioners are not getting involved in the election process.

Several Treasurer Abatements were approved on a motion by Joe Bainter and second by Wes Bainter. Carrier 3-0.

Joe Bainter made a motion to approve the October 18, 2022 minutes as presented. Mader seconded. Carried 3-0.

The October 21, 2022 payroll and October 25, 2022 warrants were approved on a motion by Mader and second by Wes Bainter. Carried 3-0.

Pratt stated he will do some further research on the prairie dog issue. Pratt will pass on to the landowner what will be changing. What was already discussed and approved with him will be taken care of. If there is interference, law enforcement will have to be called. There is a statute on fencing in livestock.

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

General	\$ 168,926.16	Road & Bridge	\$ 82,665.31
Noxious Weed	\$ 2,360.50	Public Transp	\$ 2,236.25
Clerk Tech	\$ 27.60	Forfeiture	\$ 90.83
Spec Hwy	\$ 12,150.00	VIN	\$ 240.00
ROD Tech	\$ 200.00	E911	\$ 1,989.17
Landfill	\$ 2,295.41	MV	\$ 1,055.43

At 9:10 a.m. with no further business, Wes Bainter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joe Bainter. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, November 1, 2022 at 8:00 in the courthouse main floor foyer.

Attest: _____
County Clerk

Chairman