

Now on this 31<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2023, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas met in regular session with Chairman Mike "Buck" Mader presiding. Other members present were Joe Bainter, Kyle Ahlenstorf, Joe Pratt County Attorney and County Clerk Heather Bracht. Guests were 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. Herskowitz stated the oil burner at the shop wasn't running right so it was taken to Hays for repair. New igniter sticks, cleaning, etc were done. The last time this had been done was pre-COVID and a bill had not been sent to the county. Two bills will be received for this service. Hoxie Ag advised Herskowitz it would be about a month before they would start on the boom truck. Grader #261 had the #1 piston melt into two pieces. Cat is trying to pinpoint why it happened. The work is covered under warranty. Midwest Training Consulting Services representative stopped by to discuss the fuel tanks. This company comes into businesses, at a cost of \$2,500, and create a five-year plan and checklist. At five years, they come and re-evaluate at no cost. If there is ever an accident, the EPA could potentially fine the county if there is no plan in place. The license received from KDHE just permits the county to have the fuel tanks on site. At this point, the board feels this is not a necessary expense. Herskowitz stated he and Hernandez will be going to Hays on Wednesday for signage training. February 21-23 there will be HHW training in Junction City. More information is coming but Herskowitz would like either himself or Hernandez to go with Tim Williams. Once certification is obtained an eight-hour refresher course annually is all that is needed to keep the certificate up. Herskowitz advised the board he has not heard back from TechJunkies as they had to revise the quote to reflect a business instead of residential plan. Herskowitz stated if he doesn't hear back from them, he will purchase a Walmart computer and purchase a warranty there. Herskowitz distributed the five-year plan for the landfill for the board to review. Herskowitz has until March 1 to update the plan. Herskowitz asks the board to review and if there is anything they wish to change to let him know next week. Herskowitz advised the board that four employees worked on Sunday to reopen roads and should finish today with the secondary roads. There was discussion about loading trailer/truck at recycling. Mader stated he had received a call from Kelsey Rhodes that the road to the greenhouse is still holding water in the center. There was discussion about this road. No millings can be taken there with the snow on the ground. Herskowitz will talk with her.

Chad Koster and Rebecca Bird from Sheridan County Health Complex and Monica Reuber, Public Health came to the table. Reuber distributed information to the board describing what has been happening in public health. The hospital distributed the financial report for public health for the year ending 12/31/2022. There was discussion about the COVID funds which will no longer be available after June. Reuber stated she is exploring options for public health services that are not duplicated at the clinic. She states she works closely with Don Koerperich on emergency preparedness. Reuber stated a part-time nurse was hired in December and is in the office 2-3 days a week. WIC services are still handled through the Graham County Public Health office but the plan is to get the service back in Sheridan County when renewal time comes in October. Reuber states she is pursuing two new grants to help offset losing the COVID grant dollars. These grants are for Chronic Disease Risk Reduction (CDRR) and Maternal Child Health (MCH). Koster stated the clinic now has VFC status for vaccinations which works well with the FQHC status since they have an obligation to help underserved citizens.

At 9:10, Mader made a motion to enter into executive session for a period of 10 minutes for the discussion of non-elected personnel. Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0. Present were the board, Koster, Bird, Pratt and Bracht. The door opened at 9:20 with no decision. Bird distributed the 2023 Sheridan County Health Complex budget. Koster stated that things are going to get tight through the next few years as they also are losing COVID grant dollars.

Dana Hess, Brian Diercks and Brandon Carver from the Sheriff's Department came to the table. Hess presented information for the server needed in their office. Bids were received from CK Technology, TechJunkies and NexTech. There was discussion about the need for the servers and the cost of the support. Ahlenstorf will check with IT at the hospital about servers and come back next week with information. The board discussed splitting the job of office manager and Director of Communications and having two separate employees. Carver and Hess state the caseload has significantly increased and Hess does not feel she can do the best job for each position. There was discussion about the budget and that the dispatch budget does not include money for the positions that are currently open and the sheriff's budget does not have money for an office manager. The board asked about doing the work during the night shift and Hess states she does that if time allows. This discussion will continue.

Mader made a motion to amend the agenda to include Mindy Harting, Appraiser. Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0. There was discussion about property in the northwest part of the county that had an error in the acreage/ownership lines. Pratt will prepare deeds from the County to the two landowners affected and all records will be recorded and corrected.

Bracht advised the board the house on Pine the county purchased has been vacated and is ready to clean and put on the market. Pratt will contact an individual he knows to see if there is any interest in cleaning for the county. The board will do a walk through during next weeks meeting and will then make a decision on whether to sell outright or contract with a realtor.

Bainter made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Abatement for severed minerals seconded by Ahlenstorf. Carried 3-0.

Mader made a motion to approve and sign the Resolution appointing Pat Wessel to the Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas (DSNWK) Board. Bainter seconded the motion. Carried 3-0.

Ahlenstorf made a motion, seconded by Bainter, to approve and sign the 2023 Agreement for services between Sheridan County and Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas (DSNWK). Carried 3-0.

The board discussed Kansas Natural Resource Coalition (KNRC). The invoice was received for the 2023 dues in the amount of \$5,000. Ahlenstorf will do some research and come back and discuss at the next meeting.

The January 24, 2023 minutes were approved as presented on a motion by Mader and second by Bainter. Carried 3-0.

Bainter made a motion to approve January 27, 2023 payroll, seconded by Ahlenstorf. Carried 3-0.

Ahlenstorf made a motion to approve and sign the January 31, 2023 warrants. Bainter seconded the motion. Carried 3-0.

Mader presented an invitation to the board for the Annual Production Appreciation meeting for Sheridan County Soil Conservation District at the Elks. Dinner will be served.

Bracht will contact Meyer Electric and have them change the lighting to LED lights in the commissioners room.

The board approved and signed the following payroll and warrants:

General	\$ 226,640.15	Road & Bridge	\$ 116,703.28
Spec Hwy	\$ 69,167.59	Spec Tech	\$ 800.87
Forfeiture	\$ 1,194.80	E911	\$ 2,953.53
Nox Weed	\$ 4,325.73	Stray Animal	\$ 23.60
Public Transp	\$ 1,933.73	Landfill	\$ 4,227.18
Conceal Carry	\$ 67.00		

At 11:07 a.m. with no further business, Bainter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mader. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, February 7, 2023 at 8:00 in the commissioner room.

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

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Chairman