

Now on this 29th day of August, 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, County Attorney Joe Pratt and County Clerk Heather Bracht. Guests were The Sheridan Sentinel and Gary Reitcheck.

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 and Evan Turley, Noxious Weed Director, came to the table. Turley stated he needed more chemicals. By consensus the board agreed to having Turley purchase more chemical, selecting the least expensive. Turley stated that he uses a spreadsheet to track chemical as he has to turn this information into the state at the end of every year. At 8:05 Mader made a motion to enter into executive session for a period of 10 minutes for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel. Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0. Present were the board, Herskowitz, Turley, Bracht and Pratt. The door opened at 8:10 with no decision being made. The board discussed noxious weeds and pre-emergent. Turley will get additional information on pre-emergent chemicals. The board thanked Turley for staying with the county. Herskowitz advised the board that JT Grader Service had almost finished the work at 100W. There are two low spots that will be worked on after it dries up. A bid was received from JT Grader Service in the amount of \$2,000 for work at 110W/Hwy 24 south two miles. There was discussion about hauling gravel and some mowing. The board recognized Gary Reitcheck. Reitcheck discussed weeds on the west side of property at 40S/60W. Reitcheck stated the weeds are taller than he is. It was determined this a secondary road so there was a brief discussion about the timing of when the first mowings happened. There was discussion about roads. There are currently dedicated men in each section and the board feels this will help to address some of the problem issues. Herskowitz distributed maps with the locations of the three pits currently being used for sand/gravel. Herskowitz has reached out to several people who might have pits but has not heard back. The board advised Herskowitz to proceed with the recycling grant. A few warrants were discussed. The new blade has been delivered and is currently being used by Jerry Burris. Herskowitz has several individuals to interview for employment.

Bracht presented the employee document which had previously been approved confirming current wage and raise that will occur January 1, 2024. The board signed the document. The board discussed natural gas options for the county and by consensus opted to continue with fix pricing for gas usage.

At 9:00 a.m. the Revenue Neutral Rate hearing was opened. Jim Myers, CPA, came to the table. Guests in attendance included Joe & Cathy Broeckelman, Gary Reitcheck, Dan Lewis, Galen Jamison, Dwayne and Renae Kersenbrock and Karl Pratt. There was discussion about treating prairie dogs and where those funds come from. Mindy Harting, Appraiser, came to the table and discussed the increase in ag land. Harting stated it is hard to catch if landowners change crops. Letters are sent out for CRP and mailers have been tried but are not that successful. There was discussion about the mill levy and valuations. A guest stated with high taxes it is less likely that someone will move into the county. A suggestion was a property tax relief plan. How much cash do we need? Excess could be given as a tax relief. There was discussion about sanding the roads and overall condition. Speed on the roads needs to be enforced. The board advised the

group that putting down sand is a priority in the fall. Myers was asked if the funds Sheridan County has is similar to other counties and Myers responded yes. The board was thanked for doing the job they do. Ahlenstorf made a motion to approve Resolution No. 23-55, a Resolution of the County of Sheridan, Kansas to Levy a Property Tax Rate Exceeding the Revenue Neutral Rate. Bainter seconded. Motion carried and the Resolution was signed by the board. Bracht then conducted a roll call vote of the commissioners to levy a property tax exceeding the revenue neutral rate. Mader voted yes, Bainter voted yes, Ahlenstorf voted yes. Carried with three yes and zero no. The RNR hearing was closed. The 2024 Sheridan County Budget Hearing was opened. There being no further discussion Bainter made a motion to approve the 2024 Sheridan County Budget as presented, seconded by Mader. Carried 3-0. Mader made a motion to close the budget hearing, seconded by Ahlenstorf. Carried 3-0.

Ahlenstorf made a motion, seconded by Bainter, to approve the August 22, 2023 minutes as presented. Carried 3-0.

Mader made a motion to approve the August 25, 2023 payroll. Ahlenstorf seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

On a motion by Mader and second by Bainter, the August 29, 2023 warrants were approved. Carried 3-0.

Bracht will check with other clerks about the noxious weed money and where they pay out the prairie dog expenses. Bracht reminded the board that next week there will be road viewing as soon as Herskowitz is done with any business he might have.

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

General	\$ 156,419.86	Road & Bridge	\$ 207,465.20
Nox. Weed	\$ 2,026.23	Public Transp	\$ 1,843.55
MV	\$ 1,455.08	ARPA	\$ 9,125.00
Spec Hwy	\$ 6,600.00	Spec Tech	\$ 7,134.94
E911	\$ 2,570.91	Stray Animal	\$ 100.00
Clk Spec Tech	\$ 31.94	Landfill	\$ 2,694.99
Forfeiture	\$ 9,193.98	VIN	\$ 802.97

At 10:28 a.m. with no further business, Bainter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ahlenstorf. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. in the commissioner room.

Attest: _____
County Clerk

Chairman