

Now on this 16th day of January, 2024, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas met in regular session with Chairman Mike “Buck” Mader presiding. Other members present were David Stithem, Joe Bainter and County Clerk Heather Bracht.

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 advised the board that one of the graders is having mechanical issues. Three options were given: New engine with three-year warranty at \$68,413; Engine cam with head only at \$12,178 (includes one year labor warranty) or overhaul with head with one year warranty on labor at \$30,177. The grader will go to North Platte for service. No decision was made. During the cold weather everything has gone fine at the road & bridge. One of the trucks is leaking at the water pump. A new water pump can be ordered through CAT at a cost of \$952 and road & bridge can install it. Stithem made a motion to order the water pump through CAT seconded by Bainter. Carried 3-0. By consensus it was approved to purchase the fuel through Bainter Oil. CAT training is \$1200/day with 5-6 employees per class. Herskowitz will get a class scheduled. At 8:30 Bainter made a motion to enter into executive session for a period of 15 minutes for the discussion of non-elected personnel. Stithem seconded. Carried 3-0. Present were the board, Bracht and Herskowitz. The door opened at 8:45 with no decision being made.

Correspondence to First State Bank requesting a new account be created for Freedom Claims was approved by the board and signed by the Chairman.

Shirley Niermeier, Treasurer came to the table. Niermeier distributed 4th quarter financial information for 2023. Niermeier discussed each of the reports and answered questions.

Representatives from Vyve Broadband were to attend the meeting to discuss concerns but did not travel due to weather. Brandon Carver, Sheriff and Brian Diercks, Undersheriff as well as Niermeier came to the table. Brian Meder from Vyve called in. Vyve will be rescheduled to meet with the board on the 23rd at 9:30. Carver discussed problems they have had at the sheriff’s office and the concern that they are not listed as “emergency” operations so that they get fast response when needed. General housekeeping with cords/wiring being cleaned up was discussed as well. Niermeier stated that the printers went down in her office and were down for more than two hours and she had to turn three customers away. Meder stated they will starting working on problems at the sheriff’s office first. Next week when they come it will be determined what Vyve covers and what IOT on Main Street covers so that all employees know who to contact.

The board discussed the repair needed for the grader. The board was in agreement that they would rather get it to Murphy Tractor in North Platte, NE and have them see what is needed and then make an informed decision before proceeding. Bracht will let Herskowitz know.

Carver returned to the meeting and had the Extension Agreement signed by the board. This Extension Agreement had been approved previously. The Extension Agreement is for the county law enforcement to assist with law enforcement within the city boundaries. The Extension Agreement is for a period of two years. The board signed the Extension Agreement. Carver distributed information that for an additional cost, NexTech could become “back-up” internet in situations where Vyve, for whatever reason, is down. The

board is not in favor of this at this time. The county is moving forward with Vyve, we will give them a chance.

Stithem made a motion, seconded by Mader, to approve the January 9, 2024 minutes as amended. Carried 3-0.

The January 12, 2024 payroll was approved and signed on a motion by Bainter and second by Stithem. Carried 3-0.

Mader made a motion to approve the various 2024 Resolutions. Stithem seconded the motion. Carried 3-0.

The following payroll was approved by the board:

General	\$ 56,905.60	Road & Bridge	\$ 14,849.01
Public Transp	\$ 409.75	Noxious Weed	\$ 1,079.05
Landfill	\$ 961.88		

At 10:50 a.m. with no further business, Mader made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bainter. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, January 23, 2024 at 8:00 a.m. in the commissioner room.

Attest: _____
County Clerk

Chairman