

Proceedings of the Commissioners  
February 9, 2021

The Sheridan County Board of Commissioners met via ZOOM on February 9, 2021 as advertised on the County website [sheridancountyne.gov](http://sheridancountyne.gov). Governor Ricketts has authorized the use of such virtual meetings during this time of the Covid-19 pandemic to help minimize public contact and possible virus transmission. Since the meeting was held electronically no quorum of the public body was physically present and there was no public, in-person attendance.

Members of the public and media were informed of the meeting and invited to attend via ZOOM.

Present were Chairman Loren Paul, Commissioners Bruce Messersmith and James Krotz, County Clerk Sindy Coburn, Treasurer Renee Thies and Road Supt. Richard Cross.

There was no business to come before the Board of Equalization (BOE).

Jeremy Harris of MANNA Systems reported on the jail video system update and discussed with the Board of Commissioner (BOC) an upgrade of the microphone system in the meeting room. The Commissioners decided to proceed with installation of individual microphones for the Officials and guests.

The BOC audited and approved claims for payment.

Road Superintendent Richard Cross and Treasurer Renee Thies reported that the County recently received \$286,851.61 from FEMA for damage caused to roads by the 2019 floods.

The BOC voted to authorize the Chairman to sign an agreement with with Maximus to provide professional consulting services. The company assists in recovering certain costs incurred by the County to support and administer federal programs. This action extends a current agreement to 2026.

Generations in Volunteer Efforts (GIVE) Director Bev Wellnitz presented her periodic activity report.

Treasurer Renee Thies presented her thoughts on the cost/benefit ratio of the County's contract for IT services.

Extension Educator Jack Arterburn presented his periodic activity report.

Building Superintendent Jeff Davis reported on some of the plumbing challenges presented by a building the age of our courthouse and visited with the Commissioners about cleaning services.

Retired Public Defender Michael Varn appeared briefly to comment on the process of appointing his successor.

The BOC voted to approve a retainer agreement with attorney Victor Covalt of Lincoln who will represent the County in a bankruptcy case in which the County is owed taxes.

Chairman Paul asked that it be entered on the record that the Sheridan County Fair this year will be held July 26-31.

It is the consensus of the Elected Officials that we will not participate in County Government Day this year because of concern about Covid-19.

The Commissioners discussed a recent ZOOM meeting hosted by the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources regarding the update of FEMA flood maps in Sheridan County. An interactive floodplain map of Sheridan County is available at <https://gis.ne.gov/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=7bc8738d3d8f4e87823cc604543b7ddf>

The next meeting of the BOE and BOC is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16 on the ZOOM platform and will be open to the public. Watch the County website Public Notices site for meeting ID and passcode information. Those lacking a solid internet connection can join the meeting by telephone using the number posted there.

The minutes of this and all meetings of the Board of Commissioners will be available to the public at the office of the Sheridan County Clerk and now are available online at [sheridancounty.ne.gov](http://sheridancounty.ne.gov). All meetings of the Board of Commissioners are held in compliance with Nebraska Open Meetings Act and the public is always welcome.

Submitted by James Krotz