

Proceedings of the Commissioners

The Sheridan County Board of Commissioners met in person on May 11, 2021 at the County Courthouse. Notice of the meeting was published on the county website sheridancountyne.gov. The meeting was open to the public and a ZOOM connection was also available. Present were Chairman Loren Paul, Commissioners Bruce Messersmith and James Krotz, County Clerk Sindy Coburn and Treasurer Renee Thies.

The Commissioners convened as the Board of Equalization (BOE) and approved the minutes of the May 27 meeting,

The Assessor brought no business before the BOE and the meeting was adjourned at 9:10.

Acting as the Board of Commissioners (BOC) the officials considered and voted to approve the Blue Cross/Blue Shield sub-group application that will provide health care coverage for county employees who work 30 hours or more per week in the year ahead. Last year there was no increase in the annual cost. In the coming year the cost of the plan will increase by 3.28 %.

The Board appointed Pat Wellnitz of Rushville to serve another 3-year term on the Board of the Panhandle Public Health District (PPHD) board of directors representing Sheridan County. Wellnitz, the retired director of laboratory services at Gordon Memorial Hospital, serves on the PPHD board as a “community spirited citizen.” The BOC voted to appoint her to a second term with thanks for her service during a difficult time of pandemic.

Road Superintendent Richard Cross reported that the lack of moisture continues to make road surface maintenance very difficult.

Chief Deputy Everett Langford reported the availability of 2017 Ford Explorer police unit available through the state surplus property program. The Commissioners agreed that the purchase was within the department budget.

Weed Superintendent Seth Tausen met with the BOC to discuss the annual activity reports he prepares and submits to the State Department of Agriculture regarding the County’s compliance with the Noxious Weed Control Act. The State’s response was very positive. The only area of concern was that of continuing education for the Superintendent --this was the case for most counties because of the pandemic restrictions imposed on travel and gatherings. Those restrictions made it impossible for Tausen to attend the required number of sessions. The BOC voted to accept the report.

Building Superintendent Jeff Davis met with the Commissioners to discuss a “work order” system to assure that repairs and upgrades are completed in a timely manner.

Carol Child, of Gordon, appeared to request that the BOC approve a resolution opposing Presidential Executive Order 14008 on conserving water and lands. The Commissioners are disinclined to consider such resolutions because the BOC is a non-partisan, administrative group with no legislative authority. The Board took no action.

Jeremy Harris of Manna met with the BOC via ZOOM to discuss information technology issues in the courthouse.

The BOC voted to engage the basic level services of the gWorks company to facilitate the redistricting of the county in response to the 2020 Census.

The next meeting of the BOE and BOC is scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, at 9:00 in the Commissioners' Chambers in the Courthouse and will be open to the public. The meeting will also be available on ZOOM – check the Public Notices page of the county website for meeting number and passcode.

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 online at sheriancounty.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