

Proceedings of the Commissioners

The Sheridan County Board of Commissioners (BOC) met on Tuesday March 14, 2023, at the County Courthouse. Notice of the meeting was published on the county website sheridancounty.ne.gov. The meeting was open to the public and a ZOOM connection was also available. Present were Chairman Bruce Messersmith, Commissioners Dan Kling and James Krotz, County Clerk Sindy Coburn, Treasurer Renee Thies, and Clerk of the District Court Carol Stouffer.

The Board audited and approved claims for payment. Bev Lee of the Hay Springs School – Community Foundation (HSS-CF) appeared to brief the Commissioners on two claims presented to the County by Bev Wellnitz for programs she helped present in the Hay Springs Schools. Lee offered high praise for the programs and stated the claims for program expenses should be presented to the (HSS-CF) for payment since they, not the County, had received the program grant from the Snow-Redfern Foundation. The BOC denied the claims and voted to direct Bev Wellnitz to submit the claims to Lister Sage for payment.

Road Superintendent Richard Cross reported that suppliers had not responded to an earlier request for bids on two bulk fuel tanks. He has finally been able to secure a proposal for the tanks but now we must re-advertise the request with a new submission deadline and ask the willing supplier to re-bid. Cross also reported that the winter road campaign had moved from the snow stage to the snow and mud stage.

The BOC and Cross reviewed the County policy regarding the repair of fences damaged by snow removal operations and agreed that the County will not pay for such repairs.

Building Superintendent Jeff Davis reported that the base cabinets in the Jail kitchen were scheduled for replacement at the same time that new security doors were to be installed since prisoners would have to be re-located at the time of the door project. The Commissioners decided that the logistics of prisoner re-location were of greater concern than the possible budget difficulty of purchasing new upper cabinets in the same budget year and directed Davis to order upper cabinets immediately and complete the entire project this year.

The Board directed Davis to make the necessary adjustments to the courthouse housekeeping schedule to assure that one staff member will be on-site during all business hours on Wednesdays.

Sheriff Jeff Brewer reported on the continuing difficulty of recruiting and graduating candidates from the Law Enforcement Academy.

Treasurer Renee Thies reported that poor internet service provided by the OCIO, a state agency we are required to use, is causing significant problems in her office and that of the Assessor.

The next meeting of the BOC is scheduled for Tuesday, March 21.

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. 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