

Proceedings of the Commissioners

The Sheridan County Board of Commissioners (BOC) met on Tuesday October 10, 2023, 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 Bruce Messersmith, Commissioners Dan Kling and James Krotz, County Clerk Sindy Coburn, Treasurer Renee Thies and Clerk of the District Court Carol Stouffer.

Assessor Tina Skinner presented to the Board of Equalization (BOE) a Correction Sheet to accelerate the personal property taxes of Wayne and Elizabeth Childers. The Board approved.

Valerie Beel appeared to request letters of support from the BOC for two grant proposals she is preparing for submission to the USDA. The first is for a Meat and Poultry Processing grant for Open Range Beef. The grant is for upgrades to equipment, technology, and infrastructure. The proposed upgrade would enable the plant to increase production, add jobs and increase the county tax base. The second application is for a USDA Community Facility Grant. This grant would be used to upgrade the 4-H Dance Hall/Events Center at the Sheridan County Fairgrounds. The BOC agreed to provide letters of support for both applications.

Road Superintendent Richard Cross reviewed with the BOC his draft proposed Snow Removal Plan for 2023-24. The Board suggested the inclusion of a “warning clause” regarding damage caused by private parties removing snow from county roads. The Board also requested that the plan make clear that there are no longer “mail routes” that receive priority snow removal service.

Candace Meredith of NACO (Nebraska Association of County Officials) presented an update on the Associations plans to lobby the upcoming session of the legislature on issues such as updating the Open Meetings Act, making the county budget timeline more realistic and making the county purchasing process more flexible.

Treasurer Renee Thies informed the BOC that she had incorrectly receipted a dividend intended for the Road Fund to the General Fund and was redirecting the \$44 deposit to the appropriate Fund. Such notifications require no action by the Board and are simply entered on the record to assure a clear “paper trail” for the auditors.

Clerk Sindy Coburn asked the BOC for clarification on how to allocate health insurance premiums with the implementation of the new health insurance plan.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17.

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