

Proceedings of the Commissioners

The Sheridan County, Nebraska Board of Commissioners (BOC) met on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at the County Courthouse in Rushville. 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 James Krotz, and Commissioners Dan Kling and Bruce Messersmith. Also present were Clerk Sindy Coburn, Treasurer Renee Thies and Clerk of the District Court Carol Stouffer.

The Board of Equalization discussed with Assessor Tina Skinner a complaint from an aggrieved property owner who demands an adjustment to the valuation of his property but who will not answer calls from the office to arrange a time for an inspection. There are no refunds for taxes paid due to property owner mistakes, oversights, or failure to cooperate with the Assessor. Taxpayers will find Assessor Skinner far more pleasant to deal with than the Commissioners and so are encouraged to deal first with her.

Treasurer Renee Thies presented her report on securities pledged by the County's depository banks and her report of Public Tax Sales for Delinquent 2022 Real Estate Taxes. There were 116 Parcels and 12 Special Assessments offered for sale to 12 Registered Bidders, 11 of whom were present. There 69 Parcels and 3 Special Assessments sold.

Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton reported that the Department has taken delivery of a used 2008 Ford 7500 service truck. The \$20,000 price included a crane, welder, air-compressor, and utility boxes.

At Norton's request the BOC declared as surplus 2 railroad tanks at the Hay Springs shop and a 1979 John Deere 762 paddle scraper currently unrepairable due to the unavailability of parts.

Sheriff Jeff Brewer reported that work on the upgraded doors and electronic locks in the Jail was nearly complete. He requested, and the BOC approved, the addition of an electronic keypad lock for the front door at a cost of \$5,000.

Budget Consultant Caleb Johnson joined the meeting via conference call to discuss budget modification options to cover the projected cost of out of county housing for a number of prisoners. The Commissioners calculated that those cost could

amount to as much as \$70,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year. The BOC directed the Clerk to add to the Inheritance Fund Budget, line “2-4413 Jail/Housing Costs” to more clearly delineate the use of the funds.

The next meeting of the BOE/BOC is scheduled for Tuesday, April 9, at 9:00 a.m.

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