

Proceedings of the Commissioners

The Sheridan County, Nebraska Board of Equalization (BOE) and Board of Commissioners (BOC) met on Tuesday, September 10, 2024, at the County Courthouse in Rushville. 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 James Krotz, Commissioners Dan Kling and Bruce Messersmith, County Clerk Sindy Coburn, and Treasurer Renee Thies.

There was no business for the Board of Equalization.

Commissioner Messersmith and Mr. Mark Cover reported on a meeting they attended on August 27 with representatives from the office Senator Deb Fischer concerning small 80/20 grants (\$1,000,000 - \$5,000,000) now available for road projects in rural counties. The Board agreed that we should contact an engineering firm and grant writer about assistance in preparing an application for the overlay of single lane strips in the sandhills.

Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton reported that the Fire Marshal has (finally) approved the installation site of a 5,000-gallon diesel tank at the Gordon shop. Norton also reported that the repair/rebuild of the bulldozer would cost \$43,217.

Building Superintendent Jeff Davis reported that tuckpointing on the Courthouse was proceeding apace. Davis is taking advantage of the 85-foot boom rented for the tuckpointing project to paint the trim on the Courthouse tower.

Sheriff Jeff Brewer reported that he is seeking a new cook for the jail.

Weed Superintendent Seth Tusan and Assistant Melissa Grover appeared to discuss Tausan's resignation effective September 13. The Board voted to accept Tausan's resignation. Grover agreed to serve as "Interim Superintendent". Grover, Tusan and Kling will conduct an exit audit of equipment and chemicals in the week following Tausan's September 13 resignation.

The Board voted to approve resolution 2024-16 authorizing the Treasurer to transfer \$8959.60 from the Sheridan County E911 Fund to the Sheridan County E911 Wireless Fund to comply with the Public Service Commission finding.

Extension 4-H Lead Educator Melissa Mracek reported on recent and upcoming 4-H activities. Mracek reported that the number of 4-H exhibitors at the County Fair increased significantly over last year.

Veteran's Service Officer Jason Hotz presented a report on the services provided by his office in the past year. The Sheridan County Veteran's Service Office supervised the distribution of \$8,341,000 of benefits to the 400 Veterans in the County in fiscal year 2023.

Dustin Will of Benefit Management LLC met with the Board via ZOOM to present a proposed adjustment to the Dental Care coverage offered to County employees. The BOC approved the proposal to increase the coverage of preventative care from 60% to 80% and, in exchange to reduce the maximum yearly benefit from \$2000 to \$1500.

The next meeting of the BOE/BOC is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17 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