

## Proceedings of the Commissioners

The Sheridan County Board of Commissioners (BOC) met on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at the County Courthouse. Notice of the meeting was published on the county website [sheridancountyne.gov](http://sheridancountyne.gov). The meeting was open to the public and a ZOOM connection was also available. Present were Chairman James Krotz and Commissioners Bruce Messersmith and Dan Kling, Clerk Sindy Coburn, Clerk of the District Court Carol Stouffer, and Treasurer Renee Thies.

Actings as the Board of Equalization (BOE) the Commissioners reviewed and approved three personal property Correction Sheets presented by Assessor Tina Skinner.

The BOC reorganized for the year ahead. Krotz was elected Chair and Messersmith was elected Vice-Chair.

The BOC voted to extend the current Commissioner appointments as representatives to the following boards: Bruce Messersmith to Region I Behavioral Health and Region I Office of Human Development and Senior Service Inc. (Handi-Bus). Dan Kling SWANN, Aging Office of Western Nebraska, and Panhandle Public Health. James Krotz to Northwest Community Action Partnership, Region 23 Emergency Management, Extension.

The BOC voted to appoint Rod Norton as Interim Superintendent of the Road Department.

The BOC designated the County Website as the official means of notification for meetings of the BOC & BOE and designated the Sheridan County Journal Star as the official newspaper of record. James Krotz was appointed as webmaster of the County website.

The Commissioners approved a resolution designating official depository banks for county funds; Security First Bank of Rushville and Hay Springs, First National Bank of Gordon, and the Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT).

The Commissioners appointed County Clerk Sindy Coburn as the principal official contact person and Bruce Messersmith as the secondary contact for Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Association (NIRMA) the county's insurance carrier.

The Commissioners set the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, except for designated holidays, as the regular meeting date for the BOE and BOC.

The Commissioners audited and approved claims for payment totaling \$99,675.

Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton and representatives from NMC and Murphy Equipment appeared for the opening of their bids for a new motor-grader. The bids for the Cat and Deere graders were very close in price. The Commissioners and Road Superintendent discussed the proposals with the sales representatives but delayed any decision for a week, as is the usual practice, so that they would have time to more carefully study the complex features of the two machines.

Norton reported on the E-911 road sign replacement project and the BOC approved a resolution granting funds from the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency (LATC) account to pay for the signs.

The BOC approved a resolution establishing a “Dig Permit” requirement for utility projects that entail any form of excavation on the county right of way. The permits are available from the Road Department.

Treasurer Renee Thies presented her report on pledged securities offered by depository banks holding more than the FDIC maximum of county funds.

Weed Superintendent Melissa Grover presented her annual Nebraska Department of Agriculture reports for review. The Board approved and signed the reports for submission to the NDA.

The Board voted to appoint Jeff Housh to the Prairie Dog Advisory Board.

Christian Pohlenz of Eakes Office solutions reported that Great Plains Communications would not turn over the existing county telephone numbers for use by the new system. It may be necessary for the county to “rent” the current numbers for a monthly fee otherwise all county offices would be assigned new numbers. The Board asked him to negotiate with Great Plains and report back with a cost proposal.

Lisa Simmons and Bailey Kling of Region 1 Behavioral Health appeared to brief the BOC on services offered by their agency.

The Board approved a resolution to modify the schedule for the transfer of money from the General Fund to the Weed fund. The total amount to be transferred for the budget year remains the same but the January transfer is increased to cover the purchase of a pickup for the Department.

The next meeting of the BOE/BOC is scheduled for Tuesday, January 21 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](http://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