

## Proceedings of the Commissioners

The Sheridan County Board of Commissioners (BOC) met on Tuesday, March 11, 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, Commissioners Bruce Messersmith and Dan Kling, and Clerk Sindy Coburn,

There was no business for the Board of Equalization (BOE).

Sheriff Jeff Brewer reported that Jail budget was in imminent danger of depletion because he has recently had to house two prisoners (one of them a juvenile) in off-site facilities. The cost of housing juveniles is especially high, and the county already has had one such person housed in Sarpy county for over a year. The current cost of such off-site housing is approximately \$10,000/month. The Commissioner voted to approve payment of such budgetary over-runs out of the Inheritance Fund. The Commissioners also agreed that the cost of a new dishwasher for the jail kitchen should be paid out of the Building Fund.

Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton reported that recent precipitation has enabled graders and retrievers to make good progress. Gravel hauling (red rock) from SD is underway. Norton presented information on a pothole-repair material, packaged in 50 lb. bags, that can be deployed on pickup trucks and other county vehicles for immediate repairs of small potholes. The Department recently acquired a pallet of the material for trial use.

Weed Superintendent Melissa Grover appeared to visit with BOC about a small checking account maintained by the Weed Department to handle funds received from Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for the cost of spraying along the Cowboy Trail. The Board and Clerk were not aware of the existence of the fund and agreed that, since the State is now paying contractors directly for spraying the right of way, the account should be closed and the less than \$150 in the account be remitted to the state. The Board asked Grover to explore further the appropriateness of certain earlier payments from the fund.

Derek Schwanbeck appeared to discuss with the Board an application he has filed for the approval of a conservation easement on parcels he owns just NE of Bingham. Mr. Schwanbeck presented his case for the preservation of these parcels

as a Conservation Easement and the Board agreed to convene a public hearing on the matter at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday April 8.

At 2:30 p.m. the Board interviewed, via a ZOOM connection, an applicant for the position of County Road Superintendent. Timothy (TJ) Bazar is a long-time employee of the Sarpy County Road Department. No action was taken.

The next meeting of the BOE/BOC is scheduled for Tuesday, March. 18 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