

Proceedings of the Commissioners

The Sheridan County Board of Commissioners (BOC) met on Tuesday, June 17, 2025, 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 James Krotz, Commissioners Bruce Messersmith and Dan Kling, Clerk Sindy Coburn, Treasurer Renee Thies and Clerk of the District Court Carol Stouffer.

Acting as the Board of Equalization (BOE) the Commissioners received from Assessor Tina Skinner a Correction Sheet proposing the removal of a center pivot from the personal property list of Great Plains Farms LLC of Raliegh NC. The pivot had been entered twice on the list. The BOE approved the correction.

Acting as the Board of Commissioners (BOC) the Officials audited and approved for payment claims totaling \$429,712.

Weed/Prairie Dog Superintendent Melissa Grover presented a letter extending the period of Black-Tailed Prairie Dog force control recently imposed on six parcels. The original end date for the force control period was July 25. The new extended date is August 15, 2025. The BOC approved the extension to allow adequate time for the grasses to go dormant which will assure better environmental conditions for the use of Zinc Phosphide.

The Commissioners considered, approved and signed a letter of support for the efforts of the 4-H Foundation to renovate and expand a building at the Sheridan County Fairgrounds. Such expressions of support are important to efforts to secure grants.

At 9:30 the Board opened bids for a new two-year gravel crushing contract for 50,000 tons of material. The two bids received were from Kustom Rock in Gordon and Western Construction in Rapid City. Western Construction's bid was \$7.74/ton. Kustom Rock's bid was \$7.85/ton. Because Western Construction could not begin delivery until September and because their fuel surcharge requirement was nearly twice that of Kustom, the BOC voted to accept the Kustom Rock bid. Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton will complete the contract and present it to the BOC next week.

USDA Animal Damage Control Officer Tim Brewer presented the proposed contract for services for 2025-26. The cost of services will increase by \$1,700 in the coming year.

State Senator Tanya Storer stopped by for a post-session “check in”.

Gregg Mooney, a health insurance consultant with the Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) appeared to explain recent changes to the NACO health plans. The County left the NACO plan last year for Medica and their lower premiums and greater flexibility. The Commissioners told Mooney that they would look over the new NACO plan if he wished to submit the details. The County health care plan year starts in October.

Caleb Johnson, Budget Consultant, visited with the BOC via phone about advisability of “sinking funds” in the various Office and Department budgets. Next week, the Commissioners will consult with the two departments that currently have such funds.

The next scheduled meeting of the BOE/BOC will be Tuesday, June 24.

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