

Proceedings of the Commissioners

The Sheridan County Board of Commissioners (BOC) met on Tuesday, August 12, 2025, at the County Courthouse. Notice of the meeting was published in the Sheridan County Journal Star and 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 and Treasurer Renee Thies.

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

The Board of Commissioners (BOC) audited and approved claims for payment totaling \$238,839.22.

Commissioner Kling was excused from the meeting for 45 minutes.

The BOC considered and declined an invitation to join the Panhandle Area Development District.

The BOC approved a resolution approving an updated memorandum of agreement affirming the County's continuing membership in the Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN). The network facilitates information sharing among the many public safety agencies in the state.

Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton reported that the Kustom Rock Crushing has their crusher in place at the Bottorff pit and has begun crushing. Lettering designating Road and Weed Department pickup trucks as county vehicles has been applied.

The BOC approved a "vehicle swap" in which the Road Department will transfer an aged pickup to the weed department in exchange for a newer, little-needed pickup. The older pickup will soon be declared surplus.

The BOC approved and authorized the Chairman to sign the Annual Certification of Compliance for submission to the Nebraska Department of Transportation.

Commissioner Kling returned to the meeting.

Building and Grounds Superintendent Jeff Davis reported on the Extension Office project.

County Attorney Jamian Simmons and Treasurer Renee Thies presented a resolution to withhold funds (jury duty pay) from Kory Orr to recoup a portion of unpaid tax debt. The BOC approved the resolution.

The Commissioners, having agreed that the lack of progress on the new VOIP telephone system proposed by Eakes Office Solutions demands a reconsideration of the proposal, met with Christian Pohlenz of Eakes Office and all parties agreed that the State's refusal to permit access to their/our network has made the project impracticable. All parties agreed to terminate the project agreement and part on good terms. The Commissioners will now seek out proposals for an upgrade of our more conventional telephone system.

City Councilman Mark Loosvelt of Rushville spoke during Public Comment on the difficulty of securing ridership and usage information from Open Trails Transit the county public transportation provider. The City Council needs that data to make an informed decision about their continued funding of the project.

The next scheduled meeting of the BOE/BOC will be Tuesday, August 19.

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

