

## Proceedings of the Commissioners April 14, 2026

The Sheridan County Board of Commissioners convened at the County Courthouse. Notice of the meeting was published in the Sheridan County Journal Star and on the County website, sheridancounty.ne.gov. The meeting was open to the public and conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act. Present were Chairman James Krotz, Commissioners Dan Kling and Bruce Messersmith, Clerk Sindy Coburn and Treasurer Renee Thies.

There was no business for the Board of Equalization.

The Board of Commissioners (BOC) audited and approve for payment claims totaling \$248,511.

Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton presented a proposed Interlocal Agreement prepared by Sheridan, Dawes, Box Butte, Banner, Kimball, Morrill, Cheyenne, Deuel, Garden and Sioux. The Interlocal Agreement expresses the intent of the participating counties to offer mutual aid to the Road Departments of the others in times of large-scale emergency, making available necessary equipment and manpower. The agreement also sets forth the terms of compensation and liability. The Board, having reviewed the Agreement for several weeks, voted to approve Resolution 2026-6 committing Sheridan County to the Interlocal Agreement.

The Board considered an Interlocal Agreement proposed by Scottsbluff County Sherriff Mark Overman for all the panhandle counties to share the expense of a Juvenile Detention Center study (JDC) in a re-purposed facility in Scotts Bluff County. Sheridan County's share of the cost of the study is \$3,290. Because there is no JDC in the panhandle the County has, in recent years, had to house detained juveniles in facilities at the far end of the state, incurring great expense for transportation. The BOC voted to approve Resolution 2026-7 to participate in the Agreement.

Treasurer Renee Thies presented a resolution allocating \$600 from the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund (LATCF) for the purchase of a new security door for the courthouse basement. The BOC voted to approve.

Thies presented her report on pledged securities pointing out that the First National Bank of Gordon was again late in provided their information.

Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton reported that the surplus scrap iron weighed in at 14 tons bringing the County \$700. He also reported that the effort to test the reflectivity of all county road signs is well underway. All the bridge reflectors must be re-faced at a total cost of \$1,003. The Board discussed with Norton the purchase of a new water tank trailer at a projected cost of \$80,000. Norton will secure the required three quotes and report back before the end of the budget year.

Melissa Mracek, Extension 4-H Educator and Julie Linders, owner of the Extension Office Building appeared to discuss the renewal of the lease. The Commissioners agreed to a one-year lease at \$950/month and to assume the cost of water and sewer at the building.

The Commissioners conducted their quarterly inspection of the jail and found it in good order.

County Zoning Administrator Mike Wellnitz joined the meeting to discuss the Zoning Permit Fee of \$25 which has not been adjusted in many years. The Commissioners agreed that the fee should be high enough to cover the cost of the Administrator's time which has for many years been \$15/hour. The BOC voted to raise the Fee to \$50 and the Administrator's pay to \$25/hour.

Budget Consultant Caleb Johnson joined the meeting via telephone to brief the Officials on several legislative initiatives by the Unicameral that seem intended to make County financial planning even more difficult.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BOE/BOC will be Tuesday, April 21. 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).

Submitted by James Krotz