

Proceedings of the Commissioners April 21, 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, and Deputy Clerk Paige Rager. “The Board was pleased to welcome Monica Colbath, an interested citizen present only as an observer of our proceedings.”

There was no business for the Board of Equalization.

The Board of Commissioners (BOC) audited and approved salary claims and signed claim checks.

The Commissioners acknowledged the receipt of the Treasurer’s now complete Report on Pledged Securities that includes the tardily submitted numbers from First National Bank of Gordon.

Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton reported on several gravel hauling projects and an ever-growing list of costly equipment repairs.

Sherriff Jeff Brewer appeared briefly to inform the BOC that the Highway 20 Law Enforcement cooperation agreement would soon be up for renewal.

Weed Superintendent Melissa Grover asked that the Commissioners authorize the shared use of a pickup truck, used only infrequently by her department, with Building and Grounds. The Board voted to authorize such sharing.

Extension Livestock Systems Educator Brock Ortner presented a report on recent and upcoming events.

USDA representative Ryan Powers presented a proposed amendment to our current work/financial plan for wildlife damage management services. The proposal does not change the cost of the program but does authorize the establishment of an aircraft maintenance sinking fund to meet the very large expense of inspection and required maintenance of the small plane used by the county control officer Tim Brewer for coyote control. The Board tabled the proposal to the May 5 meeting.

Powers also presented two program budget proposals for 2026-27. The more modest plan calls for an increase of 38% over the current budget of \$36,790. The larger calls for a 68% increase. The Commissioners gently explained that such increases are not remotely possible.

At the time of Public Comment, an unhappy employee complained to the Board about the job performance of a fellow worker. The Board informed the complainant, and here reminds the public, that such matters are the sole responsibility of the hiring Elected Official.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BOE/BOC will be Tuesday, May 5. 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.

Submitted by James Krotz