

Proceedings of the Commissioners – September 15, 2026

The Sheridan County Board of Commissioners met at the County Courthouse at 9:00 a.m. 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 (BOE).

The Commissioners audited and approved claims for payment.

Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton reported on flood damage to, and debris deposited on 470th Lane along the west side of Beaver Wall after a recent, very localized down-pour. Norton observed that the gravel truck fleet was suffering an epidemic of flat tires. The trucks were in operation all through the last winter, for which we are grateful, but the high mileage is taking its toll.

Veterans Service Officer Jason Hotz reported that 152 Veterans in Sheridan County are now connected to VA services.

Building and Grounds Superintendent Jeff Brewer reported that the tuck-pointing project is nearly complete. The project was slowed by the necessity to replace the stone over several windows in the north façade.

Jessica Witting of NACO insurance and Dustin Wells of Benefit Management appeared (Witting in person, Wells via ZOOM) to continue the discussion of health insurance for the coming year. The Commissioners resolved to continue with MEDICA until the end of 2026 and then contract with United Health Care for 2 of 4 potential policy options in 2027. Our contract with MEDICA ends in October so for the remaining 3 months our premiums will increase. During that time employees will retain their 100% benefit, and family/spouse coverage will continue at the present dollar amount to the employee. The County will absorb the cost of the premium increase of family/spouse coverage for those three months. In January the cost share of such coverage will reset to the original 50/50 percentage which means that family/spouse participants will pay more.

The Commissioners will continue to study the 4 policy options and plan to make their choice on September 22. That choice will determine the cost of coverage for employees and for their families.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the BOE/BOC will be Tuesday, September 22. 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 are available online at sheridancounty.ne.gov.

Submitted by James Krotz