

## COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

FEBRUARY 21, 2023

The Sheridan County Commissioners met in regular session and by Zoom (ID# 93997918251 Passcode 625274) at 9:15 A.M. All members present, along with County Clerk Sindy Coburn, Treasurer Renee Thies, Clerk of District Court Clerk Carol Stouffer and Highway Superintendent Richard Cross.

Messersmith stated that the meeting would be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act. This meeting was posted on the official County website and posted in the Sheridan County Journal Star on February 15, 2023.

Krotz made a motion to accept the agenda. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye. Krotz made a motion to approve the minutes of 2-14-2023. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

The board audited and approved salary claims and signed claim checks.

Treasurer Renee Thies and Chairman Bruce Messersmith presented information on the new National Opioid Settlement dealing with the pharmacies. The first year payment is expected to be around \$368. Krotz made a motion to “opt in” to the settlement with the understanding that the funds received will be directed to Region 1 Behavioral Health. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

Road Superintendent Richard Cross reported that the motor grader that needed the new engine should arrive in Rushville today. And the new motor grader that was ordered several months ago is at the dealership and being prepped for delivery soon.

The board directed Cross to seek bids on 15,000 tons of crushed red rock.

Jonnie Kusek, Director of Transportation at Open Plains Transit presented the agency's budget for service in Sheridan County. Open Plains administers the Federal/State grant for the Sheridan County Public Transportation program. The local match requires the County and the communities of Hay Springs, Rushville and Gordon to contribute \$25,935.

Krotz made a motion to approve Resolution #2023-4 instructing Senior Services, Inc to apply for said funds and to commit to meeting the County's share of \$10,145 for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

Building Superintendent Jeff Davis provided an update on water damage caused by leaking gutters on the Courthouse. The board approve the installation of heat-tape in the new gutters.

Veteran Service Officer Gary Sones requested additional funds for a new van. Sones stated that he has \$7,000 budgeted but needs an additional \$13,000. Kling made a motion to approve \$13,000 from the Inheritance Fund for the balance due for the veteran service van. Krotz seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

At 10:50 A.M. the board recessed and moved to the Road Building to hold the 1 & 6 year road hearing.

At 11:05 A.M. the board opened the 1 & 6 year road hearing.

Present: Messersmith, Krotz, Kling, Coburn, Cross along with Tom Price & Roxanne Gatewood.

Cross went thru the map showing what had been done and what they planned on doing in the next year.

At 11:50 Krotz made a motion to close the hearing. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

Krotz made a motion to accept Resolution #2023-5 approving the 1 year Highway Improvement Plan. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

Weed Superintendent Seth Tausan visited with the board about the possibility of making his office a contract position rather than a county employee position. No action was taken, the board will consider this proposal at budget time.

Public Comment: Commissioner Krotz informed the board that Northwest Community Action refused a gift of a large building in Valentine. They had a building inspector come and it was determined that it was not an affordable option.

Adjourn: 1 P.M.

Attest: Sindy L. Coburn, Clerk

Bruce Messersmith, Chairman