

COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

JANUARY 16, 2024

The Sheridan County Commissioners met in regular session and by Zoom (ID# 93997918251 Passcode# 625274) at 9:15 A.M. on January 16, 2024. Krotz and Kling present along with County Clerk Sindy Coburn, Treasurer Renee Thies and Rod Norton. Commissioner Messersmith present by zoom but will not be voting.

Krotz 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 January 10, 2024.

Kling made a motion to accept the agenda. Krotz seconded the motion. With a roll call vote Krotz and Kling voted aye. Kling made a motion to approve the minutes of 1-9-2024. Krotz seconded the motion. With a roll call vote Krotz and Kling voted aye.

The board audited and approved claims.

Jake Stewart, Executive Director of SWANN (Solid Waste Agency of Northwest Nebraska) was present to introduce himself and to discuss plans for the Agency. Stewart feels that he needs to get out and visit with the municipalities and visit about some of the concerns. Stewart expressed concerns of waste that is being put into dumpsters that causes damage to equipment. Such as net wrap from hay bales and tires.

Rod Norton, Interim Road Superintendent stated that he has hired a part time employee to run the motor grader located at the Pleasant Point Church. This employee will also be available in the summer time to help haul gravel.

Norton stated that he had a meeting with the members of the Road Districts from down South. He wanted to visit face to face with them and get their concerns and requests. Norton stated that he is not sure that his department can reach all the requests. More will be discussed at the 1 & 6 year road hearing.

Weed/Prairie Dog Superintendent Seth Tausan, Animal Control Officer Tim Brewer, Prairie Dog Control Board members Jerry Meyring and Wayne Dreyer, and landowners Steve Sandberg and Roger Ray met with the board to discuss a complaint filed by Sandberg on Ray property that has a growing colony of Prairie Dogs. The complaint was filed in July of 2023 and a letter was sent to Roger Ray giving him 60 days to come up with a plan for ratification. The plan was for the Animal Control Officer to poison, but with the amount of land to treat and prior commitments that has not happened.

Discussion was had as to what is the best way to treat. Both land owners felt they could get help to treat the ground if that would help. Tausan asked if the board would allow him to purchase the chemical at wholesale price and re-sale it to Ray.

Kling made a motion to authorize Seth Tausan to purchase the supplies at wholesale price for the force control effort on Section 7-29-46, Sec 1 & 2-28-46, and Sec 11 & 12-28-46, with the agreement of the land owner. Krotz seconded the motion. With a roll call vote Krotz and Kling voted aye. Roger Ray agreed to this arrangement and Sandberg commented that he will be willing to pay for chemicals used on his land. Tausan will get prices and get back to the parties.

Kling made a motion to re-appoint Jerry Meyring and Lloyd Kearns to another 2 year appointment on the Prairie Dog Control Board. Krotz seconded the motion. With a roll call vote Krotz and Kling voted aye.

Val Jansante, Representative for Congressman Adrian Smith presented a brief update on Smith's legislative priorities for the coming year.

Public Comment: Clerk of District Court Clerk Carol Stouffer visited with the board on anticipated costs to house a juvenile. Stouffer also informed the board that they have installed the new audio/visual equipment that was required. Now the judge has requested that we have new doors installed to secure the equipment. ARPA funds were discussed. Stouffer will look into what they need.

Adjourn: 12:15 P.M.

Attest: Cindy L. Coburn, Clerk

Bruce Messersmith, Vice Chairman