

COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

September 24, 2024

The Sheridan County Commissioners met in regular session and by Zoom (ID#87981717732 Passcode# 625274) at 9:00 A.M. All members present along with Deputy Clerk Paige Rager, Treasurer Renee Thies, Clerk of District Court Carol Stouffer and Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton, Interim Weed Superintendent Melissa Grover and Kay Schroeder.

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 September 18, 2024.

Kling made a motion to accept the agenda. Messersmith seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye. Messersmith made a motion to approve the minutes of 9-17-2024 with two corrections within the wording. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

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

At 9:00 A.M., the board of commissioners opened the Property Tax Hearing. One citizen of the public was present. At 9:15 A.M., the board of commissioners opened the Budget Hearing. The meetings were published in the Sheridan County Journal Star on September 18th. At 9:35 A.M. the board of commissioners closed the hearings. No public comments were made.

The board reviewed the Property Tax Request. Kling made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-17 setting the 2024-25 property tax for the General Fund at \$4,359,274.89 an increase of \$57,192.70 and

the Building Fund at \$106,418.72 an increase of \$65,935.23. As well as the tax levy rate at .304416, a decrease of .034594 per \$100 of assessed value. Messersmith seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye. The board reviewed the proposed budget for 2024-25. Messersmith made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-18 approving the Budget for 2024-25. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye. The budget is available to the public in the County Clerk's Office and will soon be available for viewing online at <https://auditors.nebraska.gov>

Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton was present to give an update on the road department. Last Tuesday, after the board meeting adjourned Norton and the board members took a drive around the County covering 175 miles. Norton gave a brief report of their drive.

Building and Grounds Superintendent Jeff Davis was present for an update. Davis has requested that the mileage reimbursement rate for his service pickup match the FEMA 2023 schedule of equipment rates. The rate for Davis's pickup would be \$0.83/ mile. Clerk of District Court and Chairperson of the County Employee Handbook; Carol Stouffer was present to express her concerns on the proposed mileage reimbursement rate. Stouffer stated that she does not approve of the \$0.83/ mile reimbursement rate. The board made a decision to table the FEMA mileage reimbursement rate until it can be further discussed with the County Attorney.

Treasurer Renee Thies was present to give the Pledged Security report to the board.

Sheriff Jeff Brewer and Treasurer Renee Thies both were present to report distress warrants. Brewer and Thies expressed the struggle it is to collect personal property taxes on Mobiles Homes that are not affixed to the land.

Interim Weed Superintendent Melissa Grover was present to give an update on the weed department. Grover presented the board with an inventory report of weed control chemicals conducted by Commissioner Kling, Grover and recently resigned Superintendent Seth Tausan.

At 10:55 Kling made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel matter. Messersmith seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye. At 11:45 Messersmith made a motion to come out of executive session. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

Interim Weed Superintendent Melissa Grover requested to hire a temporary/seasonal employee. The board gave Grover the approval to hire a temporary/seasonal employee with a starting wage of \$18.00/hour.

The board discussed setting the salary of the Interim Weed Superintendent position. Kling made a motion to set the wage at \$45,556.00 for the Interim Weed Superintendent, computed on an hourly basis. Messersmith seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye. As of September 16th, Interim Weed Superintendent Melissa Grover's will obtain the designated salary for the position.

Public Comment:

Messersmith expressed his concerns about a new landowner disposing construction waste, appliances and vehicles on newly owned ground. Attorney Jamian Simmons stated that the County has no control over this matter.

Adjourn: 2:47 P.M.

Attest: Paige Rager, Deputy Clerk

Jame Krotz, Chairman