

COMMISSIONERS MINUTES

JULY 8, 2025

The Sheridan County Commissioners met in regular session at 9:20 A.M. on July 8, 2025. All members present along with Clerk Sindy Coburn, Renee Thies, Mark Cover and Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton.

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 July 2, 2025.

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 6-24-2025 with corrections. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

Messersmith made a motion to approve the minutes of the special meeting on 7-1-2025. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

County Treasurer Renee Thies visited with the board about reallocating funds of the Kroger Settlement. Sheridan County dedicated our payments of the opioid settlement funds to the local Behavioral Health Region. We have been notified that Behavioral Health Regions are not eligible to receive direct payments in the Kroger Settlement. The board tabled the matter until further clarification.

Jonnie Kusek, Director of Public Transportation visited with the board about funding. Effective August 1, 2025 all public transit provided by Open Plains Transit in Rushville will be suspended until further notice. This decision is due to a lack of the required local match funding as outlined for the City of Rushville. The Sheridan County

Board of Commissioners has stated that it will support rural transportation services only if all cities contribute their share. Kusek is present to say that Open Trails needs to move forward and is requesting the support of the board.

Messersmith made a motion for Sheridan County to participate in Senior Services Funding for the next 2 years regardless of the participation of the City of Rushville. This motion died for a lack of second. The board will ask the City of Rushville to come to the next meeting to discuss this in more detail.

Interim Road Superintendent Rod Norton gave the board a brief update on projects that his department are working on. The board requested that he look into decals for all County vehicles.

Ken Fry was present to discuss maintenance on his road. Norton informed him that they are trying to get to everything. Fry commented on how he feels the shoulders should be treated.

Building & Grounds Superintendent Jeff Davis was not available.

Sheriff Jeff Brewer was not available.

Weed Superintendent Melissa Grover and Veteran Service Officer Jason Hotz were present to discuss computer needs for the annex building. Intra Links has given them a quote of \$11,946. Grover and Hotz feel they could get the computers for a cheaper price. The board asked them to look into other options and that the payment could come from the line item in Miscellaneous General account.

Jason Hotz and Jonnie Kusek visited with the board about the grant monies that the Veteran Service Department has received for transporting veterans to appointments. The board needs to visit with the State Auditor for clarification of where to put the funds.

Veteran Service Board Appointments: Messersmith made a motion to appoint Kris Pyle as the chairman of the board for 1 year. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

Messersmith made a motion to appoint Kris Pyle as a committee member for 5 years. Kling seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

Kling made a motion to appoint Ken Gibson as a committee member for 5 years. Messersmith seconded the motion. With a roll call vote all voted aye.

Weed Superintendent Melissa Grover informed the board that she has re-inspected the Schmidt property and someone has poisoned the prairie dogs. This property will be considered an open case that is being managed.

Grover asked the board about spraying weeds at the fairgrounds. The board informed Grover to go ahead and spray.

Adjourn: 12:10 P.M.

Attest: Cindy L. Coburn, Clerk

James Krotz, Chairman