

Now on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2020, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas met in regular session with Chairman Wes Bainter presiding. Others present were Joe Bainter, MaryEllen Welshhon, Joe Pratt County Attorney and County Clerk Heather Bracht. Guests were Doyle Kauk, Rachel Farber, Buck Mader, Danielle Schiltz, Bernie Koerperich, Jacque Boultinghouse, Jim Howard, Chuck Keller and Carolyn Meyer.

Wes Bainter called the meeting to order.

Wes Bainter opened the public hearing for the purpose of hearing comments on the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan (NRP). Karl Pratt, Economic Development, was on speaker phone. Koerperich stated that the City of Selden had visited on Monday and they were in favor of supporting it. Koerperich stated he would like the dollar amount to remain at \$10,000 and wondered why it had been discussed to increase to \$25,000. The board stated that after reviewing what other counties around are doing, this was more in line. Koerperich also asked about the fee of \$100. The previous fee had been \$50. He thought \$10 would be plenty. Koerperich also stated that a lot of people do not know about the program and somehow the public needs to be made aware of it. Both school boards meet on Monday so will take the information to them so they can make the final decision. The fire department was not sure about participating so information will be sent to them again. Karl Pratt stated he would send out correct Interlocal Agreements, Notice Resolutions and Adopting Ordinances to the different entities so they would be available and ready to sign next week. Wes Bainter made a motion to approve the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan as amended, changing the appraised value amount to \$10,000 and the application fee to \$10.00. Welshhon seconded the motion. Carried 3-0. Wes Bainter made a motion to approve the Notice Resolution No. 20-125, seconded by Joe Bainter. Carried 3-0. The public hearing ended.

Pratt discussed the public hearing to be held at the end of the month for the petition to vacate an alley in Studley. Pratt stated he had talked with Leroy & Andrea Wildeman about the Swap Shop and the LLC that was formed. Pratt will have further discussions with them and will report back to the board.

Bracht asked if it was ok to place a Sheridan County ad in the Golden Plains 2021 yearbook. Joe Bainter made a motion to advertise in the yearbook, seconded by Welshhon. Carried 3-0. The Historical Society had contacted Bracht about the need to replace ballasts and bulbs and whose responsibility it was to pay for it. Per the Agreement, the board agrees that anything up to \$200 is taken care of by the Historical Society. Wes Bainter would like the Historical Society Board to come in and visit with the commissioners since they have received the Toothaker money and discuss what their plans are for these funds. SPARKS funding was discussed. Bracht advised that a ballot box will be installed on the west side of the courthouse. The area for installation needed to be secure and there is a camera on in that area. This will allow residents to drop their ballots off if they do not want to put them in the mail.

Welshhon made a motion to approve the September 30, 2020 minutes as presented, seconded by Wes Bainter. Carried 3-0.

Joe Bainter made a motion to approve the October 9, 2020 payroll as presented. Welshhon seconded the motion. Carried 3-0. Welshhon talked about the overtime and it will be discussed when Joe Herskowitz comes to the table.

The warrants were approved on a motion by Wes Bainter and second by Welshhon. Carried 3-0.

Joe Herskowitz and William Kane from Road & Bridge came to the table. Herskowitz reported the following:

- They have a plan to replace two culverts next week
- There is a bridge that the decking will be patched
- Employees are working at the landfill
- Next week employees will start blading and working on ricks
- Mowing is slowing down
- By consensus, approval was given to purchase diesel and gasoline from Bainter Oil
- An employee voluntarily resigned and another employee has been hired. This leaves one section that would be managed between Rex Storer and Herskowitz for snow.
- Bridges were inspected on the 8<sup>th</sup> for load rating. Only one bridge needed posting and that has been done. Everything else was ok. They will check another round next year. Penco Engineering advised there is a program with KDOT that will pay up to \$200,000 to counties to remove two bridges or a bridge and concrete slab combo. The application is being completed and will be submitted on behalf of the county by Penco. Herskowitz stated that there are currently two concrete slabs that could go with culverts and these will be the two that would be replaced.
- Herskowitz is coming up with information on where the road department stands as far as hours on blades. There are two John Deere's that have a lot of hours.
- Welshon stated that she appreciates the work being done but maybe on days that employees come in real early, leave early instead of having so much overtime. She is not criticizing. Welshon stated she visited the shop and no employees were sitting around, everyone was working.
- When commissioners receive phone calls about problems on the roads, they are referring the individuals to contact Herskowitz as he is responsible.

Shirley Niermeier, Sheridan County Treasurer, entered the meeting. Niermeier distributed the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter financial report for Sheridan County as well as the 2019 Balance Sheet. There was discussion on some of the funds as well as where the money is.

Brandon Carver, Sheridan County Sheriff and Brian Diercks, Undersheriff, came to the table. Dr. Doug Gruenbacher was available on speaker phone. Carver presented bids for damage done on the Durango. D & L had an estimate of \$1,476.11 and Heim Body Shop a bid of \$1,005.75. Wes Bainter made a motion to go with Heim Body Shop with the low bid. Joe Bainter seconded the motion. Carried 3-0. Carver will apply for a KDHE grant in the amount of \$5,000 to put on an ATV safety course as well as bicycle safety. Bicycle helmets and knee and elbow pads will be given away as well as two youth bikes and two adult bikes. ATV helmets will also be given away. Carver stated their department has received a lot of calls from the public concerned with quarantine policies. People who should be quarantined and haven't. Law enforcement cannot enforce quarantine orders unless there is documentation that the person is to be quarantined. There was discussion about a mask ordinance but the reality is how would you enforce it and people should be able to make a choice. Gruenbacher's hope was that the commissioner's would come up with a plan on how to handle the outbreak and how to decrease the outbreak. Wes Bainter stated everyone is doing the best they can do. The medical professionals in Sheridan County are doing well with containment and testing. Outside of that, there is nothing else we can do. Wes Bainter stated we cannot contain it and Gruenbacher responded that we are doing nothing to slow it down. The discussion continued with stating that testing, quarantining and supplying PPE is being done, everyone is doing what they can do. There was clarification on how long a person has to quarantine if they are positive or if just in contact with a positive. Howard and Keller both discussed things involving the schools and sporting events. Dr. Nemechek and Hannah

Schoendaler entered the meeting. Nemechek reiterated that there has been a spike in COVID in our area. The hospital has to be able to take care of people who are sick. Kids are not the big issue. The elderly and people with health issue are. The number of people that have it has increased significantly. Speaking to the school, he is worried about the cooks, teachers, janitors and bus drivers. Currently there is a significant number in the hospital with COVID and there has been one COVID related death. Nemechek went on to say they need space to treat people. The hospital is getting full. When the hospital is full, where do people go? The surrounding hospitals are in the same situation. Who gets turned away because there is no room? Nemechek stated that right now they are struggling with nurses. Agency nurses are not available either as everyone is maxed out, there is no base to draw from. There was discussion about potentially coming up with a plan to open up the 4H building if need be and what that might entail and the use of drugs for treatment. The upcoming volleyball tournament was discussed and Nemechek feels strongly that something needs to be in place before basketball. Circulation is not adequate in gymnasiums – open every window and use box fans to circulate air. There is a debate about masks. People are going to work who are sick. How selfish are people? Best way to protect is social distance, masks (no bandanas, no gators) and frequent hand washing. The public has to get on board with this. Nemechek stated the commissioners are the leaders of the community, get a plan together.

Carver advised the board that there is an Emergency Preparedness Plan that could help with coming up with what needs to happen in case of the hospital becoming full.

The following payroll and warrants were approved and signed:

General	\$ 72,957.21	VIN	\$ 54.90
Road & Bridge	\$ 23,329.49	SPARKS	\$ 27,535.10
Public Health	\$ 3,182.25	Public Transp	\$ 1,052.33
Landfill	\$ 1,407.84	MV	\$ 1,226.78

No further business, Wes Bainter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joe Bainter. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at the regular time and place.