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(Neb.)-Sheridan County Commissioner Meeting Happenings



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 03/26/2013 08:25 AM

(SHERIDAN COUNTY)-Present at the Sheridan County commissioners meeting on Monday morning were chair Dan Kling, commissioners Jack Andersen and James Krotz, and county clerk Sindy Coburn.

Brek Brixius of Northwest Community Action Partnership (NCAP) presented a resolution to the board that would authorize NCAP to submit a grant application to the Nebraska Department of Transportation for \$36,937 for the Sheridan County Public Transportation Project in 2013-2014. The project, if funded, will be administered by NCAP on behalf of Sheridan County and would provide handi-bus services to county residents at a cost of \$1 per trip. The commissioners approved the resolution.

Road department superintendent Tom Kuester met with the board to inform them of the provisions of the Federal Fund Purchase program offered by the Nebraska Department of Roads. The Fund Purchase program will require that the commissioners plan the 2013-14 budget to provide for the possible receipt of funds from the federal government distributed at discount through the state.

Deputy county attorney Jamian Simmons talked to the board regarding a resolution to conclude the county's agreement with attorney Paul Wess to provide indigent defense services, effective March 31st. Wess has been appointed by the governor to serve as a county judge in the 12th judicial district and thus is not longer able to serve the county in that capacity.

At 10:30 a.m., the commissioners convened as the board of equalization to consider several correction sheets submitted by county assessor Trudy Winter. The correction sheets, all of which were approved by the board, included accelerating the taxes on a mobile home sold by Rhonda Coomes and moved out of the county, removing from the personal property list of Donald Burrows a tractor that had been sold but had been erroneously retained from the prior year, correcting the homestead exemption granted to Calvin Strader from 100% to 25% as directed by the state tax commissioner, and correcting the tax list by removing a building (that has been demolished) owned by the city of Gordon and the lot on which it stood (now used for public parking). County assessor Trudy Winter visited with the board about a pending protest by the city of Gordon concerning her "Intent to Tax" the Gordon Packing Plant, now owned by the city. The board of equalization will consider the protest on April 8th.

Sheriff Terry Robbins and building superintendent Dwaine Sones informed the commissioners that they intend to begin repainting the showers in the men's section of the county jail later this week when the surfaces are thoroughly dry. Sheriff Robbins stated that there have been no women prisoners in the jail for over a week (a condition sure to change as soon as painting begins) so the men can use the showers in the women's side of the jail as the painting is underway. Any women prisoners who arrive during the course of the project can be housed in the "security cell" while the men are using the showers in the women's area. As usual when the unicameral is in session, the commissioners discussed pending legislation. Commissioner Andersen reported that the revenue committee hearing on LB 62 was held on Thursday. There was no testimony in opposition, though an amendment was proposed that would change the original bill slightly. It is now up to the committee to make a decision on its future.

The board will meet next on Monday, April 8th at 9:00 a.m. All meetings are open to the public, and visitors are welcome. The minutes of this and all meetings of the board of commissioners are available to the public at the office of the Sheridan county clerk and online at sheridancountynebraska.com. All meetings are held in compliance with Nebraska Open Meetings Law.

--Submitted by James Krotz