

(First published in The Sheridan Sentinel March 21, 2024)

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERIDAN COUNTY, KANSAS  
PROBATE DIVISION**

In the Matter of the Estate of  
ELIZABETH BREWSTER, Deceased.

Case No.: SD-2024-PR-000011

**NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:  
You are hereby notified that a petition dated March 4, 2024, has been filed in this court by Robert G. Brewster, as a surviving son of Elizabeth Brewster, deceased, praying for administration of said estate and for the appointment of Robert G. Brewster as executor of the estate.

You are further advised that the petitioner in this matter has requested administration pursuant to the Kansas Simplified Estates Act, and if such request is granted the court may not supervise administration of the estate and no further notice of any action of the executor or other proceedings in the estate will be given except for notice of final settlement of the decedent's estate. Should written objections to simplified administration be filed with the court, the court may order supervised administration to ensue.

All creditors are notified to exhibit their demands against the estate within four months from the date of the first publication of this notice as provided by law, and if their demands are not thus exhibited they shall be forever barred.

/s/ Robert G. Brewster  
Robert G. Brewster, Petitioner

/s/ Steven W. Hirsch  
Steven W. Hirsch #12789  
HIRSCH LAW OFFICE  
104 So Penn, PO Box 296  
Oberlin, Kansas 67749  
(785) 475-2296  
Attorney for Estate

(Last published in The Sheridan Sentinel April 4, 2024)

(First published in The Sheridan Sentinel March 28, 2024)

**IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERIDAN COUNTY, KANSAS  
PROBATE DIVISION**

In the Matter of the Estate of  
LOREN A. BILTOFT, Deceased.

Case No.: SD-2023-PR-000011

**NOTICE OF HEARING ON  
PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT**

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:  
You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in said court by Kathleen Biltoft, executor of the estate of Loren A. Biltoft, deceased, praying for a final settlement of said estate, approval of the acts, proceedings and accounts of the executor, allowance for the services of the executor and attorney's fees and expenses; and also praying that the court determine the heirs entitled to the estate and the proportion or part thereof to which each is entitled, and distribute and assign the same to them in accordance with the provisions of decedent's will; that the administration of the estate be closed; that the executor be discharged and released from further liability.

You are hereby required to file your written defenses thereto on or before the **22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2024, at 11:00 a.m.** of said day, in said court, in the city of Hoxie, Sheridan County, Kansas, at which time and place said cause will be heard.

/s/ Kathleen Biltoft  
Kathleen Biltoft, Executor

/s/ Steven W. Hirsch  
Steven W. Hirsch #12789  
HIRSCH LAW OFFICE  
104 So Penn, PO Box 296  
Oberlin, KS 67749  
PH: 785-475-2296  
Attorney for Estate

(Last published in The Sheridan Sentinel April 11, 2024)12

**Another Massive Spending Bill:  
The Budget Process is Broken**

**Washington, D.C.** - U.S. Senator Roger Marshall, M.D. joined Mornings with Maria on Fox Business to discuss the broken budget process in Washington, D.C. and the \$1.2T spending bill the House of Representatives dropped at 2:32 AM ET Thursday morning, March 21.

We are almost six months into FY 2024 and still using bogus stop-gap spending measures to keep the government funded for the remainder of this year. These massive spending bills are unsustainable and a bad way to govern. Senator Marshall led a letter to his colleagues this week to call for a meeting to fix this process and end the irresponsible cycle of stop-gap spending measures.

Highlights from Senator Marshall's interview include:  
On the broken budget process in Washington:

"It's deja vu all over again. I think this is the sixth or seventh time we've had this overnight legislation, we're supposed to look at it, and then vote on it."

"But look, Speaker Johnson's between a rock and a hard place. The American people gave us the most liberal president in American history. They had Democrats control the Senate, and the speaker has a two seat majority over there. But right now, the system is broken."

"We're just doing the same thing over and over again. That's why we're going to the conference here when we get back in two weeks, and we're going to talk about fixing a very broken budget process."

"There are laws out there that govern the calendar the way we're supposed to handle this budget with deadlines as well. They found ways to circumvent them. We want to go back to that regular order where there's a budget process, with the Senate Budget Committee leading and giving us a budget that America can live within its means, not adding \$2 trillion dollars more every year to our national debt."

On presidential immunity for President Trump and the political witch hunts against him:

"This is definitely election interference now. We're six months out from an election and here we have this judicial system trying to persecute Donald Trump."

"I'm not a constitutional lawyer but I believe what they're doing is unconstitutional, and it's certainly unequal application of the law."

On the violent consequences of Joe Biden's border crisis:

**Commission Minutes  
3/5/2024**

Now on this 12th day of March 2024, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas, met in regular session with Chairman Mike "Buck" Mader presiding. Other members present were Joe Bainter, David Stithem, Joe Pratt, County Attorney and County Clerk, Heather Bracht. Guest was *The Sheridan Sentinel*.

At 8:00 a.m. Mader called the meeting to order.

Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Joe Herskowitz, Road & Bridge Supervisor, and Evan Turley, Noxious Weed Director, came to the table. Turley presented the State Contract for treatment of noxious weeds. After discussion, by consensus the contract was approved and signed by the Board.

Turley gave an update on the prairie dog locations he has been treating.

Herskowitz stated they have finished pulling the bad differential out of #252 grader. Will be able to pick up the new one in Great Bend as soon as it arrives.

CAT is coming this week to do a class for the more experienced employees.

A bid was received from JT Grader Service LLC for work on 100N/50-70E. This would include shoulder work, dirt work, drainage, and shaping the road. The estimate was \$4,000 for this two-mile stretch. Mader made a motion to approve the estimate, seconded by Stithem. Carried 3-0. The Road & Bridge Department will follow behind with gravel and get it worked in.

A magnet was used last week on a road. By consensus, the Board approved purchasing two more at a cost of \$475/each.

The can crusher showed up on Monday. Meyer Electric will come sometime this week and put a cord in.

The crack in the girder on the "Cressler" bridge was found. Herskowitz stated they will splice it together with a piece of steel and bolt it.

The Cost Share application was submitted for use on the "Y" east of Selden.

Pat Haffner has offered some "superior" fill dirt to be used on the roads in Tasco but wants the problem areas by his home fixed first. The Board asked Herskowitz to check the bridge at Paul Haffner's home the end could be plugged.

There was a brief discussion about the south Hwy 23 project and various other roads.

At 8:38 Mader made a motion to enter into executive session for a period of 10 minutes for the discussion of non-elected personnel. Stithem seconded. Carried 3-0. Present were the Board, Pratt, Bracht, and Herskowitz. At 8:48, the door opened and Bainter made a motion, seconded by Stithem, to extend the executive session

for a period of 10 minutes. Carried 3-0. The door opened at 8:55 with no decision being made.

Pratt stated he had received back the executed Assignment of Mowing Contract from Dustin Shaw.

Stithem made a motion to approve and sign the various Treasurer Change Orders as presented. Bainter seconded. Carried 3-0

A bill from Secure Tech Systems, Inc. was received for the WAVE panic button system. The amount of the bill is \$5,005.50 and is for a two-year warranty extension, replacement batteries, and service. Bainter made a motion to approve and pay Secure Tech for the panic button system warranty and supplies. Stithem seconded. Carried 3-0

The Board and Bracht discussed the valuation notice received for the old Neuschwander clinic located on Main St. The valuation increased substantially.

There was a discussion about the NexTech/Vyve transition happening.

The Appraiser truck needs new struts on the front and shocks on the back. Bids were received from Hoxie Ag in the amount of \$826.78 and from Great Western Tire of Hoxie in the amount of \$977.49, which included alignment of the truck. On a motion by Mader and second from Bainter the bid from Great Western Tire of Hoxie in the amount of \$977.49 was approved. Carried 3-0

There was a discussion about Road 10W and how fast cars go. Bracht was approached by a concerned citizen and two of the Commissioners stated they have had comments made to them by two different individuals about the cars going too fast as well. There was a brief discussion about the Sheriff's vehicles.

Stithem made a motion seconded by Mader to approve the March 5, 2024 Minutes as amended. Carried 3-0

The March 8, 2024 Payroll and March 12, 2024 Warrants were approved on a motion by Stithem and second by Bainter. Carried 3-0

Bracht reminded the Board that there is no meeting on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, as that is the Presidential Preference Primary Election.

The following Payroll and Warrants were reviewed and approved:

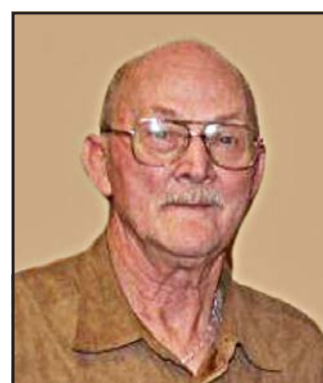
- General \$78,859.59
- Road & Bridge \$24,052.33
- Noxious Weeds \$2,503.44
- Public Transp \$1,047.80
- Landfill \$1,909.03
- VIN \$96.20

At 9:29 a.m. with no further business, Bainter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Stithem. Carried 3-0. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Room.

Attest: Heather Bracht, County Clerk, Mike "Buck" Mader, Chairman

**David Clapper**

February 26, 1944 ~ February 23, 2024



David Paul Clapper, 79, passed away on February 23, 2024, in Hoxie, KS. He was born in Dodge City on February 26, 1944, to Joseph Ladrew Clapper and Wava Lucille (Record) Clapper. The family moved to Meade, where David attended Meade High School and graduated with the Class of 1963. David excelled in track and field. He set a pole vault record that stood from his graduation

until 1977. After graduation, David joined the United States Navy to serve and protect his country. David was honorably discharged from the Navy and returned to Meade.

After returning to Meade, David met and married his first wife, Donna Miller. David and Donna had one son, Morgan Shane Clapper. David moved to Wichita, and started a career at Rainbow Baking Company where he became a supervisor and lead man. He worked with the company until 1976 when he relocated to Longview, TX, until he returned to Wichita to work with the Rainbow Bread Company once again. David moved to several places in Oklahoma and Kansas until settling down in Hoxie. He was especially happy to be living close to his sister Shirley Baker.

After moving to Hoxie, David worked for Darrell Allen, Sheridan County Road & Bridge, and helped his nephew, Kirk Baker. He eventually went to work for Joslyn's grocery store where he worked for almost 20 years. He liked interacting and visiting the customers daily. Once he retired from the grocery store, he stayed busy with hobbies and his three dogs.

David leaves to mourn his loss, his son, Morgan Shane Clapper of Longview, TX; grandsons: Jonathon Taylor Clapper and Michael Chase Frazier of Longview, TX; great-grandchildren: Addison Clapper and Ava Clapper of Longview, TX, and Stevie Layn Frazier of Gary, TX; brother, and many nephews & nieces.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Wava Clapper; brothers, Earl, Nicholas, and Dennis Clapper; sister, Shirley Baker; and daughter-in-law, Michelle Clapper.

A Celebration of Live Service was held Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at the Mickey-Leopold Funeral Home. Visitation was at the funeral home. There was a private family inurnment following the service in the Hoxie City Cemetery. Memorials are suggested to the Sheridan County Benefit Walk and may be sent in care of Mickey-Leopold Funeral Home, PO Box 987, Hoxie, Kansas. Please leave words of comfort at [www.mickeyleopoldfuneral.com](http://www.mickeyleopoldfuneral.com).

**Special Commission  
Minutes  
3/14/2024**

Now on this 14th day of March 2024, the Board of Commissioners, Sheridan County, Kansas, met in special session with Chairman, Mike "Buck" Mader presiding. Other members present were Joe Bainter via phone, David Stithem, and County Clerk, Heather Bracht.

At 1:30 p.m. Mader called the meeting to order.

Mader made a motion to approve and sign the Waiver of Notice for the meeting. Stithem seconded. Carried 3-0

Joe Herskowitz, Road & Bridge Supervisor came to the table. Herskowitz stated that the 1998 Ford F150 started smoking under the dash and various wires were melted. It will no longer be driven. Herskowitz stated there are three vehicles that could be sold on Big Iron or sealed bids. Information was received from MC Auto for a 2010 Chevy Silverado 1500 with 126,023 miles at a price of \$9,500 and from Hoxie Ag (David Rall)

for a 2007 Chevy Silverado 1500 with 131,925 miles at a price of \$8,500. Stithem made a motion to purchase the 2010 Chevy Silverado from MC Auto at a cost of \$9,500 and the 2007 Chevy Silverado from David Rall at a cost of \$8,500. Stithem continued his motion by stating these two pickups will replace the three that will be advertised for sale by sealed bids. Bainter seconded the motion. Carried 2-0. Mader abstained.

Bracht will get the pertinent information and then place the for-sale ad on the Clerk's Facebook page and the newspaper. Sealed bids will be received until Monday, April 29, 2024, at noon. The Board will open the bids during their regular meeting on Tuesday, April 30. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Herskowitz stated he will get the vehicles on Monday.

At 1:56 p.m. with no further business, Bainter made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Stithem. Carried 3-0

Attest: Heather Bracht, County Clerk, Mike "Buck" Mader, Chairman

**Medicaid Expansion Wish List**

Continued on page 7

had more new mothers seeking postpartum care, and that kids in Medicaid recipient families were more likely to access health care.

"Obamacare" benefits for Medicare expansion provide 90 percent of costs to come from taxpayers federal payments, while state tax payers pay the remaining 10 percent. Clancy said Kansas needs a health care system that puts patients in charge, not third-party payors.

"The biggest problem we face, the root problem, is that in America the patient is not the customer, the patient is the product," Clancy testified. "This is because 90 percent of health care is paid for by strangers — third parties like health insurance companies, businesses, and government programs — rather than directly by patients. The good news is that, with incremental free-market reforms, we can put the patient in the driver's seat. We can make our system the best and most affordable in the world instead of merely the most expensive."

Hearings were set today to explore a version of the bill in the House or Representatives.

**UPDATE:** This bill was not referred from committee for action after the hearing.

Dane Hicks is a graduate of the University of Missouri School of Journalism and the United States Marine Corps Officer Candidate School at Quantico, VA. He is the author of novels "The Skinning Tree" and "A Whisper For Help." As publisher of the Anderson County Review in Garnett, KS, he is a recipient of the Kansas Press Association's Boyd Community Service Award as well as more than 60 awards for excellence in news, editorial and photography.

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