

Box Butte County Commissioners met in regular session 9:00 a.m., March 21, 2022, in the County Board Room, second floor of the County Courthouse, 515 Box Butte Ave., Alliance, NE. Notice of meeting was published in Alliance Times Herald, March 9, 2022. Agenda was emailed on March 18, 2022, to board members and posted on the county's website: boxbuttecounty.us

Following an opening prayer, Chairperson Burke called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call: Patricia Johnston, and Steve Burke present. Judy Messersmith, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting. County Attorney Terry Curtiss in attendance. Burke moved to excuse Mike McGinnis from the meeting, seconded by Johnston. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairperson Burke acknowledged that this meeting will follow the open meeting act posted on the North wall of the County Board Room. Johnston moved, seconded by Burke to accept the agenda as printed. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried. No public comment on agenda items. Burke moved to accept the March 2, 2022, minutes as written, seconded by Johnston. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to accept and sign January 2022 and February 2022 County Sheriff monthly reports, seconded by Johnston. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Correspondence was acknowledged and available for public view. Commissioners reported on meetings they had recently attended.

Doves representative Rachelle Sutton Corbet requested Chairman of the Board's signature on a "Certification of Local Government Approval for NonProfit Organizations Receiving ESG Funds From the Shelter Activities". Johnston moved allowing Chairman Burke to sign the certification, seconded by Burke. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

County Treasurer Val Bell provided the Board with the sales tax report, of property sold at the public tax sale for delinquent taxes on March 7, 2022. No action taken.

Burke moved, seconded by Johnston to deny the fuel surcharge the NSG Logistics, LLC had requested for the contract of chip rock delivery. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried. County Attorney Curtiss will provide a letter to NSG Logistics, LLC.

Burke moved to open BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:15 a.m., seconded by Johnston. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to sign two property corrections, an acceleration of mobile home and removal of an error, as presented by Assessor Michelle Robinson, seconded by Johnston. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Time and date of a hearing with Cheema Investments, LLC before the Nebraska Tax Equalization and Review Commission will be set by an Order for Hearing and Notice of Hearing at a future date. No action taken. At 9:20 a.m., Burke moved to close BOARD OF EQUALIZATION, seconded by Johnston. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Mobius Communication representative, Shad Bryner, provided network solutions and costs for IT support and management. Chariman Burke had spoken with a representative from Hamilton Communication. Mr. Bryner will provide a contract of services for County Attorney to review. No action taken.

Hemingford Village Board of Trustee, John Annen, was present to discuss contracting with the County Sheriff for police services. Costs of services, including staff, vehicles, equipment and upfront costs were discussed. County Sheriff Tammy Mowry and Deputy Sheriff JD Sutphen were present to answer any questions the Board might have. The Sheriff and Village of Hemingford feel that this will be beneficial for the county and village, with April 1, 2022, to be the start date for the mutual services. Box Butte County Attorney Terry Curtiss and Village of Hemingford Attorney Libby Stobel will continue to work on the contract for services.

Road Superintendent Barb Keegan provided a road and equipment report, and provided a salary study for the Board's consideration. Salary study will be an agenda item for the April 6, 2022 board meeting. Road Superintendent Keegan



requested to rehire last summer’s employee. Johnston moved to rehire part-time summer employee Alberto Montemayor, seconded by Burke. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Don Dye with M.C. Schaff & Associates, Inc., came before the Board with the two bids for Otoe Road Asphalt Overlay Project from Hwy 385 to CR 72, that had been publicly opened during the February 22, 2022 board meeting. Simon Contractors bid was \$4,242,000.00 and Werner Construction, Inc bid was \$3,856,170.04. The Engineer’s estimate was \$3,490,332.00. Burke moved to accept Werner Construction, Inc bid of \$3,856,170.04 for West Otoe Road without modification, seconded by Johnston. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to sign the Agreement 2022-02 between M.C. Schaff & Associates, Inc. and Box Butte County for professional services for asphalt overlay on Otoe Road from CR72 to Hwy 385. The engineers shall be paid for services rendered on the basis of time spent at the rates specified in Exhibit B not to exceed \$79,530.00 for completion of all services. Payment shall be made monthly following receipt of the bills submitted by the engineer. The \$79,530.00 will be a loan out of County Inheritance Fund, to be paid back by the Bonds Fund Account, seconded by Johnston. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed bond and financing options for the West Otoe Road project. With the possibility that Werner Construction, Inc., could possibly begin construction on the project in May, the need to move forward with financing was discussed. Discussed were the possibility of amending the budget, short term construction financing and bonding the entire project. Asking for proposals for bonding an amount of \$3,900,000 with proposals for 10 year; 15 year; 20 year bonds will be requested. County Attorney Curtiss will contact those financial institutions that are interested in proposals for the project. The bonding/financing will be an April 6, 2022 agenda item.

Alliance Police Chief Philip Lukens met with the Board to discuss the tabled claim from the February 24, 2022 meeting. The City of Alliance had sent an invoice in the amount of \$200,000.00 for one 911 motorola console. Following discussion, Chairman Steve Burke will meet with Alliance City Manager to discuss the invoice. No action taken. A monthly claim from CenturyLink / Lumen with an invoice in the amount of \$8,124.96 billed to E911 Box Butte County – Alliance PK; PO Box D; ATTN: Tacy Liptack; Alliance, NE 69301 was discussed. The County of Box Butte, has in the past only paid a percentage of this bill. Police Chief Lukens and the Board further discussed the shared dispatch services for 911 calls, with Police Chief Lukens detailing how the calls are handled.

Enet Somers-Dehaney was unavailable for telephone conference.

Burke moved to approve and sign claims, tabling the \$8,124.96 CenturyLink/Lumen claim until percentages or for more clarification can be obtained, seconded by Johnston. Johnston, yes; McGinnis, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Burke adjourned at 11:43 a.m.

Attest:

Chairperson

County Clerk

