

Chairman Burke called the meeting to order in the Board Room, second floor of the County Courthouse, 515 Box Butte Ave., Alliance, NE at 9:02 a.m., February 6, 2023, following an opening prayer. Notice of meeting was published January 25, 2023, in the Alliance Times Herald. Affidavit of publication has been received in the office of the County Clerk. Agenda was emailed and posted on the county's website: boxbuttecountyne.gov, February 3, 2023. Roll call: Brett Ditsch, present; Steve Burke, present. Martie Burke, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting. County Attorney Marissa Curtiss and Deputy County Attorney Terry Curtiss were present. 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. Burke moved to accept the agenda as printed, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to approve the January 17, 2023 minutes, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Ditsch moved to approve monthly payroll and claims as presented, seconded by Burke. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. **GENERAL:** AFLAC 2,372.36; AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP 462.12; BANK OF THE WEST 40,768.11; BOX BUTTE COUNTY TREASURER 81,328.00; CREDIT MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC. 568.97; EQUITABLE FINANCIAL LIFE INSURANCE 456.66; FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTRY 25.00; LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE 202.18; MASA GLOBAL BUILDING 192.00; RETIREMENT PLANS DIVISION/AMERITAS 23,011.82; STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE 5,781.45; INDEPENDENT EYE CARE PROFESSIONALS 11.88; **ROAD:** AFLAC 239.32; AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP 126.18; BANK OF THE WEST 8,019.59; BOX BUTTE COUNTY TREASURER 2,044.00; LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE 3.40; MASA GLOBAL BUILDING 50.00; MIDLAND FUNDING LLC 544.25; NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER 1,117.00; RETIREMENT PLANS DIVISION/AMERITAS 2,604.82; STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE 1,897.39; INDEPENDENT EYE CARE PROFESSIONALS 24.06; **NET PAYROLL:** 161,417.26.

Box Butte County Treasurer, Valery Bell, notified the Board that the current bankruptcy legal counsel, Vic Covalt, has retired and recommended David Thompson with Thompson Law PC. Burke moved to allow Treasurer Bell to sign the engagement letter with David Thompson, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Ditsch moved to accept and sign County Clerk/Register of Deeds and Clerk of District Court monthly reports, seconded by Burke. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Correspondence was acknowledged and available for public view. Commissioners reported on meetings they had recently attended and upcoming meetings.

Burke moved to open BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:16 a.m., seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to sign the correction book as presented by County Assessor, Michelle Robinson, correcting the acceleration of 2023 taxes on the 2022 rate for Property ID 070177988, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. County Assessor Robinson, presented a Form 451 for Heartland Baptist Church 2012. This was previously approved in November, however, Form 451's cannot be acted on prior to February 1st. Burke moved to approve the Form 451 as presented, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to close BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:20 a.m., seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Architect Jerry Berggren was present to discuss the Owner-Architect Agreement concerns identified at the previous meeting. Berggren believes the contract as it is written covers all the issues of concern. The budget includes enough money should the wall or equipment need to be altered. Upon approval of contract, the turn-around time for the documents to go out to bid would be around 45 days. The Board is waiting for further clarification from KONE prior to entering into an agreement with Berggren Architects. Burke moved to allow Berggren to complete the measurements on an hourly basis, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to table the Owner-Architect Agreement 2023-01 to February 21, 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to table the budget discussion with the Public Defender to February 21, 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Ditsch moved to approve the Weed Superintendent Contract for 2023, with an effective date of January 5, 2023, seconded by Burke. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

County Attorney Curtiss discussed recent issues with the Slagle parking lot. Due to increased snowfall amounts and private individuals utilizing the parking lot, there are a limited number of parking stalls available for county use. Discussion was held about the possibility of a 24-hour parking limit during the

winter months. Burke moved to designate two spots for the Veterans Service Office County vehicles, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Treasurer Bell provided the Board with an update on the Inclement Weather Procedure. The Sheriff's office does not have interest in providing road condition updates to the committee. The Board has asked County Attorney Curtiss to prepare an Inclement Weather Procedure for the following meeting. Burke moved to table the Inclement Weather Procedure to February 21, 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Road Superintendent, Barb Keegan, provided a road and equipment report. The brush pile has been burned and the crew is still checking for hot spots. Prior to making any decisions about the equipment, the Board would like to see what similar equipment goes for at an ongoing auction. The motor grader ordered last fall has an anticipated build date of May 2023. The Board has asked Keegan to send the Snow Removal Plan and Policies out as a reminder to the individuals who participate. The Road Department anticipates assisting with the 2023 Scrap Tire Amnesty in early April.

Burke moved to open the PARTIAL ROAD VACATION HEARING at 10:00 a.m., seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Keegan provided the Board with the findings from her road study of 5300 to 5400 Logan Road. Burke moved to close the PARTIAL ROAD VACATION HEARING at 10:10 a.m., seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to approve Resolution 2023-02, the partial road vacation of Logan Road between CR 53 and CR 54, with right-of-way to be returned to adjacent property owners, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to allow signature of letter of support for the City of Alliance City Hall Planning Grant, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Deputy County Attorney Curtiss has acknowledged that CR 79 North of Cass Road should in fact be a county road, but currently is not due to a procedural defect when the roads were dedicated. The Board is waiting for adjacent property owners to sign off on the dedication prior to approval. Burke moved to table the Dedication of CR 79 North of Cass Road to February 21, 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Discussion was held in regard to the five new National Opioid Settlements. Initial thoughts were to continue to allocate the funds to Region 1 Behavioral Health Authority pending verification that they have received the previous settlement allocations. Burke moved to table the National Opioid Settlements to February 21, 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

With all agenda items addressed, Chairman Burke adjourned at 11:10 a.m.


Chairperson

Attest: 
County Clerk 2-21-23

