

Box Butte County Commissioners met in regular session 9:00 a.m., March 6, 2023, in the Board Room, second floor of the County Courthouse, 515 Box Butte Ave, Alliance, NE. Notice of meeting was published February 22, 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, March 3, 2023.

Following an opening prayer, Chairman Burke introduced Michael Sautter as the newly appointed Commissioner appointed to complete Mike McGinnis's term, as he resigned January 5, 2023. This appointment was made in accordance with §32-567.

Chairman Burke called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Roll call: Mike Sautter, present; Brett Ditsch, present; Steve Burke, present. Martie Burke, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting. County Attorney Marissa Curtiss was 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 amended, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to approve the February 21, 2023 minutes, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, Abstain; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Ditsch moved to approve monthly payroll and claims as presented, seconded by Burke. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. **GENERAL:** AFLAC 2372.36; AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP 492.02; BANK OF THE WEST 39908.51; BOX BUTTE COUNTY TREASURER 86252.00; EQUITABLE FINANCIAL LIFE INSURANCE 236.07; FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTRY 25.00; LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE 213.44; MASA GLOBAL BUILDING 204.50; NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER 433.00; RETIREMENT PLANS DIVISION/AMERITAS 22724.10; STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE 5655.01; INDEPENDENT EYE CARE PROFESSIONALS 11.88; **ROAD:** AFLAC 239.32; AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP 126.18; BANK OF THE WEST 6769.03; BOX BUTTE COUNTY TREASURER 2044.00; LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE 3.40; MASA GLOBAL BUILDING 50.00; NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER 1117.00; RETIREMENT PLANS DIVISION/AMERITAS 2292.52; STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE 1529.86; INDEPENDENT EYE CARE PROFESSIONALS 24.06; **NET PAYROLL:** 158845.71

Ditsch moved to accept and sign County Clerk/Register of Deeds, Clerk of District Court, Sheriff, and Veteran's monthly/quarterly reports, seconded by Burke. Sautter, yes; 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 9:15 a.m., seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to sign the correction book as presented by County Assessor, Michelle Robinson, correcting the removal of an inactive parcel from the tax roll for Property ID 070180210, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to approve the claim to Robert L. Tschacher in the amount of \$3.81, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to close BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:20 a.m., seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Sautter moved to accept the retirement of Extension Office Manager Carol Kleinsasser effective March 31, 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

As the vacant County Commissioner seat has been filled by appointed Commissioner Michael Sautter, discussion was held regarding the reorganization of the County Commissioner Board assignments.

Burke moved to appoint Commissioner Sautter to the **Box Butte General Hospital Board, Public Health Board/Panhandle Partnership, Senior Citizens Board, and Alternate/Northwest Community Action Board**, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to appoint Commissioner Ditsch to the **Box Butte Development Corporation Board (BBDC), Welfare Board Vice-Chairman, Northwest Community Action Board, Region 23 Emergency Management Agency, and Extension Board**, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to appoint Commissioner Burke to the **Region 1 Mental Health Board, Area Agency of Aging Board, Region 1 Office of Human Development Board, E911 Advisory Board, and Welfare Board Chairman**, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Road Superintendent, Barb Keegan, provided a road and equipment report. Keegan asked the Commissioners to fill the open seat on the Road Safety Committee, Commissioner Ditsch volunteered. Keegan has a meeting scheduled with Don Dye, MC Schaff, to discuss the transfer cracks that have been observed on West Otoe Rd.

Burke moved to enter into executive session at 9:45 a.m., to discuss personnel matters, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. County Attorney Curtiss, Commissioners Sautter, Ditsch, Burke, and Road Superintendent Keegan present. At 9:53 a.m., Burke moved to close executive session discussing personnel matters, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. No action taken in regular session.

Burke moved to allow Keegan to go out for bid for armour coat application due in the Clerk’s office by 4 p.m. on March 31, 2023 for action to be taken April 5, 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Veteran Service Officer, Sarah Foland, appeared before the Board to discuss the proposed security wall/glass project in the Veteran’s office. Foland voiced her opposition, but did mention that the Veteran’s office Secretary Amy Jensen was in support of the project. Alternative solutions in the form of a second panic button were proposed. Foland has observed several veterans and members of the public having difficulty walking down the hallway. She would prefer that money be invested in the installation of a handrail. Commissioner Burke asked Foland to obtain a second bid for the proposed handrail project.

Building and Grounds employee, Lori White, provided a status update on the Slagle Building Front Steps, noting the rapid deterioration. With the elevator project, White has expressed concerns about potential construction damaging the stained glass. Commissioner Ditsch is going to check with BBDC on the status of a possible grant to preserve the stained glass. Robert Nation Masonry is going to coordinate with Twin City Roofing to complete the chimney work prior to the roof project.

Burke moved to table the Slagle Building Front Step Repair to March 20, 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

No public comment on the agenda items.

With all agenda items addressed, Chairman Burke adjourned at 10:16 a.m.

Steve Burke
Chairperson

Attest:

Mark R. Bote
County Clerk

