

Chairman Burke called the meeting to order in the Board Room, second floor of the County Courthouse, 515 Box Butte Ave., Alliance, NE at 9:00 a.m., March 20, 2023, following an opening prayer. Notice of meeting was published March 8, 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](http://boxbuttecountyne.gov), March 17, 2023. 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. Sautter moved to accept the agenda as amended, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to approve the March 6, 2023 minutes, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to approve monthly claims as presented, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. No elected official's reports were presented. Correspondence was acknowledged and available for public view. Commissioners reported on upcoming meetings and those they had recently attended.

Burke moved to open BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:15 a.m., seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Sautter moved to sign the correction book as presented by County Assessor, Michelle Robinson, correcting an erroneously reported leased item already being claimed by the lessee for Property ID 070061254, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to close BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:18 a.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Jon Cannon, Executive Director of NACO, appeared before the Board to discuss current legislation that included proposed bills regarding prohibiting the levying of Inheritance Tax and the state from providing unfunded mandates on political subdivisions. Cannon also provided a brief overview of the services NACO provides, as well as upcoming workshops that are being offered for elected officials. No action taken.

Clyde Mantooth, 2151 CR 60, Alliance, NE 69301, discussed the usage of white rock near his residence. Mr. Mantooth voiced concerns about the overall air quality and the condition of his home air filters because of the dust generated by the white rock application. The Board discussed the possibility of a cost share plan with Mr. Mantooth in order to put a different type of rock on the ¼ mile of road adjacent to his property. Mr. Mantooth was agreeable to this proposition, but at the end of the day, he does not care if the road is rock or dirt, as long as the white rock is removed. No action taken.

Road Superintendent, Barb Keegan, provided a road and equipment report. Keegan made note that the primary reason for the current road conditions that were previous addressed by Mr. Mantooth are a direct result of water runoff from the owners property onto the road. Keegan sought direction on the plan for the JD Backhoe (#1303) that has been out of commission. After discussion, the Board instructed Keegan to have the transmission cracked open to identify the problem. The Board gave Keegan approval to hire a former employee that wants to volunteer to assist the Road department this summer. The Road department is experiencing availability issues with the current drug testing company and inquired if the Sheriff's office would be willing to start performing these tests. Sheriff Tammy Mowry and County Attorney Curtiss were agreeable to this arrangement, as long as a procedure was in place. The thermal cracks on West Otoe Rd have been confirmed by Don Dye with MC Schaff. Due to the extreme temperature shifts, the asphalt has shrunk. Keegan is waiting for the engineer's recommendation on this matter.

Keegan presented the bidding requirements for the notice of bidders to haul chip stone. The Phillips F & T bid was rejected, as it was submitted after the deadline of March 15, 2023 by 4:00 p.m. and is to be returned to the submitter unopened. The K4 Trucking II, Inc bid was rejected for failure to provide the required insurance document, therefore they did not meet the minimum requirements. Burke moved to accept the bid from MCT Trucking at \$19.50/ton in the amount of \$32,097.00, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Sheriff Mowry and Deputy Chief JD Sutphen have contacted Gene Steffy Auto Group and they do not have a clear timeline for the completion of the 2023 Dodge 1500 ordered in November of 2022. The Sheriff's department has proposed trading in the current undercover vehicle and the Dodge Charger in order to purchase a new undercover vehicle to be paid for out of the 970 General Fund in lieu of the 2023 Dodge 1500. They would like to use the money collected from vehicle inspections to purchase the 2023 Dodge 1500. The Board would like to hold off on any vehicle purchases until the production timeline of the 2023 Dodge 1500 is clearer. Burke moved to table the Sheriff's office vehicle requests to May 15, 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Treasurer, Valery Bell, presented the Board with the sales tax report of property sold at the public tax sale for delinquent taxes on March 6, 2023. No action taken.

Veteran Service Officer Sarah Foland and Building and Ground employee Lori White presented the Board with two sets of bids from Walter Mischnick Contractors and Builders and R & J Industries for the front steps and handrail projects. An additional bid was included by Walter Mischnick Contractors and Builders for the front awning repair. Sautter moved to accept Walter Mischnick Contractors and Builders proposal for the handrail and awning with cement board and to accept R & J Industries proposal for the front step repair, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

White has expressed concerns about construction noise occurring during court. White provided an update on the Assessor and DMV windows that have been damaged. The Assessor’s window was an internal issue and was not caused by flying debris as originally thought. Both windows fall within the covered warranty for replacement. The Wilson Group would like a local company to handle the glass replacement. ACR Glass is willing to complete the work, however, they are having difficulty acquiring the appropriate glass from Manko as they do not have a contract with the supplier. White has been asked to follow-up and provide the Board with a status report at the next meeting. White has been in contact with two companies about the stained-glass project in the courthouse. Architectural Glassarts is familiar with the project and will be available to complete the removal of the stained-glass prior to any elevator construction.

Commissioner Burke has reached out to John Thomas and Carol Kleinsasser about the Extension Office Manager job description and if it needs to be updated, as well as if there is a need for a full-time employee. Mr. Thomas believes a full-time position is necessary to get all of the required tasks done. The Board would like to start advertising as soon as possible in order to fill the vacancy. No action taken.

Susan Unzicker, Executive Director of Alliance Chamber of Commerce, sent an email inquiry about the Courthouse property being utilized for the 2023 Heritage Days Grand Marshal ceremony and the 7<sup>th</sup> Street Dance Recital. Several concerns were identified including event liability insurance, excess trash, and the overall condition of the property after the event. The Board did not feel as if they were provided with enough information to make a decision at this time and would like to speak directly with Mrs. Unzicker. Burke moved to table the 2023 Heritage Days Grand Marshal ceremony and the 7<sup>th</sup> Street Dance Recital to April 5, 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Nan Gould with Region 23 Emergency Management provided the Board with an emailed copy of the 2022 Local Emergency Operation Plan (LEOP) in accordance with the 5-year revision plan. Several typographical errors were identified within the document. Burke moved to table the 2022 Local Emergency Operations Plan, until such time that the plan has been edited to reflect the identified corrections, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

No public comment on the agenda items.

With all agenda items addressed, Chairman Burke adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

*Sarah Foland*  
Chairperson

Attest:

*Melba R. Bates*

County Clerk 4-5-23

