

Chairman Burke called the meeting to order in the Board Room, second floor of the County Courthouse, 515 Box Butte Ave., Ste 202, Alliance, NE at 8:00 a.m., July 17, 2023, following an opening prayer. Notice of meeting was published July 5, 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, July 14, 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 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. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Ditsch moved to approve the July 5, 2023 minutes, seconded by Burke. Sautter, abstain; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Sautter moved to approve the July 7, 2023, July 10, 2023, and July 14, 2023 minutes, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to open BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 8:15 a.m., seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Sautter moved to approve the request for an extension to the Homestead Exemption deadline for Michael Dunn & Norm Blumenthal, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to close BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 8:22 a.m., seconded by Sautter. 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 approve monthly claims with corrections to the function codes for the Public Defender office rent and District Court appointed counsel, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to accept and sign the Sheriff's monthly report, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Samantha Stoltenberg, Steve Jobman, Brian Hillier, and Mark Hillier were present to discuss health plan renewal options. Burke moved to renew the health plan with carrier IOA RE selecting the revised renewal, to renew Organ & Tissue Transplant with HCC Life Insurance Company, and to continue with the Regional Care Inc. (RCI) health plan utilizing the Cigna network, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Employee costs will not be increased for this renewal with RCI.

Road Superintendent Barb Keegan provided a road and equipment report. The Board would like Keegan to reach out to Scott Wilkins to get an accurate measurement of available screened rock prior to committing to a purchase.

Burke moved to accept the fuel bid proposal submitted by Panhandle Coop for 15,000 gallons at \$2.995/gal in the amount of \$44,925.00 (Option – B), seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to accept the chipstone hauling bid proposal submitted by Berg Trucking LLC at \$22.40/ton in the amount of \$41,342.56, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Treasurer Valery Bell submitted the Semi-Annual Report for approval and was available by telephone for questions. Burke moved to accept the Box Butte County Treasurer's Semi-Annual Report as presented, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

ARPA committee recommendations for the 2023/2024 fiscal year were reviewed by the Board. This included a commercial washer and dryer for the jail, tree and bush removal, sidewalk replacement, and snow removal/mowing equipment. Burke moved to go out for bid for the removal of the two trees on the South side of the Courthouse and the bush in front of the Slagle building sign with bids to be submitted by August 17, 2023 and accepted/rejected at the August 21, 2023 meeting, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds employee, Lori White, expressed concerns about the number of error codes being generated by the GEO's. White is working with Faris Plumbing on a solution for the exterior stairwell drain that continues to backup.

Chairman Burke recessed at 11:10 a.m., Chairman Burke resumed the meeting at 11:16 a.m., with roll call: Mike Sautter, present; Brett Ditsch, present; Steve Burke, present.

Burke moved to enter into executive session at 11:17 a.m., for a performance evaluation, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. County Attorney Curtiss, Commissioners Sautter, Ditsch, Burke, and Lori White present. At 11:55 a.m., Burke moved to close executive session for a performance evaluation, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. No action taken in regular session.

No public comment on the agenda items.

Chairman Burke recessed at 11:56 a.m., Chairman Burke resumed the meeting at 12:30 p.m., with roll call: Mike Sautter, present; Brett Ditsch, absent; Steve Burke, present.

Burke moved to open BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 12:30 p.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Martie Burke, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings and administered the oath to County Commissioners Sautter and Burke, County Assessor Michelle Robinson and property valuation protestors.

Property valuation protest forms 422 were read by Chairman Burke and evidence was heard from: Rick Guernsey; Frank Caroselli; Bryant & Jamie Quick; Dee Middleton; K & M Enterprises by Scott Moller and Rick Ridenour; Karen Brown; Linda Leisy and Jamie Quick; Atabrit by Mark Placek; Mary Miles; Kevin & Julie Bergfield; Rita Bergfield Life Estate by Kevin & Julie Bergfield; not present - Otto Smith; Don & Cindy Zurn; John Dahlberg; Gerald Bauer; Janelle Rolls; Derrick Warfield; Benjamin Crowe.

Chairman Burke recessed at 3:01 p.m., Chairman Burke resumed the meeting at 3:08 p.m., with roll call: Mike Sautter, present; Brett Ditsch, absent; Steve Burke, present.

Chairman Burke read property valuation protests forms 422 and evidence was heard from: Kenneth Smith; Marshall & Starla Endsley; Bruce Trussell; Josh Trussell; Joanne Jones; Bradley Green in the lobby on the 1st floor at 4:06 p.m. due to 2nd floor accessibility restrictions created by an inoperable elevator, the Board returned to the Commissioner Board Room at 4:28 p.m.

Burke moved to close BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 4:30 p.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, absent; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

With all agenda items addressed, Chairman Burke adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Steve Burke

Chairperson

Attest:

Mr R Bto

County Clerk 8-2-23

