

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., August 21, 2023, following an opening prayer. Notice of meeting was published August 2, 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, August 18, 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. Sautter moved to approve the August 2, 2023 minutes, seconded by Burke. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to approve monthly claims, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to open BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 8:25 a.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Sautter moved to sign tax list corrections No. 261-263 as presented by Deputy County Assessor, Tiffany Elkins, to accelerate the 2023 taxes on the 2022 rate for Property IDs 070216665, 070144834, and 070240019, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to close BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 8:26 a.m., seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to accept and sign the Sheriff's monthly report, 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.

Road Superintendent Barb Keegan provided a road and equipment report. The cold mix pile has failed, they believe the source of the problem is too many distillates in the oil causing it to unravel. Keegan asked the Board to consider pest control for the office space at the Road Department. With the installation of above ground power poles near the 1421 W 10th Street property owned by the County, Keegan would like a fence to be installed to secure the property. The Board has instructed Keegan to obtain estimates for the cost/square foot of a 6' tall chain link fence with three barbwire lines. The Board also authorized Keegan to obtain a request for proposal (RFP) for the tractor lease next year.

Burke moved to sign the Annual Certification Form as a part of the Federal-Aid Transportation Fund Purchase-Sale Agreement, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Three bids were submitted for the advertised tree/shrub removal projects by Smith Pine Tree Farms, Flannel Brothers, and Panhandle Tree Service. Sautter moved to accept the bid from Panhandle Tree Service in the amount of \$3,000.00 with the expense to be paid out of the ARPA fund, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to set the LB644 meeting at 6:00 pm on September 20, 2023 at the Alliance High School Performing Arts Center, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

As the Board previously accepted Sheriff Tammy Mowry's resignation due to retirement effective August 31, 2023, the Board discussed next steps to fill the vacancy. Burke moved to appoint Chief Deputy JD Sutphen as Interim Sheriff, effective September 1, 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Sautter moved to advertise for applications and resumes to be accepted by the Clerk's office until 4:00 p.m. on September 27, 2023 with interviews to be conducted on October 4, 2023 during the regularly scheduled Commissioners meeting, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

The Applied Connective IT Services Agreement as presented includes the in-depth analysis of the system. Burke moved to approve the Applied Connective IT Services Agreement 2023-18, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

The RCI Administrative Agreement was compared to prior years fees. Burke moved to accept the RCI Administrative Service Agreement 2023-19, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Terry Curtiss, Grant County Attorney, submitted a memo on behalf of the Grant County Commissioners for discussion in regards to an interlocal agreement for Veteran Service Officer (VSO) services. The current VSO for Grant County has already resigned from the position and they have at minimum 40 veterans

needing assistance. Burke moved to table the Grant County Interlocal Veteran Service Officer Agreement 2023-15 to September 6, 2023, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Six individuals submitted letters of interest to serve on the Prairie Dog Advisory Board. Sautter moved to appoint Shawn Hunter, Tim Sherlock, Mike Johnson, Jim Furman, and Lynn Placek, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Initially, Chairman Burke will sit on the advisory board as a non-voting member.

Building and Grounds employee, Lori White, provided the Board with an update on the marble work associated with the elevator project. Brian Wilson, Herstead Monument, has expressed concerns about completely removing the marble, as they have been trained to affix it with the intent of being permanently attached. Mr. Wilson is confident he would be able to cut the marble to meet the needs of the project.

Chairman Burke recessed at 10:22 a.m., Chairman Burke resumed the meeting at 10:27 a.m., with roll call: Mike Sautter, present; Brett Ditsch, present; Steve Burke, present.

Budget Consultant Caleb Johnson met with Commissioners Burke, Ditsch, and Sautter, Elected and appointed officials Deputy County Assessor Tiffany Elkins, Veteran Service Officer Sarah Foland, Extension Educator John Thomas, Extension Assistant 4H Ashley Fenning, Sheriff Tammy Mowry, Chief Deputy JD Sutphen, County Treasurer Valery Bell, Road Superintendent Barb Keegan, Zoning Administrator Mike Johnson, County Clerk Martie Burke, and County Attorney Marissa Curtiss. The Board and Budget Consultant discussed expenditure requests from each office and fund account along with revenue estimates for the fiscal year 2023-2024.

Chairman Burke recessed at 3:41 p.m., Chairman Burke resumed the meeting at 3:50 p.m., with roll call: Mike Sautter, present; Brett Ditsch, present; Steve Burke, present.

Budget discussion continued with the final preliminary numbers falling below last year's Property Tax Request amount.

Burke moved to approve Resolution 2023-07: Tax Allocation to Miscellaneous Districts, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Sautter moved to approve Resolution 2023-08: Allowable Increase of Restricted Funds (1%), seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to approve Resolution 2023-09: Authorization/Reauthorization of Petty Cash Funds, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Dudley Prochazka requested to be on the agenda regarding the pit entrance/road conditions and did not make an appearance. No action taken.

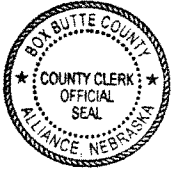
No public comment on the agenda items.

With all agenda items addressed, Chairman Burke adjourned at 6:41 p.m.


Chairperson

Attest:


County Clerk



9-6-23