

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 9:00 a.m., November 6, 2023, following an opening prayer. Notice of meeting was published October 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, November 3, 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. Burke moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Ditsch moved to approve the October 16, 2023 minutes, seconded by Burke. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

The Box Butte County Handbook has conflicting information about overtime calculations on pages 18 and 23. County Attorney Curtiss believes this to be an inadvertent omission on page 23 that should read *Vacation does not count as hours worked for the purpose of calculating overtime*. County Attorney Curtiss will prepare a resolution for the following meeting to clarify the overtime policy.

Ditsch moved to approve monthly payroll and claims as presented, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. **GENERAL:** AFLAC 2,782.46; AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP 282.20; BMO BANK NA 49,283.84; BOX BUTTE COUNTY TREASURER 90,764.00; EQUITABLE FINANCIAL LIFE INSURANCE 228.33; FAMILY SUPPORT REGISTRY 25.00; KANSAS PAYMENT CENTER 350.00; LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE 206.26; MASA GLOBAL BUILDING 165.50; VISION SERVICE PLAN (IC) 309.71; NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER 433.00; RETIREMENT PLANS DIVISION/AMERITAS 26,703.44; STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE 7,239.05; TX CHILD SUPPORT SDU 700.00 **ROAD:** AFLAC 239.32; AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP 32.04; BMO BANK NA 6,723.18; BOX BUTTE COUNTY TREASURER 2,044.00; LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE 4.08; MASA GLOBAL BUILDING 37.50; VISION SERVICE PLAN (IC) 100.97; NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER 895.00; RETIREMENT PLANS DIVISION/AMERITAS 2,254.48; STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE 1,561.35 **NET PAYROLL:** 168,703.66

Burke moved to open BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:34 a.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to sign the correction book 264 as presented by County Assessor, Michelle Robinson, correcting items reported in Sheridan County for Property ID 070235791, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to approve the claim to James Ackerman in the amount of \$431.38, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to close BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:36 a.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Greg Yanker, Fuller Construction Company, LLC, brought an updated Bid Bond document and answered questions regarding the elevator project. Fuller would like to begin prep work for the project in early 2024. Burke moved to approve and sign Agreement 2023-21 the Elevator Contract with Fuller Construction, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Mike Manion, Box Butte County Ag Society, requested an SDL Liquor License for a fundraising event to be held at the fairgrounds in December. Burke moved to approve the SDL Liquor License for the Box Butte County Ag Society for December 16th-17th, 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Burke recessed at 9:47 a.m. to go to the Veteran Service Office to present former VSO Dennis Laughlin with a years of service award to kickoff Operation Green Light week. Chairman Burke resumed the meeting at 10:03 a.m., with roll call: Mike Sautter, present; Brett Ditsch, present; Steve Burke, present.

Road Superintendent Barb Keegan provided a road and equipment report. Keegan has begun training one of her staff members on bridge inspections, as the certification process requires five years of experience. Two routes currently lack a regular operator due to short staffing. These routes will be absorbed by other operators and will delay snow removal in some areas.

Sautter moved to approve Resolution 2023-20 Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent 2023, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Two proposals were submitted by Audrey Long and Stacy Bach for joint contracted Public Defender services. These two attorneys currently carry the majority of the court appointed counsel caseload for both County Court and District Court. Burke moved to accept the proposals from Audrey Long and Stacy Bach

at \$90,000.00/each with the contracted agreement to be signed at a later date, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. County Attorney Curtiss will update the agreement to remove the option of additional expenses and will reach out to these individuals about the possibility of extending the agreement through 2026.

Ditsch moved to accept and sign the County Clerk/Register of Deeds and Clerk of District Court reports, seconded by Burke. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Correspondence was acknowledged and available for public view. The Nebraska Department of Natural Resources invited Box Butte County to join the National Flood Insurance Program, this matter will be considered at a later date.

Building and Grounds employee, Lori White, mentioned that the water fountain on the first floor is not draining and that Faris has yet to begin the work on the exterior stairwell drainage issue. Jerry Berggren is working with Architectural Glassarts to coordinate the removal of the stained glass prior to the elevator project commencing.

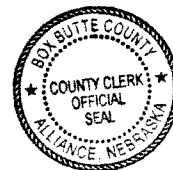
Commissioners reported on meetings they had recently attended and upcoming meetings.

Sautter moved to approve and sign Resolution 2023-21 NIRMA Recommitment for July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to enter into executive session at 11:21 a.m., for personnel matters, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. County Attorney Curtiss, Commissioners Burke, Ditsch, Sautter, and Sheriff Sutphen present. At 11:42 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.

No public comment on the agenda items.

With all agenda items addressed, Chairman Burke adjourned at 11:45 a.m.



Steve Burke
Chairperson

Attest: M. R. B. B.
County Clerk 11-20-23