

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., December 18, 2023, following an opening prayer. Notice of meeting was published December 13, 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, December 15, 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 Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to approve the amended December 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 reports. 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 9:19 a.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to sign the correction book Nos. 267 and 268 as presented by County Assessor, Michelle Robinson, removing the value for property that is centrally assessed for Property ID 070194564, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to close BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:21 a.m., seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to accept the fuel bid proposal submitted by Panhandle Coop for 30,000 gallons at \$2.833/gal in the amount of \$84,990.00 (Option – D), conditioned upon the insurance certificate being submitted within 48 hours, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Road Superintendent Barb Keegan provided a road and equipment report. Keegan presented a cost estimate as requested for Keith Rd from Hwy 385 to CR69. As only one project from the One and Six Road Plan has been completed to date, Keegan would like to focus on completing these projects prior to expanding the list.

Burke moved to enter into executive session at 9:51 a.m., for a performance evaluation, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Commissioners Burke, Ditsch, Sautter, County Attorney Curtiss, and Road Superintendent Keegan present. At 10:47 a.m., Burke moved to close executive session discussing a performance evaluation, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Favorable performance evaluation of Road Superintendent Keegan.

Sheriff JD Sutphen and Chief Deputy Ryan Dannar discussed the current pay structure of the Sheriff's department, hourly wages vs salary, and additional on-call compensation.

Chairman Burke recessed at 12:02 p.m., Chairman Burke resumed the meeting at 12:08 p.m., with roll call: Mike Sautter, present; Brett Ditsch, present; Steve Burke, present.

Burke moved to appoint Denise Koozer and Steve Benzel to the Box Butte County Extension Board, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

The Prairie Dog Advisory Board has drafted By-Laws for Commissioner approval. Sautter moved to approve the By-Laws of the Box Butte County Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Advisory Board upon conditions of clarifications being added to Article VI and the identified typographical errors being corrected, seconded by Burke. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the various entities that are currently providing snow removal for the County. The Board has asked County Attorney Curtiss to draw up a snow removal contract with Flannel Brothers to be discussed at the January 3, 2024 meeting.

Building and Grounds employee, Lori White, briefly discussed the elevator preconstruction meeting and answered questions about the stained-glass removal to be coordinated with Architectural Glassarts.

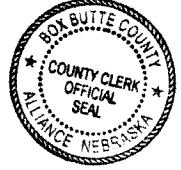
Sautter moved to increase the Veteran Service Office driver pay rates to \$12.00/hour effective January 1, 2024, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

The interlocal agreement with the City of Alliance for Call Management has been drafted. County Attorney Curtiss is waiting for a response from the City prior to sending out the final draft to both departments. Burke moved to

table the City of Alliance Interlocal Agreement 2023-05 Call Management until all information is available, 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 12:44 p.m.



 Steve Burke Attest: *Mark R. Beto*
Chairperson County Clerk 1-3-24