

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., February 5, 2024, following an opening prayer. Notice of meeting was published January 24, 2024, 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), February 2, 2024. 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 Consent Calendar, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. The Consent Calendar included the following items: Agenda - February 5, 2024; Minutes – January 17, 2024; Payroll/Claims/Invoices - **GENERAL:** ACCELERATED RECEIVABLES SOLUTIONS 674.77; AFLAC 2722.01; AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP 302.20; BMO BANK NA 42647.26; BOX BUTTE COUNTY TREASURER 87122.00; EQUITABLE FINANCIAL LIFE INSURANCE 216.72; KANSAS PAYMENT CENTER 350.00; LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE 195.68; MASA GLOBAL BUILDING 204.50; VISION SERVICE PLAN (IC) 277.87; NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER 433.00; RETIREMENT PLANS DIVISION/AMERITAS 24226.69; STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE 5934.20; TX CHILD SUPPORT SDU 700.00. **ROAD:** AFLAC 239.32; AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP 32.04; BMO BANK NA 7933.54 BOX BUTTE COUNTY TREASURER 1728.00; LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE 3.40; MASA GLOBAL BUILDING 25.00; VISION SERVICE PLAN (IC) 100.97; NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER 895.00; RETIREMENT PLANS DIVISION/AMERITAS 2611.91; STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE 1863.71. **NET PAYROLL:** 163129.30.; Elected Officials and Office Reports – Clerk/Register of Deeds, Clerk of District Court, and Sheriff; Correspondence.

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

Zoning Administrator Mike Johnson discussed the current zoning of a project site South of Alliance and whether it needed to be rezoned. As the zoning does not affect the land use, there is no reason to change the current zoning. The Board would like the Planning Commission to develop a request for proposal for an updated Comprehensive Plan, as well as to work on filling the two vacant seats.

Burke moved to open BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:21 a.m., seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Sautter moved to sign the correction book No. 272 as presented by County Assessor, Michelle Robinson, removing personal property reported in Scotts Bluff County for Property ID 070249113, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to close BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:23 a.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Chief Sheriff Deputy Ryan Dannar discussed holiday on-call pay status for deputies, seeking clarification on additional compensation for being on-call on a holiday. Sautter approved holiday on-call pay for Sheriff Deputies with the same compensation being offered as that for Sunday on-call work, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

The shop drawings for the elevator have been submitted to Berggren Architects for review. Pending approval, Fuller Construction will be ordering the elevator, which requires a 50% down-payment to start the build process. As the elevator will only require 220v for operation, there is no longer a need for a mechanical room on the fourth floor. Burke moved to approve the elevator down-payment up to \$175,000.00 to be paid for from the ARPA fund, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Judge Paul Wess and County Court Clerk Magistrate Chelsie Hoagland have requested the transfer of equipment from the Public Defender's office to County Court to enhance courtroom technology. With the acquisition of the requested equipment, the only additional equipment necessary will be a new router to increase the bandwidth. Burke moved to transfer the following items: Apple iPad Pro 12.9", Apple Pencil, Apple iMac Mini - M1, Apple Magic Keyboard & Mouse, Apple Studio Display 2, Apple iPad Pro 256GB, MacBook Pro 16" Max w/mouse, Apple SuperDrive, and Apple Smart Keyboard from the Public Defender's office to County Court, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. County inventory sheets are to be updated reflecting the transfers and resubmitted to the Board for review during the February 21, 2024 meeting.

Road Superintendent Barb Keegan provided a road and equipment report. Keegan has standing water under the Alliance shop and would like to see preventative measures taken to stop any further deterioration of the building.

Burke moved to table the Courthouse Sidewalk Bids until information is available, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Julie Bergfield, District 12 Probation, was available via telephone to discuss the potential to have volunteers remove snow at the Courthouse for community service hours. Prior to making any decisions the Board would like to run the liability risk by county insurance carrier NIRMA. No action taken.

Building and Grounds employee, Lori White, provided updates on the elevator project, including the need to expand the elevator shaft an additional 18” to the North. County Court has requested modifications to their front counter with the loss of jury room space from the shaft expansion. The Board would like to see the cost of the proposed project on a change order prior to making a decision. White discussed the need for additional storage space in the basement due to elevator construction, which prompted further discussion about surplus equipment.

Caleb Johnson, J13 Enterprises, LLC, presented a letter of engagement for budget preparations for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. This agreement is for one-year of service at the flat rate of \$3,900.00, with the option to include a multi-year agreement locked in at \$3,900.00. If Johnson is required to be physically present for a LB644 hearing, his rate will be an additional \$85.00/hour plus required travel expenses. Sautter moved to approve Agreement 2024-03 the Letter of Engagement for Budget Preparation for the next three fiscal years 2024-2027, seconded by Burke. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Burke recessed at 11:10 a.m. to conduct a quarterly jail visit §47-109. Chairman Burke resumed the meeting at 11:53 a.m., with roll call: Mike Sautter, present; Brett Ditsch, present; Steve Burke, present.

No public comment on the agenda items.

Chairman Burke recessed at 11:53 a.m. Chairman Burke resumed the meeting at 1:03 p.m., with roll call: Mike Sautter, present; Brett Ditsch, present; Steve Burke, present.

Burke moved to open the 1 & 6 YEAR ROAD PLAN HEARING at 1:04 p.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Those in attendance were Commissioners Sautter, Ditsch, and Burke, County Clerk Burke, and County Attorney Curtiss. Road Superintendent Barb Keegan provided legal publications for the hearing and a summary of the projects completed in 2023. The Commissioners and Road Superintendent discussed upcoming projects and the associated costs of each proposed project. Kris Stumpff, 6871 Keith Rd, Alliance, NE 69301, requested additional rock, as well as red rock on the road to West Plains. Carl West, 6800 Logan Rd, Alliance, NE 69301, spoke about narrow roads and the inability for two semis to pass at the same time. Shayleen Baumann, 6601 Knox Rd, Alliance, NE 69301, requested rock on CR66 from Lincoln Rd to Knox Rd. Gabby Leisy, 5341 Lincoln Rd, Alliance, NE 69301, requested rock on Lincoln Rd from CR59 to CR55. Burke moved to close the 1 & 6 YEAR ROAD PLAN HEARING at 1:58 p.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Burke moved to adopt Resolution 2024-02 approving the 1 & 6 year road plan for Box Butte County with no changes see Exhibit A, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

With all agenda items addressed, Chairman Burke adjourned at 2:21 p.m.

  
Chairperson

Attest:



County Clerk

2-21-24

