

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 21, 2024, following an opening prayer. Notice of meeting was published February 7, 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, February 20, 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 Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. The Consent Calendar included the following items: Agenda - February 21, 2024; Minutes – February 5, 2024 and February 12, 2024; Claims; Elected Officials and Office Reports –Sheriff (2); Correspondence.

Box Butte County Weed Superintendent, Brett Lauder, presented the annual Noxious Weed Control Plan for 2023. Lauder is monitoring the Yellow Flag Iris that has been identified on the Niobrara River. Burke moved to sign the Noxious Weed Control Plan, Activity Report, Budget Report, Weed Control Authority Board Roster, and the Noxious Weed Infestation Report, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

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

Burke moved to open BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:17 a.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. County Assessor Michelle Robinson presented the Form 451 Exemption Applications. Sautter moved to approve and allow Chairman Burke to sign Form 451 Exemption Applications as presented by Assessor Robinson, seconded by Ditsch: **APPROVED:** Alliance Berean Fundamental Church (070030340); Alliance Christian Church (070036098); Alliance Congregation of Jehovah's Witness (070205310); Alliance Recreation Center (070031916); American Legion James Barry Post #9 (070108919); The Anchor (070003726); Apostolics of Alliance (070177147); Berean Fundamental Church (070020817); Berean Fundamental Church (070013314); Box Butte Co 4-H Council Inc (070011931); Box Butte Co Agricultural Society (070074690); Box Butte Co Agricultural Society (070109427); Box Butte Co Agricultural Society (070021201); Box Butte Co Agricultural Society (070021112); Box Butte Co Agricultural Society (070021813); Box Butte Co Agricultural Society (070021023); Calvary Assembly of God Church (070044716); CAPstone (070241163); Carnegie Arts Center Inc (070000832); Chadron Community Hospital Corp (070013861); Church of Christ (070010242); Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (070025606); Community Action Partnership of Western Nebraska (070044619); Congregational Church (070018634); Dobby's Frontier Towners Inc (070080666); Evangelical Free Church of Alliance (070079668); Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society (070037280); First Baptist Church of Alliance (070036624); First Baptist Church of Alliance (070005532); First Christian Church (070015031); First Presbyterian Church (070042861); First United Methodist Church (070013624); First United Methodist Church (070004811); Goodwill Industries of Greater Nebraska, Inc. (070235376); Heartland Baptist Church 2012 (070105405); Holy Rosary Church (070045569); Church of the Holy Rosary (070041458); Church of the Holy Rosary (070013632); Church of the Holy Rosary (070008337); Holy Rosary Church (070008345); Holy Rosary Church (070014744); Church of the Holy Rosary (070014736); Human Services Inc (070039321); Iglesia Bethel De Las Asambleas De Dios (070010382); Immanuel Lutheran Church (070041415); Immanuel Lutheran Church (070105421); Immanuel Lutheran Church (070031983); Immanuel Lutheran Church of Alliance (070013683); Indian Mission Church of God Inc (070044384); Kansas-Nebraska Association of Seventh-Day Adventists (070011486); Kansas-Nebraska Association of Seventh-Day Adventists (070108803); LODO Community Center LLC (070018189); The Mission Store Inc (070002428); The Mission Store Inc (070002436); The Mission Store Inc (070002444); Northwest Community Action Partnership (070024413); Northwest Community Action Partnership (070010056); Region One Office of Human Development (070011281); Region One Office of Human Development (070035555); Scottish Rite Association of Alliance (070002274); St. Bridgets Church (070017980); St. Johns United Lutheran Church (070012903); St. John's United Evangelical Lutheran Church (070080119); St. Johns United Evangelical Lutheran Church (070214352); St. Matthew's Church Wardens & Vestrymen (070016445); St. Matthew's Church Wardens & Vestrymen (070008051); St. Matthew's Church Wardens & Vestrymen (070009988); Templo Bethel Asamblea De Dios (070011664); Templo Nuevo Amanecer De Las Asambleas De Dios Inc (070001324); Templo Nuevo Amanecer De Las Asambleas De Dios Inc (070041334); Templo Nuevo Amanecer De Las Asambleas De Dios Inc (070041342); United Methodist Church (070016674); VSL Alliance, LLC (070080313); VSL Alliance Assisted Living, LLC (070039364). **APPROVAL OF A PORTION:** Alliance Aerie 136 (070115788); Alliance Chamber of Commerce (070001502); American Legion Post No. 9 (070018359); Alliance Post No. 1517 VFW (070034923). **DENIED:** The DOVES Program (070252262) – Cannot claim exemption on leased personal property; The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society (070037159) – Not used for charitable purposes; The Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society (070037299) – Not used for charitable purposes; The Evangelical Lutheran Good

Samaritan Society (070037752) – Not used for charitable purposes. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to sign correction book Nos. 273-274 as presented, removing the value for property that is centrally assessed for Property ID 070209065, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Sautter moved to close BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:35 a.m., seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

County Attorney Curtiss provided an update on the petition to TERC regarding alternative assessment methods for Rosewood Estates. The hearing has been scheduled for March 6, 2024. County Attorney Curtiss and Assessor Robinson plan to be in attendance.

Road Superintendent Barb Keegan provided a road and equipment report. The surplus Sheriff patrol vehicle has been transferred to the Road Department. Keegan would like to begin the process of going out for armor coat bids for Jefferson Road from CR74 to Highway 2. The Board has asked Keegan to go out for armor coat bids to include application and freight due in the Clerk’s office by 10:00 a.m. on March 15, 2024 with action to be taken March 20, 2024.

County Surveyor Scott Bosse’ was unable to attend the meeting. Burke moved to table County Surveyor – 1421 W 10th St until March 6, 2024, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Sheriff Deputy vacation and sick hours are to be tracked with MIPS Time and Attendance as a result of the transition to hourly employees effective January 1, 2024. Discussion was held with Chief Sheriff Deputy Ryan Danner about the Vacation Accrual Policy memo dated January 19, 2023 that was sent to all department heads, regarding the enforcement of maximum vacation accrual.

Chief Sheriff Deputy Danner was seeking further clarification on the structure that will be used to calculate overtime for the law enforcement officers. MIPS Time and Attendance has been programmed to calculate overtime for the Deputies with the following structure: 171 Hours/28 Days.

Chairman Burke has been in contact with the City of Alliance regarding cost-sharing the replacement of the curb and gutter included with the proposed sidewalk replacement project on the courthouse block. As loans are not eligible with ARPA funding, the bid process will need to include two separate line items for the sidewalk and the curb and gutter. Burke moved to go out for bid for the Courthouse Sidewalk project due in the Clerk’s office by 9:00 a.m. on March 19, 2024 with action to be taken March 20, 2024., seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Sautter moved to accept and sign the updated office inventory property statements for County Court, Public Defender, and Veteran’s Service Office, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Building and Grounds employee, Lori White, has moved the potential surplus items out of the basement and into the exterior shed. White is concerned about accessibility to the regulators in the basement once construction begins. Berggren provided interior wall samples for the elevator; 8907-NG Fox Teakwood was selected.

The Box Butte County Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Advisory Board By-Laws approved on January 17, 2024 established a term limit structure for board members. Burke moved to appoint Chairman Mike Johnson to the four-year term, Vice-Chairman Jim Furman and Secretary Lynn Placek to the three-year terms, Shawn Hunter and Tim Sherlock to the two-year terms, seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

The NACo Prescription Discount Card Program offers cost-savings at no additional expense to county residents. Burke moved to enroll in the NACo Prescription Discount Card Program with the option not to receive the marketing reimbursement fee, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. The Box Butte County Extension office has been assigned management of this program.

No public comment on the agenda items.

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



Steve Burke
Chairperson

Attest: M. R. Bledsoe
County Clerk 3-6-24