

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., March 6, 2024, following an opening prayer. Notice of meeting was published February 21, 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), March 5, 2024. Roll call: Mike Sautter, present; Brett Ditsch, present; Steve Burke, present. Martie Burke, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting. Deputy County Attorney Terry 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 remove the December 2023 amended Sheriff's report from the Consent Calendar, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. This report was removed until such time that the items identified in the report can be declared surplus items by the County Commissioners. The Sheriff's office was reminded that they cannot surplus or sell County property without prior approval from the Commissioners. 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 – March 6, 2024; Minutes – February 21, 2024; Payroll/Claims/Invoices - **GENERAL:** ACCELERATED RECEIVABLES SOLUTIONS \$674.77; AFLAC \$2,722.01; AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP \$292.20; BMO BANK NA \$42,052.70; BOX BUTTE COUNTY TREASURER \$88,300.00; EQUITABLE FINANCIAL LIFE INSURANCE \$224.46; KANSAS PAYMENT CENTER \$350.00; LINCOLN NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE \$202.28; MASA GLOBAL BUILDING \$229.50; VISION SERVICE PLAN (IC) \$277.87; NE CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENT CENTER \$433.00; RETIREMENT PLANS DIVISION/AMERITAS \$24,084.37; STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE \$5,854.54; TX CHILD SUPPORT SDU \$700.00 **ROAD:** AFLAC \$239.32; AMERITAS LIFE INSURANCE CORP \$32.04; BMO BANK NA \$6,980.69 BOX BUTTE COUNTY TREASURER \$1,858.00; 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 \$2,330.29; STATE OF NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE \$1,602.63 **PAYROLL:** 159,720.98.; Elected Officials and Office Reports – Clerk/Register of Deeds, Clerk of District Court, Sheriff, Extension, and Veterans; Correspondence.

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

Burke moved to open BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:15 a.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Sautter moved to sign the correction book Nos. 275-282 as presented by Deputy County Assessor, Tiffany Elkins, correcting homestead exemption amounts identified by the Department of Revenue 2021 Audit for Property IDs 070104697, 070019347, 070013578, 070036896, 070004501, 070106649, 070023514, and 070045186, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Burke moved to close BOARD OF EQUALIZATION at 9:21 a.m., seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

County Surveyor Scott Bosse' presented a survey for the Box Butte County Road Shop located at 1421 W 10<sup>th</sup> St. The Counties existing fence line was not built on the property line. The existing six-foot-wide alley provides limited utility access. The Board discussed deeding an additional nine feet to the City to dedicate 15 feet to utility access. Road Superintendent Barb Keegan has been asked to discuss this plan with Alliance Meadows MHP (East property owner) and see if they are still interested in cost-sharing the fence. The Board discussed the possibility of obtaining a Quit Claim Deed from Ray Hashman (West property owner) for the land identified as eligible for acquisition by means of adverse possession.

Road Superintendent Keegan provided a road and equipment report. Keegan has received a quote from Robert Nation Inc Masonry for tuck pointing at the Howard Street Road Shop. R & J Industries has been on-site and identified footing issues as the root cause of the building shifting. The footings need to be redone and the slope needs to be built up to drain away from the structure.

Patrick Hartman, Flannel Brothers, discussed the terms of the Courthouse snow removal contract. Hartman would like to move towards a seasonal flat rate for snow removal with optional brine application. The Board has asked Hartman to provide a quote for a three-year contract.

Sheriff JD Sutphen and Chief Sheriff Deputy Ryan Dannar would like to install Wi-Fi in the jail to enhance the Deputies radio coverage in the building and for internet access for inmate tablets. Burke moved to approve the installation of Wi-Fi in the jail, not to exceed \$12,000.00, to be paid for out of the Miscellaneous General Fund (970), seconded by Sautter. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried.

Sheriff Sutphen provided the Board with an update on the furnace that went down last week. Rasmussen's were able to get the unit back up and running. Rasmussen's identified issues in the water lines that caused the boiler to malfunction. No action taken.

Sheriff Sutphen has evaluated the patrol fleet and has two vehicles currently operating around 175,000 miles. The Board consensus was to order one vehicle to be paid for out of the Sheriff's budget, with the surplus vehicle to be transferred to the Road Department.

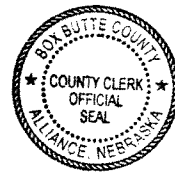
Burke moved to accept the vacation and sick hours for the Sheriff Deputies as presented, correcting previous miscalculations made by Sheriff office administration, seconded by Ditsch. Sautter, yes; Ditsch, yes; Burke, yes. Motion carried. Sheriff Sutphen signed off on the following vacation (V) and sick (S) hours: Shelmadine V:110.56, S:189; Dannar V:141.12, S:283; Wangler V:75.17, S:164; Valdez V:33.3, S:40; Kiss V:3.33, S:4.

County Treasurer Valery Bell presented the Board with the sales tax report of property sold at the public tax sale for delinquent taxes on March 4, 2024. No action taken.

Fuller Construction needs additional on-site measurements to complete the shop drawings to submit to Berggren Architects for review to order the elevator. The State Fire Marshall has approved the proposed firewall plan.

No public comment on the agenda items.

With all agenda items addressed, Chairman Burke adjourned at 11:32 a.m.



Steve Burke  
Chairperson

Attest:

Maria R. Bledsoe  
County Clerk

3-20-24