



Box Butte County Board Minutes



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Box Butte County Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting at 8:30 a.m., May 15, 2017, in the Commissioner Board Room located on the second floor of the Box Butte County Courthouse, 515 Box Butte Avenue, Alliance, NE. Notice of meeting was published in the Alliance Times Herald on May 6, 2017, with agenda information emailed to Board members May 11, 2017. Chairman Mike McGinnis called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m., following an opening prayer. Roll call: Susan Lore, Doug Hashman and Mike McGinnis present. Judy Messersmith, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting. County Attorney Travis Rodak present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Chairman McGinnis acknowledged the Open Meeting Act posted on the North wall of the board room. Motion by Susan Lore to accept the agenda as printed and emailed, seconded by Mike McGinnis. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis, yes. Motion carried. Prior to accepting the May 1, 2017 minutes, Commissioner Hashman changed wording in paragraph three: completed to submitted, garage to addition, feel to see and Commissioner Lore changed permit to application. Doug Hashman moved to approve May 1, 2017 minutes as amended, seconded by Susan Lore. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis, yes. Motion carried. Doug Hashman moved to approve May 10, 2017 special meeting minutes as written, seconded by Susan Lore. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis, yes. Motion carried. Susan Lore moved to accept monthly County Sheriff, County Clerk/Register of Deeds and Clerk of District Court reports, seconded by Mike McGinnis. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis, yes. Motion carried.

Doug Hashman moved to open as Board of Equalization at 8:47 a.m., seconded by Susan Lore. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis yes. Motion carried. Deputy County Assessor Tiffany Elkins presented the correction book, correcting land use and a homestead. Doug Hashman moved allowing Chairman McGinnis to sign the correction book, seconded by Susan Lore. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis, yes. Motion carried. Susan Lore moved to close Board of Equalization at 8:51 a.m. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis, yes. Motion carried.

United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Specialist Randy Benben presented July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 cooperative agreement 17-73-31-2013RA, discussing wildlife management program. Susan Lore moved authorizing Chairman McGinnis to sign county agreement 2017-04, seconded by Doug Hashman. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis, yes. Motion carried.

Karen Brown and Attorney Terry Curtiss, informed the Board that Ms. Brown had sold her property located at 411 Black Hills Avenue. Doug Hashman moved to authorize Chairman McGinnis to sign the acknowledgment of lease agreement for property located at 411 Black Hills to State of Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, seconded by Susan Lore. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis, yes. Motion carried.

Terry Curtiss, representing Deb Fifield was present to discuss the Fifield's zoning application. Box Butte County Zoning Administrator Mike Johnson has denied the application, stating it is not complete. County Attorney Travis Rodak does not feel that a survey is needed and asked Mr. Johnson what is needed to complete the application. Mr. Rodak asked if the Fifields could add a drawing/sketch to complete the application process. Mr. Curtiss asked the Board if a sketch is what is needed to complete the application process, with Commissioner Lore saying yes. No action taken.

Correspondence was reviewed and available for public viewing.

Chairman McGinnis called recess at 10:10 a.m.

Chairman McGinnis resumed the meeting at 10:15 a.m., with roll call: Susan Lore, Doug Hashman, and Mike McGinnis present.

Susan Lore moved to open the public hearing for abandonment/vacation – a segment of Cherry Rd from 7300-7400 (closure of BNSF crossing) at 10:15 a.m., seconded by Doug Hashman. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis, yes. Motion



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carried. Road Superintendent Barb Keegan provided information regarding the crossing. County residents Casey King, Henry Heinz and Philip Schmitt were present and stated their thoughts on the need to keep the crossing open. BNSF Public Projects Project Engineer Kate Kalinosky stated she had the authority to offer the county compensation of \$15,000.00 to assist with the costs to close the crossing. At 10:50 a.m., Doug Hashman moved to close the public hearing, seconded by Susan Lore. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis, yes. Motion carried.

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Doug Hashman moved to deny the request for closure of BNSF crossing, seconded by Mike McGinnis. The segment of Cherry Road from 7300 – 7400 BNSF crossing will remain open. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis, yes. Motion carried.

Kate Kalinosky reported to the Board that the State of Nebraska Department of Roads would like to close CR 57 BNSF railroad crossing, and the State of Nebraska would assist with 5% of the costs for improvements to the CR 58 BNSF railroad crossing. Ms. Kalinosky will look at other crossings near town to close other than the CR 57 crossing, that would qualify for assistance of costs. Ms. Kalinosky will visit with her BNSF supervisor and NDOR and will request to be on a future agenda.

Road Superintendent Barb Keegan provided a road and equipment report. Insurance requirements for utility permits will be required beginning June 1, 2017. Commissioner Lore stated that Ms. Keegan needs to have the authority to hire and fire in order to keep her employees at 12 blade operators, 3 truck drivers and 1 office assistant. County Attorney Rodak recommended the road department keep employment applications on file for 6 months.

Commissioners reported on various board meetings they had recently attended.

No action taken on agenda item request from Hemingford American Legion for a special liquor license, as the representative did not appear.

No action taken on the Presto X contract, with this added to the June 5, 2017 agenda.

June 5, 2017 agenda will include approval on contracts for County Attorney and Deputy County Attorney(s).

Susan Lore moved to approve and sign monthly claims, seconded by Mike McGinnis. Lore, yes; Hashman, yes; McGinnis, yes. Motion carried.

Chairman McGinnis adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Attest: _____

Chairperson

County Clerk