



Box Butte County Board Minutes



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Box Butte County Commissioners met in an open and public regular meeting, at 9:00 a.m., August 5, 2019, 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 July 24, 2019, with agenda information emailed to board members and posted on the county website August 2, 2019. Chairman Hashman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., following an opening prayer. Roll call: Mike McGinnis, Susan Lore and Doug Hashman present. Judy Messersmith, County Clerk, recorded the proceedings of the meeting. County Attorney Terry Curtiss, present. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Hashman acknowledged the open meeting act posted on the North wall of the County Board Room. Mike McGinnis moved to accept the agenda as printed, seconded by Susan Lore. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried. No public comment on agenda items. Susan Lore moved to approve July 22, 2019 minutes and July 22 and 23, 2019 Board of Equalization minutes as written, seconded by Mike McGinnis. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried.

Susan Lore moved to accept and sign monthly County Clerk/Register of Deeds and Clerk of District Court reports as presented, seconded by Mike McGinnis. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried.

Susan Lore introduced Samantha Gilkerson as newly hired Family Focus Director. Doug Hashman moved to sign the July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 State Grant Award 19-CB-0533 as provided by Ms. Gilkerson, seconded by Mike McGinnis. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried.

Board members reported on various meetings they had recently attended.

At 9:15 a.m., Susan Lore moved to open Board of Equalization, seconded by Mike McGinnis. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried. Thomas and Geneice Walters had submitted a property valuation protest form 422, after receiving a BOE Notice from the County Assessor. Tom and Geneice Walters were sworn in for the hearing, and Chairman Hashman read protest number 203B(board notice). County Assessor Robinson's recommendation was no change, value reflects mass appraisal standards set forth by TERC. Mike McGinnis moved to lower valuation to the requested valuation of \$4,000.00, seconded by Doug Hashman. McGinnis, yes; Lore, no; Hashman, yes. Motion carried. County Assessor Robinson provided the correction book, with 2 personal property corrections. Mike McGinnis moved allowing Chairman Hashman to sign the correction book, seconded by Susan Lore. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried.

Susan Lore moved to recess from Board of Equalization at 9:30 a.m., seconded by Doug Hashman. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried.

At 9:30 a.m., Road Superintendent Barb Keegan was present for opening aggregate hauling bids. Ms. Keegan informed the Board that she had sent bid packets to 5 vendors. Alan Koozer and Kody Koozer were present and provided Barb Keegan a sealed bid from Koozer Construction, Inc. for \$19.00 per ton, extension \$115,026.00. Chairman Hashman presented a sealed bid from Phillips F&T Inc. for \$18.88 per ton, extension \$114,299.52, stating that Bob Phillips had asked him to deliver the bid after attempting to telephone Road Superintendent Keegan. County Attorney Curtiss advised that it is not good practice for voting Board members to accept bids and that all bids should be submitted uniformly. Road Superintendent Keegan left the board room to review the bid sheets and requirements.

Susan Lore moved to resume Board of Equalization at 9:43 a.m., seconded by Mike McGinnis. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried. Susan Lore moved to sign the refund claim the County Assessor provided refunding \$2,039.99 to Cheema Investments for the tax difference due to a 2017 TERC decision, seconded by Mike McGinnis. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried. Chairman Hashman wanted to revisit Board of Equalization decision on Carl Smith protest number 39, as Mr. Smith had compared his property to a recent nearby sale. County Assessor clarified that active business valuations are not the same as empty business buildings. Commissioner Lore stated



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that the Board lost authority to make changes July 25th and after that date the property owner can appeal to TERC. County Attorney Curtiss agreed with Commissioner Lore. Mike McGinnis moved to adjourn from Board of Equalization at 9:55 a.m., seconded by Susan Lore. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried.

Box Butte County Wellness representative Michelle Robinson will meet with County Attorney Curtiss to provide a letter to be sent to the owners of the vending machines currently in the County Courthouse and Slagle Buildings.

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Correspondence was reviewed and available for public view.

County Treasurer Val Bell provided the 2017 Distress Warrant List, with 185 warrants issued in the amount of \$80,563.96.

Susan Lore moved to table a resolution request supporting a petition drive that Terry Jessen from Scottsbluff, NE had requested the Board sign, until further information could be provided, seconded by Mike McGinnis. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried.

Doug Hashman moved to sign agreement engaging the services of Gardner, Loutzenhiser and Ryan, PC for the county audit, seconded by Susan Lore. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried.

Road Superintendent Keegan returned to the meeting after reviewing the bid quotation sheets and requirements. Bob Phillips called the County Clerk's office with call transferred to the Board Room to answer any questions the Board had regarding start date and number of trucks to be used. Board members discussed projects and the right to extend projects. Commissioner Lore stated she would like to have road projects connect.

Susan Lore moved to award Koozer Construction Inc the bid in the amount of \$19.00 per ton, with \$115,026.00 extension, based on the way the bids came in and their presence, seconded by Mike McGinnis. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried.

Road Superintendent Keegan continued with the road and equipment report stating the road department is now at full staff and updated on FEMA projects.

Doug Hashman moved, seconded by Mike McGinnis to move forward with the awning and awning roof repairs needed at the Slagle Building. Building and grounds staff had requested estimates from Walter Mischnick Contractors and Fisher Roofing & Restoration. Estimate totals were less than \$4,000.00. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried.

With no public transit updated agreement, the Board stated that plans for an agreement with the City of Alliance will start earlier next year.

The only discussion regarding courthouse energy renovations was sidewalks and street lighting, energy renovations and financing will be discussed during the August 19, 2019 board meeting.

County Assessor office employee, Ruthe Meter requested open session to discuss her disputed vacation hours and current county policy. Susan Lore moved to table Ms. Meter's request for additional vacation hours in order for County Attorney Curtiss to review vacation statues, seconded by Doug Hashman. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried.

2019-2020 budget workshop has been advertised and will be held 9:00 a.m., Monday, August 12, 2019, in the board room meeting with elected officials and department heads. A meeting with Budget Consultant Caleb Johnson will be advertised and held at 1:00 p.m., August 26, 2019/



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Deputy Sheriff JD Sutphen had requested for an administrator to be appointed to assist with those offices obtaining grants and need to obtain federal DUNS, CAGE or SAM numbers. County Attorney Curtiss will review the current information the County has regarding these federal ID numbers.

Susan Lore moved to approve and sign monthly payroll/claims as presented, seconded by Mike McGinnis. McGinnis, yes; Lore, yes; Hashman, yes. Motion carried. GENERAL: Net Payroll 129,993.31; AFLAC 1,735.57; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp 618.04; Bank of the West 43,574.46; Box Butte County Treasurer 93,762.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance 220.39; NE Child Support Payment Center 886.18; Retirement Plans Division/Ameritas 25,412.16; St of NE Dept of Revenue 5,351.74; US Dept of Education 340.63; Vision Care Direct 98.46. ROAD: Net Payroll 47,473.70; AFLAC 91.39; Ameritas Life Insurance Corp 198.22; Bank of the West 10,390.38; Box Butte County Treasurer 1,096.00; Lincoln National Life Insurance 6.12; Nationwide Management Services 413.89; NE Child Support Payment Center 1,249.00; Retirement Plans Division/Ameritas 2,890.07; State of Nebraska Dept of Revenue 2,336.96. Vision Care Direct 3.80.

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Board members McGinnis, Lore and Hashman visited the jail at 11:20 a.m., as required in section 47-109, returning to the board room at 12:05 p.m.

Chairman Hashman adjourned at 12:06 p.m.

Chairman

Attest: _____
County Clerk