



Butler County Board Minutes



BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

February 3, 2020

A meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Butler County, Nebraska was held on the 3rd day of February 2020 at the Butler County Courthouse in David City, Nebraska at 9:00 a.m.

Present were the following: David W. Mach, Tony Krafska, Scot Bauer, Anthony Whitmore, Max Birkel, Greg Janak and Scott Steager.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof, by Publication, a designated method for giving notice, as shown by the Proof of Publication attached to the minutes. Notice of this meeting was given to all members of the Board and a copy of their acknowledgement of receipt of notice and the agenda is attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to all members of the board of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

The Chairman called the meeting to order and announced that a complete copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room.

The Chairman declared the minutes from the previous meeting shall stand approved as presented.

Discussion/Possible Action – Approval of Early Payroll for Employee Termination

Presented to the Board were the final payroll claims for Christopher Schendt, a former deputy with the Sheriff's Department. Moved by Whitmore and seconded by Steager to approve the payroll claims. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Whitmore, Birkel, Janak, Steager, Krafska, Bauer and Mach. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

Moved by Birkel and seconded by Bauer to move into the Board of Equalization at 9:05 a.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Birkel, Whitmore, Bauer, Krafska, Steager, Janak and Mach. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION (SEE SEPARATE MINUTES)

HR Committee & Building Committee Update for Human Resources Position and Office

Stephanie Laska, Clerk & Karey Adamy, Treasurer, reported to the Board they had picked out carpet, paint, tile and blinds for the Hwy 92 building. They also picked out cabinets for the bathroom vanities; they still need to pick out the countertop color for the bathrooms. Fixtures such as faucets and toilets will need to be picked out separately. Steager updated the board on the lighting quotes, the board said they should go with the most inexpensive bid; if more lighting is needed in the future it can be added. It was discussed that the security access panel needs to be relocated from the west side of the building. The board directed the HR committee to start advertising the Human Resources position and said to post it online and with the local colleges. They also said to put it in the Banner Press and the Columbus Telegram, but to start with online avenues first.

Further discussion with the Building Committee was discussed about removing the KV Vet sign. Also, who will do the cleaning for the building and should they start getting bids from local cleaning businesses.

Nebraska Extension – Butler County – 2019 Annual Report



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Louise Niemann presented to the board the 2019 Annual Report for the Nebraska Extension office. Moved by Janak and seconded by Birkel to accept the annual report and put on file. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Janak, Birkel, Whitmore, Bauer, Krafka, Steager and Mach. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

Discussion Public Defender Position Status

It was discussed that the position is being re-advertised at the advice of Pam Bourne, that Butler County needs a broader pool of applicants to choose from. Niemann discussed with the board that since the last meeting the Policy Board had received an additional application for the Public Defender position. This application came because of the position being forwarded to the Nebraska Public Defender Association. The Board directed Laska to send letters to the current applicants explaining what is going on right now. Laska was also directed to post the position on Indeed.com.

Approval of Committee & Liaison Appointments from 2020

The board reviewed the committees and liaison appointments from 2019 and determined those appointments were sufficient for 2020. Moved by Whitmore and seconded by Steager to keep the same committees as 2019 for 2020. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye; Whitmore, Birkel, Janak, Steager, Krafka, Bauer and Mach. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

At 10:15 a.m. the chairman declared the board would take a quick 5-minute break.

At 10:20 a.m. the board reconvened.

Discussion/Possible Action – Permission to change the closing time for the Beer Garden from 1 a.m to 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday, July 17th & 18th, 2020

Donnie Steager, Butler County Ag Society, presented before the board asking for their permission to extend the beer garden hours during the Butler County Fair. He explained that he had spoken with the Sheriff and the Sheriff requested instead of a 2 a.m. close a 1:30 a.m. close. This extension of closing will allow more time for the Fair Board to get patrons to leave the beer garden. They are not extending last call, that will still be at 12:30 a.m. Moved by Krafka and seconded by Bauer to approve the Beer Garden to close at 1:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 18th and Sunday, July 19th. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Krafka, Bauer, Whitmore, Birkel, Janak, Steager and Mach. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

Road Department

- Approval of Utility Permit – Bowstring Lake Association & Agreement Update

Jim McDonald updated the board that since the last meeting nothing has been done to draw up the agreement for Bowstring Lake. The board directed him to contact the county attorney and get the agreement going so that they can also approve the Utility permit for Bowstring Lake Association.

- Approval of Utility Permit – AT&T Cell Tower – Road Y between County Road 31 & 32

Moved by Whitmore and seconded by Steager to approve the permit as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Whitmore, Birkel, Janak, Steager, Krafka, Bauer and Mach. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

- Mainelli Wagner Claim for COE Violation – discussion & explanation of claim

McDonald explained to the board that the original permit that was sent to the Corp of Engineers was incorrect and the Corp requested they redo the permit. McDonald said these bills are a result of this. The Supervisors requested that a representative from Mainelli come speak to them at the next meeting before they approve payment of the claims.

- Update on Roads

McDonald informed the board that with the nice weather we had recently the roads are a mess and that before the thaw, they had been out grading roads and hauling gravel. He noted that roads around the Landfill and new chicken houses are in bad shape. Supervisor Bauer said that something needs to be done about the roads; they are only going to get worse. The board asked when the Ulysses Bridge would be started, and McDonald said they have set a start date of March 15th.



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Discussion/Possible Action – Phone service for Courthouse and Hwy 92 Building

Ed Knott and Will Zoucha from Applied Connective presented before the board a proposal for phone service for the County Courthouse, the Hwy 92 Building, Weed Superintendent and the Senior Center. During their presentation they expressed their concern with the current phone system and that Frontier Communications is the company that maintains it. Board members discussed their concerns with Frontier restructuring and filing bankruptcy. The proposal from Applied connective would be costly upfront; however, it should pay for itself over two years by the savings in phone service. The board said they needed to think about this and that if they decide to replace the system they would need to bid the project.

Sheriff Department Closing Petty Cash Fund

Alexis Buresh, Office Manager and Sheriff Tom Dion presented before the board a request to close their petty cash fund. During the recent audit with the State Auditor's office the petty cash fund was a topic of discussion. The Sheriff's Office has implemented a policy that the only people in the office to handle cash are the Sheriff, Buresh and Cheri Meysenburg, 911 Coordinator. They also have displayed for the public that they cannot make change and need the exact dollar amount for payment. The Sheriff also made it very clear that they would let the public know that the Clerk's office and the Treasurer's office will not be able to make change for them. Moved by Steager and seconded by Whitmore to close the Sheriff's petty cash fund. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Whitmore, Birkel, Janak, Steager, Krafka, Bauer and Mach. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

County Clerk Monthly Fee Report

The County Clerk fee report for the month of January 2020 was accepted and placed on file.

Committee Reports

Supervisor Bauer discussed with the board that the townships that have buildings at the current County Highway Department location need to come up with a plan for their buildings; whether they move them or present the county with an appraised value. This will help if/when the county sells the land.

Correspondence

1. Platte County Highway Department
2. Center for Rural Affairs
3. Blue Valley Behavioral Health
4. US Census Bureau

There being no further business to come before the board, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m. The next meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be February 18, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

Stephanie L. Laska
County Clerk

David W. Mach
Chairman