



# Butler County Board Minutes



## BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

June 7, 2021

A meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Butler County, Nebraska was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021 at the Butler County Highway 92 Building Meeting Room in David City, Nebraska at 9:00 a.m.

Present were the following: Scott Steager, Tony Krafka, Scot Bauer, Anthony Whitmore, David Mach, Robert Coufal and Ryan Svoboda.

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 – Requesting permission to stay overnight in Grand Island, NE for the Assessor’s Conference August 23, 24, & 25**

County Assessor, Vicki Donoghue, requested before the board for her and her deputy to spend the night in Grand Island during their Assessor’s Conference August 23, 24 and 25. Moved by Krafka and seconded by Bauer to approve the request. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Krafka, Whitmore, Bauer, Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

### **County Clerk monthly fee report**

The County Clerk fee report for the month of May 2021 was accepted and placed on file.

### **Clerk of the District Court Fee Report**

The Clerk of the District Court fee report for the month of May 2021 was accepted and placed on file.

### **BOARD OF EQUALIZATION (SEE SEPARATE MINUTES)**

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

Moved by Bauer and seconded by Mach to exit the Board of Equalization at 9:44 a.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Bauer, Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, Krafka, Whitmore, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

### **Monthly Sheriff Report**

The County Sheriff fee report for the month of May 2021 was presented to the board. Moved by Mach and seconded by Coufal to accept the report and placed on file. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, Krafka, Whitmore, Bauer, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

### **Discussion/Possible Action – Requesting the rehire of a former employee**



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Sheriff Tom Dion requested before the board to rehire a former dispatcher, Molly Vetick, who had recently left at the end of April. She is willing to come back part-time while they are working on staffing issues. The board asked if she had filled out all the proper paperwork and Dion said Heidi was aware and they would make sure everything was completed. Moved by Mach and seconded by Coufal to rehire Molly Vetick. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, Krafka, Whitmore, Bauer, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

## **Approval of Ikes Acres Final Plat**

Bob Kobza appeared before the board to present the final plat; the State of Nebraska requested changes to the one previously presented to the board. He also asked the board to approve the plat, he said that the neither the State nor the County would have any responsibility for the roads in or out of the housing development. Moved by Whitmore and seconded by Bauer to approve the plat as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Whitmore, Bauer, Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, Krafka, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

## **Request for annual funding Hruska Public Library Cards**

Kay Schmid and Clayton Keller appeared before the board presenting an annual report regarding the library and the new library cards issued. The library had 236 new cards issued to county residents. The library is asking again for \$5,000 for their budget request. Moved by Mach and seconded by Svoboda to approve the budget request. Before vote was called, Whitmore mentioned that he had originally thought the funding was for library cards only. Schmid said that they could in the future add up only county cards issued and bill that to the county; however, at \$20 per annual membership that number could add up quickly. No further comments or questions. Upon roll call the following voted aye: Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, Krafka, Whitmore, Bauer, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

## **Public Hearing Regarding the merger of Dwight Rural Fire Protection District and the Village of Dwight**

Due to a publication error the notice to the public was defective. As a result, the public hearing will be rescheduled for July 6, 2021, at 10 a.m. at the Butler County Courthouse. Moved by Whitmore and seconded by Mach to reschedule the public hearing for July 6, 2021, at 10 a.m. at the Butler County Courthouse. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Whitmore, Bauer, Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, Krafka, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

## **Approval of Red Path Gallery & Tasting Room Special Designated License for July 15, 2021, from 4:00 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.**

Moved by Mach and seconded by Krafka to approve the Special Designated License as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Bauer, Whitmore, Krafka, Svoboda, Coufal, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

## **Approval of Applied Connective Technologies Manage Service Agreement for 2021-2022**

An updated contract for managed IT services from Applied Connective was presented before the board. Moved by Whitmore and seconded by Coufal to approve the contract as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Whitmore, Bauer, Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, Krafka, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

## **Consideration of Audit Engagement with the Auditor of Public Accounts**

An audit engagement letter was presented before the board to renew the contract between the State Auditors office and Butler County. Moved by Mach and seconded by Krafka to approve the contract as presented for another three years. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Bauer, Whitmore, Krafka, Svoboda, Coufal, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

## **Consideration of Agreement for Emergency Protective Custody Services/Region V Systems**

The annual contract for Emergency Protective Custody Services/Region V Systems was presented before the board, there were no changes from the previously approved contract. Moved by Whitmore and seconded by Coufal to approve the contract as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Whitmore, Bauer, Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, Krafka, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.





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Moved by Whitmore and seconded by Coufal to approve Resolution 2012 – 13 as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Whitmore, Bauer, Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, Krafka, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
RESOLUTION NO. 2021 - 13**

WHEREAS, the Butler County Board of Supervisors has determined that it is in the best interests of the County for the Road Department to proceed with various county road projects and/or equipment purchases for the completion of said projects that require specific funding; and

WHEREAS, County road funds will be required to be set aside and maintained by the County Road Department for said project(s); and

WHEREAS, said road funds, in order to be maintained for said project(s), must be transferred from the Road Fund to the Special Road Fund;

WHEREAS, funds are available in the Road Fund to transfer to the Special Road Fund in the amount of \$150,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Butler County Board of Supervisors that the Butler County Treasurer be hereby directed to transfer \$150,000.00 from the Road Fund to the Special Road Fund.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

/s/Scott Steager

Scott Steager, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/Stephanie L. Laska

Stephanie L. Laska, County Clerk

**Approval and adoption of Resolution 2021 – 14 Transfer General Funds (Ag Extension) to Equipment Sinking Fund**

Moved by Whitmore and seconded by Mach to approve Resolution 2021 – 14 as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Whitmore, Bauer, Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, Krafka, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA  
RESOLUTION NO. 2021 – 14**

WHEREAS, the Butler County Board of Supervisors has determined that it is in the best interest of the County for funds to be set aside for the purchase of equipment and vehicles that require specific funding, and

WHEREAS, the Ag Extension Agent Department will be required to set aside and maintain funds for the future purchase of equipment, and

WHEREAS, said funds, in order to be maintained for the future purchase, must be transferred from the General Fund (Ag Extension Agent Department) to the Equipment Sinking Fund.



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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Butler County Board of Supervisors that the Butler County Treasurer be hereby directed to transfer \$5,500.00 from the General Fund to the Equipment Sinking Fund.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2021.

/s/Scott Steager

Scott Steager, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/ Stephanie L. Laska

Stephanie L. Laska, County Clerk

At 10:23 a.m. the chairman declared the board would take a quick break.

At 10:27 a.m. the board reconvened.

## **Authorize Chairman to sign letter to Weed Superintendent**

Moved by Whitmore and seconded by Krafka to authorize the chairman to sign the letter to Weed Superintendent.

Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Whitmore, Krafka, Svoboda, Coufal, Mach, Bauer, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

## **Update on Roads**

Randy Isham, Highway Superintendent, updated the board that he is still waiting on quotes/bids from companies for the Generator switch and roof repairs that need to be done. He also discussed with the board the possibility of purchasing a remanufactured transmission for a motor grader, the cost to repair would be approximately \$34,000; the cost to replace would be over \$300,000. The roads department continues to repair roads, clean out culverts and gravel the roads as needed.

## **Set Date & Time to Open Gravel and Culvert Bids**

Isham informed the board that they may not receive any culvert bids because the companies that usually bid do not know the price or the availability to get culverts. Moved by Whitmore and seconded by Coufal to set opening of Gravel and Culvert Bids for June 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:15 a.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Whitmore, Bauer, Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, Krafka, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

## **Update on Roads continued**

Isham was asked if he had started on the 1 year and 6-year road plan and he said yes, but he is currently focused on working on his budget numbers. He updated the board that the first part of July they should receive the culverts for the A Road project with Polk County. They are hoping to get started around August 1<sup>st</sup>. He also informed the board that he had spoken with Ryan Boyer at the landfill, and they were receptive to the \$0.25 per ton proposal back to the county. He also updated the board that he believes the old county yard is cleaned up so they should be able to move forward with the appraisal.

## **Discussion/Possible Action regarding the County's contribution for Employee Health Insurance Premiums & creation of Insurance budget as part of the General Fund**

The board reviewed the analysis of health insurance premiums which County Clerk, Stephanie Laska, had provided. In order to pay for 50% of the family plans offered, the county would incur an additional \$100,000 in expenses and the big question was where that would come from. Laska also mentioned to the board that currently some department heads budget for what their current employees opt for as either health insurance or the cash in lieu program. She stated that the difference between the employee only premium and cash in lieu is \$402.98 monthly or \$4,835.76. If an employee would leave and that department head only budgeted for in lieu all year, their insurance budget would be short. Some budgets have room else where to make up that difference, however, there are several budgets that do not have that luxury. She suggested to the board that insurance is its own budget within the General fund. Moved by Mach and





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seconded by Krafka to create an insurance budget as part of the general fund. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Coufal, Svoboda, Krafka, Whitmore, Bauer, and Steager. The following voted nay: NONE. Motion carried.

Continued discussion regarding the county's contribution for health insurance ensued. Moved by Coufal and seconded by Svoboda to pay 100% of the employee only portion for health insurance and 50% of the remaining difference for families. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Coufal, Svoboda, Whitmore, Bauer, and Steager. The following voted nay: Krafka and Mach. Motion carried.

Further discussion was brought up that the board still can switch health insurance carriers. They asked Laska to put that topic on the agenda for June 21, 2021.

## **American Rescue Plan Act Update**

Laska noted that the county had received their first half of the funds in May. She also noted that a lot of the guidance thus far is telling counties to wait until the Interim Final Rule is final after July 9, 2021, to make decisions on spending. Once the rule is final it should be clear what the money can and cannot be spent on. She updated the board that she had met with the David City Administrator, Clayton Keller, on working together on projects. The health departments may be requesting two sums this year, the first would be their normal operating budget and the second would be related to Coronavirus and ARPA Funds can be used for that.

## **Committee Reports**

Emergency Manager, Mark Doehling had asked if the money that was received from CARES funding was earmarked for anything special projects, he is looking at an additional tower for the Highway 92 building. The board said the CARES money was reimbursement for funds already spent, and if he's looking at a new tower, he needs to budget for it and the budget committee will review.

Ag Society will be close to complete for this year's Butler County Fair, but it will not be 100% complete.

## **Correspondence**

1. NNTC Letter – regarding broad brand projects with ARPA funds

## **Discussion**

The board had asked County Attorney, Julie Reiter, if she had been in touch with the appraiser for the old county yards. She said she had placed a call and left another message.

There being no further business to come before the board, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 12:17 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be June 21, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at the Butler County Courthouse Supervisors Meeting Room.

Stephanie L. Laska  
County Clerk

Scott Steager  
Chairman