



Butler County Board Minutes



BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

August 1, 2022

A meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Butler County, Nebraska was held on the 1st day of August, 2022 at the Butler County Courthouse in David City, Nebraska at 9:00 a.m.

Present were the following: Anthony Whitmore, Tony Krafka, Scot Bauer, David Mach, Jan Sypal, and Robert Coufal.
Absent: 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.

Distress Warrants Report

County Treasurer, Karey Adamy, presented before the board a distress warrants report that agrees with the Sheriff's corrected Distress Warrants report that he gave on July 18, 2022. She said she would be issuing 2021 distress warrants in November. The report was accepted and placed on file.

Approval of early payroll for separated employee

Moved by Mach and seconded by Sypal to approve the early payroll as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Sypal, Coufal, Krafka, Bauer, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

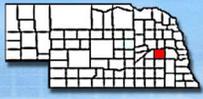
Discussion/Possible action regarding increasing the county paid percentage for Family Health & Dental Insurance Premiums

County Clerk, Stephanie Laska, presented to the board that due to the change to Aetna Health insurance, the cost for all plans decreased except that of the family plan for the employee. She informed the board that if they would increase the percentage that they pay for the family premium between 65% or 70%, the percentage of savings would be comparable to that of the Employee Children and Employee Spouse premiums. Moved by Sypal, seconded by Mach to increase the percentage the county pays for the family health and dental plan to 65%, a 26.04% cost savings for the employees. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Sypal, Mach, Bauer, Krafka, Coufal, and Whitmore. The following vote nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION (SEE SEPARATE MINUTES)

Moved by Bauer, seconded by Coufal to move into the Board of Equalization at 9:06 a.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Bauer, Krafka, Coufal, Sypal, Mach, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Moved by Mach, seconded by Bauer to exit the Board of Equalization at 9:09 a.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Bauer, Krafka, Coufal, Sypal, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.



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Discussion/Possible action regarding health insurance deductible difference between BCBS & Aetna

Laska reported that she did not receive the information she was hoping for to help her explain the item; this will be tabled until August 15, 2022.

Discussion/Possible action – Memorandum of Understanding between Butler County & each Fire District regarding the ARPA funds

Moved by Sypal, seconded by Coufal to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Butler County, Nebraska and Ulysses Rural Fire District #2. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Sypal, Coufal, Krafka, Bauer, Mach, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Moved by Bauer, seconded by Mach to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Butler County, Nebraska and Rising City Rural Fire District #3. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Bauer, Mach, Sypal, Coufal, Krafka, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Moved by Krafka, seconded by Bauer to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Butler County, Nebraska and Bellwood Rural Fire District #5. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Krafka, Bauer, Mach, Sypal, Coufal, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Moved by Coufal, seconded by Sypal to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Butler County, Nebraska and Dwight Rural Fire District #6. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Coufal, Sypal, Mach, Bauer, Krafka, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Moved by Mach, seconded by Bauer to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Butler County, Nebraska and Linwood Rural Fire District #8. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Bauer, Krafka, Coufal, Sypal, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Moved by Sypal, seconded by Coufal to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Butler County, Nebraska and David City Rural Fire District #9. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Sypal, Coufal, Krafka, Bauer, Mach, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Moved by Bauer, seconded by Mach to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Butler County, Nebraska and Brainard Rural Fire District #10. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Bauer, Mach, Sypal, Coufal, Krafka, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Moved by Mach, seconded by Coufal to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Butler County, Nebraska and Skull Creek Rural Fire District #12. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Sypal, Coufal, Krafka, Bauer, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

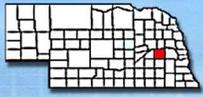
Acceptance of Culvert Bids

Moved by Mach, seconded by Bauer to accept all culvert bids. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Bauer, Krafka, Coufal, Sypal, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Discussion/Possible action – Set date & time to open bids for the 2 – 60-foot bridges

Randy Isham, Highway Superintendent, appeared before the board to ask that the board approve him to send out for bids for the 2 – 60-foot bridge projects he has; the first bridge is on County Road U between 39 & 40, the second is on County Road 39 between O & P. Moved by Mach, seconded by Coufal to set the date & time to open bids for the 2 – 60-foot bridges for September 6, 2022 at 9:20 a.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Sypal, Coufal, Krafka, Bauer, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Update on Roads



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Isham informed the board that he currently has a bridge removal/culvert replacement project on hold due to the phone company not working with them very well. He's hoping to get them back on track today.

Discussion/Possible action regarding purchasing uniforms for dispatch

Moved by Sypal, seconded by Coufal to approve the purchase of two uniform shirts per employee. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Sypal, Coufal, Bauer, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: Krafka and Mach. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Discussion/Possible action regarding setting a uniform allowance for dispatch.

Moved by Coufal, seconded by Bauer to set a uniform allowance of \$100 per year for dispatch employees. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Coufal, Krafka, Bauer, Mach, Sypal, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Discussion/Possible action regarding feasibility study

Dennis Hirschbrunner, DC Hirshbrunner Consulting LLC, appeared before the board regarding the Highway 30/64 Corridor Bridge project to give an update regarding the feasibility study that was done and what is being done currently. He informed the board that NPPD is currently doing an impact study with the Columbus industries to see how they were impacted by the 2019 flood. Hirschbrunner said that they are trying to keep this project going so it doesn't stall again. He asked if the board had any questions. Mach asked if NPPD would be reaching out to industries in Butler County to see how the flood impacted them as well. Hirschbrunner said he would relay the question.

Discussion/Possible action regarding Zuercher quote for training

Supervisor Whitmore explained that they originally received a training quote from Zuercher for \$15,000. Jeffrey Timmerman, 911 Coordinator, said they have updated the quote and it is now \$11,700. Moved by Krafka, seconded by Sypal to approve the training quote of \$11,700 from Zuercher. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Krafka, Coufal, Sypal, Mach, Bauer, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Discussion regarding the status of the fence at the County yard

The board asked Sheriff Dion for an update on the impound fence at the County yard. Dion said that the fence has been repaired and reinforced to hold the mesh on the fence. The board asked Dion to make sure there is still a warranty on the fence since they came and fixed it. He said he would make a phone call.

Budget 2022-2023 update and discussion

Laska informed the board that the budget committee met on Monday, July 25 regarding the budget. At that meeting they were able to bring in the Roads department and make cuts of \$170,000. There are still cuts to make and they would like to talk to the following departments; Sheriff and 911 Emergency Management. Laska also explained that the committee started working with a transfer from Inheritance of \$500,000; however, after going through departments they discussed transferring \$600,000 instead of \$500,000. Mach said that needing to cut \$300,000 from the budget with unknown fuel and food prices is making it hard for them to find areas to cut. Right now, the committee is working with an estimated value from the assessor's office, they will have a much better idea of where the budget will be once they have finalized numbers.

Approval of 1% Additional Increase to Base of Restricted Funds

Moved by Mach, seconded by Coufal to approve the 1% additional increase to the base of restricted funds. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Sypal, Coufal, Krafka, Bauer, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Set Date & Time for Budget Hearing



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Laska explained that while the County may be a part of the Joint public hearing that has been set for September 27th at 7 p.m.; the county will still have to have their own budget hearing. She suggested that the board set a special meeting for September 6 at 1:00 p.m. to hold the budget hearing. Then at the September 19th board meeting; if the county does not have to participate in the joint public hearing; they can set the Special Hearing to set the final tax request, upon closing that hearing they can adopt the budget. If they have to participate in the joint hearing, she said they would need to set a special meeting for the day after the joint hearing to adopt the budget. Moved by Coufal, seconded by Sypal to have a special meeting and set the Budget hearing for September 6, 2022, at 1 p.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Coufal, Sypal, Mach, Bauer, Krafka, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Set Date & Time for Special Hearing to Set Final Tax Request

Moved by Mach, seconded by Bauer to set the special hearing to set final tax request for September 19, 2022, at 9:05 a.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Bauer, Krafka, Coufal, Sypal, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

Law Enforcement Committee will meet, August 1, 2022 at 7 p.m.

HR Update

Heidi Loges, Human Resources Director, updated the board regarding the health insurance transition. She handed out Mid-American cards to those on the health insurance plan and explained to the board that those with county health insurance would need to give their health care provider both their health insurance card and their Mid-American card to submit for payment. She also informed the board that she received temporary insurance cards for all employees until they receive theirs in the mail. Loges informed the board that Michelle Cole, a former employee for the County Attorney lost her battle with cancer and she asked that they observe a moment of silence for her.

A moment of silence in honor of Michelle Cole was observed.

At 9:58 a.m. the chairman declared the board would take a quick break.

At 10:04 a.m. the board reconvened.

Discussion regarding complaint received about the Sheriff's Office (Executive Session)

Moved by Mach, seconded by Sypal to move into executive session at 10:04 a.m. to discuss a complaint received about the Sheriff's Office inviting in Sheriff Tom Dion, Deputy County Attorney Tonia Soukup and Human Resources Director Heidi Loges. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Sypal, Coufal, Krafka, Bauer, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Moved by Coufal, seconded by Mach to exit executive session at 10:51 a.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Coufal, Sypal, Mach, Bauer, Krafka, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

The board recessed at 10:52 a.m.

The board reconvened at 12:49 p.m.

Employee Evaluations (Executive Session)

Moved by Mach and seconded by Sypal to move into executive session for the purpose of Employee Evaluations and invite the following: Heidi Loges, Breann Whitmore, Kenny Pelan, Max Birkel, Randy Isham and Diana McDonald at 1:00 p.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Mach, Sypal, Coufal, Krafka, Bauer, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.



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Moved by Coufal and seconded by Bauer to exit the executive session at 2:18 p.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted aye: Coufal, Krafka, Bauer, Mach, Sypal, and Whitmore. The following voted nay: NONE. Absent: Svoboda. Motion carried.

Discussion

Whitmore reported to the board that while going over Inventory with County Court, Deanne Uhrmacher informed him that the State of NE had received funding and they will be using the funding to update all the county courtrooms across Nebraska.

There being no further business to come before the board, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be August 15, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.

Stephanie L. Laska
County Clerk

Anthony Whitmore
Chairman