

BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

January 9, 2025

A meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Butler County, Nebraska was held on the 9th day of January, 2025 at the Butler County Courthouse in David City, Nebraska at 9:00 a.m.

Present were the following: Scott Steager, Tony Krafka, Scot Bauer, Scott Griess, Jan Sypal, Robert Coufal and Brad Vandenberg.

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.

Stephanie L. Laska, County Clerk, called the meeting to order and announced that a complete copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room.

The County Clerk called for nominations for a Temporary Chairman.

Election of Chairperson for 2025

Supervisor Krafka nominated Scott Steager for temporary chairperson; Supervisor Griess nominated Jan Sypal for temporary chairperson. Laska called for any other nominations, moved by Bauer, seconded by Vandenberg to cease nominations and cast secret ballots for the temporary chairperson. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Bauer, Krafka, Steager, Vandenberg, Coufal, Sypal, & Griess.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

Votes were taken by secret ballot and tallied by the clerk. Laska informed the board the temporary chairperson for 2025 is Scott Steager.

Temporary Chairperson Steager called for nominations for Chairperson for 2025. Supervisor Krafka nominated Scott Steager; Supervisor Griess nominated Jan Sypal. Steager called for any other nominations. Moved by Sypal, seconded by Coufal to cease nominations and cast secret ballots for the chairperson for 2025. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Sypal, Coufal, Vandenberg, Krafka, Bauer, Griess, & Steager.

Voted nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

Votes were taken by secret ballot and tallied by the clerk. Laska informed the board the chairperson for 2025 is Scott Steager.

Election of Vice-Chairperson for 2025

Chairman Steager asked for nominations for Vice-Chairperson. Supervisor Griess nominated Jan Sypal; Supervisor Bauer nominated Tony Krafka. Steager called for any other nominations. Moved by Vandenberg,

seconded by Coufal to cease nominations and cast secret ballots for Vice-Chairperson for 2025. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Vandenberg, Coufal, Sypal, Griess, Bauer, Krafka, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

Votes were taken by secret ballot and tallied by the clerk. Laska informed the board the Vice-chairperson for 2025 is Tony Krafka.

Approval to destroy secret ballots

Steager asked for a motion to destroy the secret ballots. Moved by Coufal, seconded by Krafka to destroy the secret ballots. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Coufal, Vandenberg, Krafka, Bauer, Griess, Sypal, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

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

Appointment of Committees

The board reviewed the committees and liaisons list for 2025.

Moved by Coufal, seconded by Sypal to set the committees and liaisons as listed below. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Coufal, Sypal, Griess, Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

BUTLER COUNTYT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

COMMITTEES	2025
CHAIRMAN	Steager
VICE CHAIRMAN	Krafka
REGION V	Sypal, Griess
BLUE VALLEY	Krafka
FOUR CORNERS HEALTH DISTRICT	Steager
ROADS & BRIDGES	Krafka, Bauer, Vandenberg
BUILDING & GROUNDS	Sypal, Coufal, Bauer
INSURANCE	Coufal, Griess
HEALTH CARE CENTER	Steager, Sypal
NOXIOUS WEED	Krafka, Coufal, Bauer
FINANCE & FEES	Steager, Krafka, Sypal
EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK (Benefits, Policy)	Sypal, Krafka, Coufal
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT	Coufal, Steager
SAFETY COMMITTEE	Steager, Sypal, Griess
SENIOR CENTER	Sypal, Vandenberg
BUTLER COUNTY LANDFILL	Coufal, Sypal, Vandenberg
GENERAL ASSISTANCE REVIEW	Sypal, Steager
HR COMMITTEE	Steager (Adamy, Dion, Laska, Reiter)
LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE	Sypal, Coufal, Steager

ARPA COMMITTEE	Sypal, Bauer, Coufal
911 COORDINATOR	Steager, Coufal, Vandenberg
LOWER PLATTE NORTH NRD COMMITTEE	Steager, Vandenberg, Krafka
HWY 30/64 CORRIDOR BRIDGE PROJECT	Krafka

LIASIONS

2025

ASSESSOR	Bauer
ATTORNEY	Griess
CLERK	Chairman
CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT	Coufal
COUNTY COURT	Griess
CUSTODIAN	Sypal
E-911	Steager, Vandenberg
EMERGENCY MANAGER	Steager, Vandenberg
EXTENSION AGENT	Coufal
FLOODPLAIN ADMINISTRATOR	Bauer
HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT	Bauer
NOXIOUS WEED	Krafka
SENIOR SERVICES	Vandenberg
SHERIFF/DETENTION CENTER	Krafka, Sypal
SURVERYOR	Coufal
TREASURER	Sypal
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER	Coufal
BUTLER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY	Bauer
HR	Steager

Consideration of Resolution 2025 – 01/County Depositories

Moved by Sypal, seconded by Coufal to approve Resolution 2025-01 as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Sypal, Coufal, Vandenberg, Krafka, Bauer, Griess, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA
RESOLUTION NO. 2025 – 01**

WHEREAS, the Butler County Board of Supervisors, according to its records in the office of the Butler County Clerk, has designated six (6) institutions to act as depositories for County Funds, and

WHEREAS, the institutions are as follows:

First National Bank of Omaha, David City Branch, David City, Nebraska
 Cornerstone Bank, N.A., Rising City, Nebraska
 First Nebraska Bank, Brainard, Nebraska
 Bank of the Valley, David City Branch, David City, Nebraska
 Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT)
 c/o PMA Financial Network, Lincoln, Nebraska

Nebraska Federal Investment Trust (NFIT)
c/o Union Bank & Trust Co., Lincoln, Nebraska

and said above mentioned institutions have placed collateral security as required by law with the County Treasurer of Butler County, Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Butler County Board of Supervisors that the above-mentioned institutions be so designated as County Depositories for the year 2025, so long as they comply with the laws of the State of Nebraska.

DATED this 9th day of January, 2025.

MOVED by Sypal, seconded by Coufal, that the above resolution be adopted. Motion carried.

FOR:	AGAINST:	ABSENT:	ABSTAIN:
<u>/s/Scott Steager</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Brad Vandenberg</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Robert Coufal</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Jan Sypal</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Scott Griess</u>			
<u>/s/Scot Bauer</u>			
<u>/s/Tony Krafka</u>			

Attested to by:
/s/Stephanie L. Laska
Stephanie L. Laska
Butler County Clerk

Consideration of Resolution 2025 – 02/Investment of Surplus Funds

Moved by Bauer, seconded by Krafka to approve Resolution 2025-02 as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg, Coufal, Sypal, Griess, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA
RESOLUTION NO. 2025 – 02**

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest for the County of Butler, State of Nebraska that surplus funds be invested.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Butler County Board of Supervisors that the elected or appointed Butler County Treasurer be empowered and instructed to invest surplus funds, as he/she deems suitable and in the best interest of the County. Said funds may be invested on a bid basis or by negotiations.

DATED this 9th day of January, 2025.

MOVED by Bauer, seconded by Krafka, that the above resolution be adopted. Motion carried.

FOR:	AGAINST:	ABSENT:	ABSTAIN:
<u>/s/Scott Steager</u>	_____	_____	_____

<u>/s/Brad Vandenberg</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Robert Coufal</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Jan Sypal</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Scott Griess</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Scot Bauer</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Tony Krafka</u>	_____	_____	_____

Attested to by:
/s/Stephanie L. Laska
Stephanie L. Laska
Butler County Clerk

Consideration of Resolution 2025 – 03/Approval of Irrevocable Letter of Credit-Bank of the Valley
Moved by Coufal, seconded by Sypal to approve Resolution 2025-03 as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted:
Aye: Coufal, Sypal, Griess, Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg, & Steager.
Nay: NONE.
Motion carried.

**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
BUTLER COUNTY, NEBRASKA
RESOLUTION NO. 2025 – 03**

WHEREAS, at various times throughout the year, the Butler County Treasurer may receive monies and deposit same at Bank of the Valley, which sum may exceed the amounts allowed by Nebraska law, and

WHEREAS, in order to comply with Nebraska law and thereby secure deposits over and above the current FDIC insured amount, Federal Home Loan Bank of Topeka has established an Irrevocable Letter of Credit No. 91306, dated January 7, 2025 in the amount of \$3,000,000.00, for the account of Bank of the Valley, Bellwood, Nebraska.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Butler County Board of Supervisors that the above-mentioned Irrevocable Letter of Credit in the amount of \$3,000,000.00, as security for deposits in said financial institution be approved.

DATED this 9th day of January, 2025.

FOR:	AGAINST:	ABSENT:	ABSTAIN:
<u>/s/Scott Steager</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Brad Vandenberg</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Robert Coufal</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Jan Sypal</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Scott Griess</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Scot Bauer</u>	_____	_____	_____
<u>/s/Tony Krafka</u>	_____	_____	_____

Attested to by:
/s/Stephanie L. Laska
Stephanie L. Laska
Butler County Clerk

County Clerk Monthly Fee Report

The County Clerk fee report for the months of November 2024 & December 2024 were accepted and placed on file.

Clerk of the District Court Monthly Fee Report

The Clerk of the District Court fee report for the months of November 2024 & December 2024 were accepted and placed on file.

Monthly Sheriff Report

The Monthly Sheriff Report for November 2024 & December 2024 were presented before the board. It was accepted and placed on file.

County Treasurer's Statement July 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

The County Treasurer's Statement for July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 was accepted and placed on file.

Expenditures Report for July 1, 2024-December 31, 2024

The expenditures report for July 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 was reviewed by the board, accepted and placed on file.

Discussion/possible action – appoint a new member to the Hospital board replacing Jim Egr

Steager and Sypal explained they received letters of interest from 3 individuals and of those individuals they are recommending Jackie DeWispelare. While each person who expressed interest was qualified, they felt that since Jackie is a lawyer and outgoing board member Jim Egr is also, that she would be a good replacement. Moved by Sypal, seconded by Krafka, to appoint Jackie DeWispelare to the hospital board replacing Jim Egr. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Sypal, Griess, Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg, Coufal, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

Approval of Early Payroll for separated employee

Moved by Sypal, seconded by Coufal to approve the early payroll for a separated employee as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Sypal, Coufal, Vandenberg, Krafka, Bauer, Griess, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

Discussion/Possible action regarding snow removal for the courthouse parking lots & sidewalks

Sypal led the discussion regarding snow removal stating she's had several conversations with the road department and while it started out promising, Highway Superintendent Randy Isham said he can't guarantee he can get to the courthouse 100% of the time. She explained that she had no issue with Steager Lawn Service providing the service, she has issue with the standby fee that is being charged. She explained the board needs to be conscientious on spending taxpayer dollars. Steager explained the process of how they clean the sidewalks and parking lots. Sypal mentioned she called around to other snow removal companies and they don't charge the fee. Steager proposed that they continue using his company's services for the remainder of winter, then in June/July they go out for bid; he also said he would remove the standby fee. Moved by Sypal, seconded by Coufal to approve using Steager Lawn Service for snow removal for the remainder of the year. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Sypal, Coufal, Vandenberg, Krafka, Bauer, & Griess.

Nay: NONE.

Abstain: Steager.

Motion carried.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION (SEE SEPARATE MINUTES)

Moved by Coufal, seconded by Bauer to move into the Board of Equalization at 9:36 a.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Coufal, Sypal, Griess, Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

Moved by Coufal, seconded by Bauer to exit the Board of Equalization at 9:46 a.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Coufal, Sypal, Griess, Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

Discussion/Possible action regarding hiring a part-time maintenance person

Sypal explained that it has been difficult to hire a part-time maintenance person and she's coming to the board to discuss whether they should look into increasing the hours and offering benefits to possibly get interested applicants. Human Resources director Heidi Loges discussed that currently it's not in the budget for maintenance. She provided the board with past overtime numbers and part-time employee hours for the last few years. To keep the meeting on track, this item is being tabled until later in the meeting.

Appoint Highway Superintendent for Calendar Year 2025

Moved by Bauer, seconded by Krafka to appoint Randy Isham as the Highway Superintendent for Calendar Year 2025. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg, Coufal, Sypal, Griess, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

Approval of utility permit for Tall Grass Energy trench across Road 43 East of Road E, Alexis Township

Highway Superintendent Randy Isham appeared before the board presenting a Utility permit for Tall Grass Energy to trench across Road 43 of Road E, Alexis Township. The water table is too high to bore under the road; Isham agrees that the water table is too high and said that Tall Grass has been great to work with through the process. Moved by Vandenberg, seconded by Krafka to approve the utility permit as presented. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Vandenberg, Krafka, Bauer, Sypal, Coufal, & Steager.

Nay: Griess.

Motion carried.

Update on Roads

Isham said that there is not a lot going on right now, they are trying not to gravel the roads if possible. They continue to maintain the roads as best as they can. The snow fence is up around the county. He also said that he'd heard Linwood Township has an applicant, he's not sure if they've hired anyone. He also said that Olive Township has hired an operator.

Discussion/possible action approval of additional fee for HAVA Grant Project

Laska explained to the board that the original quote the board received for this project was \$7,235. However, when Applied Connective was completing the project they discovered they needed to add an additional switch to complete the project. The added amount is \$850; Laska said it was still covered under the HAVA grant, the county will be reimbursed. Moved by Sypal, seconded by Griess to approve the additional \$850 for the Applied

Connective HAVA Grant project and pay it out of the Inheritance Fund, which will be reimbursed when grant funds are received. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Sypal, Griess, Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg, Coufal, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

Quarterly Jail Inspection

The County Board conducted the quarterly jail inspection from 10:11 a.m. until 10:20 a.m.

Discussion/possible action – setting a date & time for special meeting to appoint the Butler County Clerk

Steager explained that the application process ends on January 13th at noon and they have been doing interviews as applications are received. They will finish interviews on Tuesday and be ready to come to the full board with a recommendation on Wednesday, January 15, 2025. Moved by Coufal, seconded by Sypal to set a special meeting for January 15, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. to appoint the Butler County Clerk. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Coufal, Sypal, Griess, Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

Correspondence

1. Lower Platte North Winter 2024 Edition
2. State of Nebraska Board of Engineers & Architects – license revocation
3. Department of Treasury – Single audit notice
4. Marvin Planning Consultants on behalf of the City of David City – Zoning notice

Executive Session – Discussion/Possible action – update on possible litigation against the county

Moved by Sypal, seconded by Krafka to move into executive session regarding an update on possible litigation against the county inviting in County Clerk Stephanie Laska, Deputy County Attorney Tonia Soukup and Human Resources Director Heidi Loges at 10:27a.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Sypal, Griess, Bauer, Krafka, Vandenberg, Coufal, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

Moved by Bauer, seconded by Sypal to exit executive session at 10:42 a.m. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Bauer, Griess, Sypal, Coufal, Vandenberg, Krafka, & Steager.

Nay: NONE.

Motion carried.

Moved by Coufal, seconded by Vandenberg to pay the claim to Aetna for \$4,766.02 as soon as possible. Upon roll call vote the following voted:

Aye: Coufal, Vandenberg, Krafka, Bauer, Griess, & Sypal.

Nay: Steager.

Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the board, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 10:43 a.m. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be January 21, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Stephanie L. Laska
County Clerk

Scott Steager
Chairman

