

## **BUTLER COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

September 16, 2025

A special meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Butler County, Nebraska was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of September 2025 at the Butler County Courthouse Supervisors Meeting Room in David City, Nebraska at 6:00 p.m.

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

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.

### **Budget Hearing for 2025-2026**

Chairman Steager opened the Public Hearing for the 2025-2026 County Budget at 6:00 p.m.

County Clerk Lori Aschoff presented a summary of the budget. The 2025-2026 proposed levy is 0.154967, compared to 0.177389 last year, a decrease of 12.640%. Total tax request is \$5,232,257.60, up \$146,993.00 or 2.891% from last year's tax request, which was \$5,085,264.79. The County valuation increased 17.778%. Butler County will not have to participate in the Joint Public Hearing.

Chairman Steager asked if any Board members had any questions about the budget. Supervisor Griess thanked the public in attendance for coming; he also thanked the budget committee for their work putting the budget together and asked a few questions. The net fund balance shown on the summary is the beginning fund balance for this fiscal year. Road Department revenue includes a transfer from General, as well as motor vehicle fees, highway/street allocation funding, township road reimbursements, etc. The County Surveyor's budget includes additional funding for State projects, for which the County will be reimbursed by the State. The budget committee budgeted \$150,000.00 for Comprehensive Plan and zoning regulation development. The committee proposes to transfer \$1,650,000.00 from Inheritance to Cash Reserves.

Chairman Steager asked the public in attendance if they had any questions or comments about the budget. Public comment was taken by David McPhillips, Monica Heller, and Aaron Rerucha. General discussion was held regarding salaries of non-elected officials, the comprehensive plan and zoning, the Visitors Promotion Fund, the Opioid Recovery Fund, and health and property insurance increases.

With a Consumer Price Index of just under 3.0%, elected official/department heads were asked to limit their budget increases to around 3.0%. Salaries for the various offices are determined by the elected official/department head, except for the Sheriff and Jail, whose salaries are based on step programs. The total request for the General Fund increased by 8.09%.

There is over \$20,000 in the Visitors Promotion Fund; those funds are available to non-profit organizations for event promotion, such as radio advertising, signage, brochures, etc. The Opioid Recovery Fund was established with funding from class-action suits and is relatively restricted. The County's insurance rates have increased like everyone else's. Health insurance is through Medica; property insurance is through NIRMA.

Chairman Steager asked if there was any further discussion from the Board. There was none. He asked if there was any further comment from the public. There was none. There being no further comments and no further business to come before the Board, the Chairman closed the public hearing and adjourned the meeting at 6:38 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on September 24, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

Lori L. Aschoff  
County Clerk

Scott Steager  
Chairman