

BUFFALO COUNTY MINUTES

Committee of the Board:

Finance Committee

Date of the Meeting:

August 17, 2023

Chair Dennis Bork called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Members Present: Mr. Dennis Bork, Mr. William Bruegger, Mr. Brian Michaels, and Mr. Chris Lindstrom. Mr. Max Weiss was excused.

Others Present for All or Parts of the Meeting in Person: Mr. Lee Engfer, Ms. Roxann Halverson, Mr. Cale Severson, Mr. Dave Rynders, Ms. Tina Anibas, Ms. Renee Pronschinske, Mr. Joe Krumrie, Ms. Lisa Schuh (Teams), and Mr. Dave Brommerich (Teams).

Public Comments regarding Agenda Items: None.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Previous Meeting Minutes: Mr. Bruegger made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Michaels. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Approve the Wage Study Recommendations: Mr. Engfer explained if the recommendations are approved the wages will go into effect January 1, 2024, and the resolution sets out the plan to follow the recommendations for the next five years. Mr. Bruegger made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Lindstrom. A roll call vote was taken. All were in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution Regarding Foreign Ownership of Farmland: Mr. Severson explained several counties had come forward with similar resolutions to be proactive in requesting legislature keep agricultural land from foreign ownership entities. At this time there is no such ownership of foreign entities in Buffalo County, but the Land Management Committee would like to be proactive in limiting foreign ownership. Mr. Lindstrom made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Mr. Michaels. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding A Resolution to Approve an Unbudgeted Drone, Accessories, and Training: Mr. Severson explained the drone would be used to assist with inspections of mines and keep staff in a safe area, not in the active mine zone. There are funds in the non-metallic mining non-lapsing fund to cover the costs of the drone, accessories, and staff training. Software, topography, and control of the drone was discussed. Mr. Michaels made a motion to approve the resolution by roll call vote, seconded by Mr. Lindstrom. All were in favor. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Website ADA Compliance Program

from Civic Plus: Ms. Halverson explained she received a call from Civic Plus regarding ADA compliance of our website. They have a program that can check to make sure our website is accessible for the blind and find any broken links for her to repair. She explained the cost was approximately \$5,000.00 per year for the program. There was an upgrade that would fix any broken links and an extra cost to have a program to make all text to be read to a visually impaired person. A discussion was held on finding a way to make our current website more user friendly. The Committee instructed Ms. Halverson to research website vendors for a more user friendly and ADA compliant website. Mr. Bruegger made a motion to table this for further review, seconded by Mr. Lindstrom. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the Victim Witness Position

Description: Mr. Engfer reviewed the changes to the position description. Mr. Bruegger made a motion to approve the position description, seconded by Mr. Michaels. Carried.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Service Awards: Mr. Engfer discussed service awards for employees that have been employed with Buffalo County for a number of years. The service awards would not be given every year to an employee, rather in 5 year increments. This will be brought back as a resolution at a future meeting.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding the 2024 Budget Preparations: Mr. Engfer reviewed information to prepare for upcoming budget meetings. The Committee set the budget hearings to begin September 5th at 8:00 a.m.

Review/Discussion/Action regarding Monthly Vendor Invoices/Vouchers/ Employment Payroll and Investment Report: Mr. Lindstrom made a motion to approve the invoices and vouchers, seconded by Mr. Bruegger. Carried.

Chairperson Report: None.

Administrative Coordinator Report: Mr. Engfer reviewed Opioid payments coming in, Flyway Trail presentation, updates needed to the electrical system, some landscaping needs on the end of the courthouse need to be looked at for safety, and a power pole that Xcel needs to remove. The Maintenance position is still open as a qualified applicant has not been found yet.

Public Comment Unrelated to Agenda Items: None.

Next Date and Time: The next regular meeting will be Thursday, September 21st, 8:30 a.m.

Adjournment: Mr. Bruegger made a motion to adjourn at 9:50 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roxann Halverson
Buffalo County Clerk