

**BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
TUESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2020
9:00 A.M.**

The Buffalo County Board of Commissioners and the Buffalo County Board of Equalization met on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 9:00 A.M. and 9:30 A.M. County Clerk Janice Giffin called the Reorganization Meeting of the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following Board members responded to roll call: Timothy Higgins, Ivan Klein, Myron Kouba, Ronald Loeffelholz, Sherry Morrow, Dennis Reiter and William McMullen. A copy of the acknowledgment and receipt of notice and agenda by the Board of Commissioners is attached to these minutes. In accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for review. County Clerk Janice Giffin took all proceedings hereinafter shown; while the convened meeting was open to the public. Deputy County Attorney Andrew Hoffmeister was present.

County Clerk Janice Giffin called for the election of a Chairman. Commissioner Klein nominated William McMullen for Chairman of the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners and Higgins seconded the nomination. County Clerk Giffin called for any further nominations three times. There were no further nominations, and it was moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Reiter to cease the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for William McMullen. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Reiter, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Morrow and McMullen. Motion declared carried and William McMullen is the 2020 Board Chairman.

County Clerk Giffin turned the meeting over to Chairman McMullen.

Chairman McMullen called for the election of a Vice Chairman. Commissioner Morrow nominated Ivan Klein as Vice Chairman of the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners and Reiter seconded the nomination. Chairman McMullen called for any further nominations three times. There were no further nominations, and it was moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Morrow to cease the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Ivan Klein. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Morrow, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Reiter, and McMullen. Motion declared carried and Ivan Klein is the 2020 Board Vice Chairman.

Moved by Klein and seconded by Higgins to approve the following list of Depositories for County Monies. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Klein, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Morrow, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Cornerstone Bank	Exchange Bank
Farmers & Merchants Bank-Kearney	First National Bank
FirsTier Bank of Elm Creek	FirsTier Bank of Kearney
Five Points Bank	Great Western Bank
Heartland Bank	NPAIT
NebraskaLand National Bank	Town & Country Bank
Wells Fargo	

Moved by Morrow and seconded by Kouba to authorize Buffalo County Treasurer Jean Sidwell to invest the County funds at the approved banks. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Morrow, Kouba, Higgins, Klein, Loeffelholz, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Chairman McMullen then made the following Agency Appointments/County Board Representatives:

- Airport Zoning Board-William McMullen
- Buffalo County Economic Development Council-William McMullen & Sherry Morrow
- Community Action Partnership of Mid-Nebraska Board-Myron Kouba
- Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce-Timothy Higgins
- Kearney Area Visitors Bureau Advisory Board-William McMullen
- Mid-NE Individual Services Advisory Board-Ivan Klein
- Region III Governing Board-Sherry Morrow
- Solid Waste Agency- Ronald Loeffelholz
- South Central Economic Development Council-Timothy Higgins
- South Central NE Area Agency on Aging Governing Board-Ivan Klein
- Two River Public Health Department-Dennis Reiter

Chairman McMullen then made the following miscellaneous appointments:

Legal Newspaper Designations - The Kearney Hub and the Buffalo County Website (www.buffalocounty.ne.gov)

Chairman McMullen then made the following Committee appointments with the first person listed to be the Committee Chair:

<u>Budget & Finance Committee</u>	Sherry Morrow-Chair Myron Kouba Dennis Reiter
<u>Facilities OMP Committee</u>	William McMullen-Chair Sherry Morrow Timothy Higgins
<u>Information Technology Committee</u>	Ivan Klein-Chair Ronald Loeffelholz Myron Kouba
<u>Road & Bridge Committee</u>	Ivan Klein-Chair Dennis Reiter Timothy Higgins
<u>Noxious Weed District Committee</u>	Dennis Reiter-Chair Ivan Klein Ronald Loeffelholz
<u>Human Resource/Insurance Committee</u>	Myron Kouba-Chair Ronald Loeffelholz William McMullen
<u>Public Safety, Law Enforcement & Emergency Management Committee</u>	Dennis Reiter-Chair Ronald Loeffelholz Sherry Morrow
<u>Court & Judicial Committee</u>	Timothy Higgins-Chair Ivan Klein Sherry Morrow
<u>Veterans Service Committee</u>	William McMullen-Chair Myron Kouba Ivan Klein
<u>Zoning/Flood Plain Committee</u>	Ronald Loeffelholz-Chair Sherry Morrow Dennis Reiter
<u>Extension/Agricultural Society Committee</u>	Dennis Reiter-Chair Ronald Loeffelholz Ivan Klein
<u>Election Commission Committee</u>	Ronald Loeffelholz-Chair William McMullen Dennis Reiter
<u>Legislative Committee</u>	Timothy Higgins-Chair Sherry Morrow Ronald Loeffelholz
<u>Ravenna Lake/Campgrounds Advisory Committee</u>	William McMullen-Chair Ivan Klein Myron Kouba

Buffalo County NIRMA (Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association) Contact - Janice Giffin

REGULAR AGENDA

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Reiter to approve the December 23, 2019 Board meeting minutes. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Reiter, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Morrow and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Morrow and seconded by Kouba to ratify the following January 3, 2020 bi-weekly payroll claims that were processed by the County Clerk. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Morrow, Kouba, Higgins, Klein, Loeffelholz, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

GENERAL FUND			
NET PAYROLL			265,729.34
AMERICAN FAMILY LIFE	I	PREMIUMS	1,076.52
RETIREMENT PLANS AMERITAS	R	EMPE RET	44,799.15
BUFFALO CO TREAS/WELLNESS	I	PREMIUMS	50.00
BUFFALO CO TREASURER	I	PREMIUMS	103,355.50
FIRST CONCORD	E	FLEX FUNDS	4,254.90
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	T	FEDERAL TAX	90,712.45
KEARNEY UNITED WAY	E	DONATIONS	102.67
MADISON NATIONAL	I	PREMIUMS	1,254.04
MADISON NATIONAL	I	LT DISABILITY	624.78
MASSMUTUAL FINANCIAL	I	DEFERRED COMP	1,175.00
MIDLAND FUNDING	E	GARNISHMENT	345.25
NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT	R	DEFERRED COMP	355.00
NE CHILD SUPPORT	E	CHILD SUPPORT	450.00
PRINCIPAL	E	DENTAL	3,017.00
STATE OF NE	T	STATE TAX	14,938.36
VISION SERVICE PLAN	E	EMPE VSP EYE	763.92
ROAD FUND			
NET PAYROLL			52,447.56
AMERICAN FAMILY LIFE	I	PREMIUMS	1,023.05
RETIREMENT PLANS AMERITAS	R	EMPE RET	8,469.59
BUFFALO CO TREASURER	I	PREMIUMS	2,650.00
FIRST CONCORD	E	FLEX FUNDS	534.71
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	T	FEDERAL TAX	16,227.18
MADISON NATIONAL	I	PREMIUMS	144.30
MADISON NATIONAL	I	LT DISABILITY	110.60
NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT	R	DEFERRED COMP	272.50
NE CHILD SUPPORT	E	CHILD SUPPORT	342.00
PRINCIPAL	E	DENTAL	947.12
STATE OF NE	T	STATE TAX	2,431.64
VISION SERVICE PLAN	E	EMPE VSP EYE	201.56
WEED FUND			
NET PAYROLL			4,502.25
RETIREMENT PLANS AMERITAS	R	EMPE RET	709.29
BUFFALO CO TREASURER	I	PREMIUMS	248.00
FIRST CONCORD	E	FLEX FUNDS	30.00
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	T	FEDERAL TAX	1,433.43
MADISON NATIONAL	I	LT DISABILITY	3.72
PRINCIPAL	E	DENTAL	45.72
STATE OF NE	T	STATE TAX	215.51

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Klein to approve the early claim submitted by the County Clerk as listed below. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Klein, Higgins, Kouba, Morrow, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

ROAD FUND		
STATE OF NE-MOTOR FUELS	FUEL TAX	\$3,764.00

Moved by Morrow and seconded by Kouba to accept the Buffalo County Treasurer December 2019 Fund Balance Report. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Morrow, Kouba, Higgins, Klein, Loeffelholz, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Morrow and seconded by Reiter to accept the Clerk of the District Court December 2019 Report. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Morrow, Reiter, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Klein and seconded by Kouba to accept the Veterans Service Quarterly Report ending June 30, 2019 and the Veterans Aid Quarterly Reports for April 2019 through June 2019, the Veterans Service Quarterly Report ending September 30, 2019 and the

Veterans Aid Quarterly Reports for July 2019 through September 2019. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Klein, Kouba, Higgins, Loeffelholz, Morrow, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Morrow and seconded by Klein to authorize Chairman McMullen to sign the Second Interlocal Agreement for Central Nebraska Drug Court By and Among the Counties of Adams, Buffalo, Hall, Phelps and Kearney. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Morrow, Klein, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Higgins and seconded by Klein to re-appoint the following appointed officials for 2020: John Maul as the Highway Superintendent, Bret Stubbs as the Weed Superintendent, Lisa Poff as the Election Commissioner, William Williams as the Veteran's Service Officer, Steve Gaasch as the Facilities Director, Darrin Lewis as the Emergency Manager, Jason Wozniak as the Floodplain/Zoning Administrator and Lynn Martin as the Board Administrator. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Morrow, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Kouba to declare the Zoning Administrator vacancy due to the resignation of Jason Wozniak. Wozniak submitted his resignation prior to this meeting and the Committee is in the process of accepting applications for the GIS Technician/Zoning and Floodplain Administrator until January 17, 2020 and the goal is to have the position filled by February 10, 2020. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Kouba, Higgins, Klein, Morrow, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Morrow and seconded by Higgins to set the mileage reimbursement rate at 57.5 cents per mile and the County Sheriff rate for civil processing will be 60.5 cents, effective January 1, 2020 as recommended by Administrative Services of Nebraska. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Morrow, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

The agenda item for revisions to the Employee Handbook was tabled until the January 28, 2020 Board Meeting.

Chairman McMullen reviewed the following correspondence. The City of Kearney sent the Planning Commission Agenda for January 17, 2020. NE Department of Environment and Energy sent the Approval to Operate LWCF (livestock waste control facilities), for Pritchard Livestock Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation. The Board received an invitation to the annual meeting for KACC (Kearney Area Chamber of Commerce) on January 20, 2020. The Buffalo County Economic Development Annual Meeting will be January 23, 2020. The County received a check in the amount of \$75.68 as a result of a lawsuit filed by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) vs A1 Janitorial Supply Corp. Activate Buffalo County Community Partners sent information for the enrollment for the 2020 membership. Chairman McMullen called on each Board member present for committee reports and recommendations.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Higgins to recess the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners at 9:17 A.M. and reconvene as a Board of Equalization. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Morrow, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

Chairman McMullen called the Board of Equalization to order in open session. County Assessor Ethel Skinner and County Treasurer Jean Sidwell were present.

Moved by Morrow and seconded by Klein to approve Tax List Corrections numbered 4640 through 4655 submitted by County Assessor Skinner. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Morrow, Klein, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Kouba and seconded by Klein to approve Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption as indicated on the application by County Treasurer Sidwell for Prairie View Gardens on a 2019 Dodge Grand Caravan. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Kouba, Klein, Higgins, Loeffelholz, Morrow, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Klein and seconded by Reiter to approve Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption as indicated on the application by County Treasurer Sidwell for Faith United Methodist Church on a 2006 American Hauler Enclosed Trailer, 2012 United Enclosed Trailer, Homemade Utility Trailer, and a 1994 United Enclosed Trailer. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Klein, Reiter, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Morrow and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Klein and seconded by Kouba to approve Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption as indicated on the application by County Treasurer Sidwell for Mount Carmel Home-Keens Memorial on a 2019 Dodge Van, 2013 Ford Bus, 2003 Ford Van, 2012 Chevrolet Van, 2007 Ford Pickup-Supercrew and (2) 2005 Toyota Cars. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Klein, Kouba, Higgins, Loeffelholz, Morrow, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Higgins to approve Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption as indicated on the application by County Treasurer for First Lutheran Church on a 2005 Ford F350 Bus. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Morrow, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Higgins to adjourn the Board of Equalization and return to the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners at 9:22 A.M. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Morrow, Reiter and McMullen. Motion declared carried.

REGULAR AGENDA

Sheriff Neil Miller reported on the progress of the new County phone system and informed the Board of a Juvenile reimbursement incarceration bill on file with the State Legislature. County Assessor Ethel Skinner reported to the Board on the progress of sending the preliminary property valuations out to the owners of record.

Commissioner Morrow excused herself at 9:30 A.M.

Carol Schawarz, Extension Educator was present to invite the Board to the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Community Tailgate Events that will be held on January 19 and 20 at four different times and locations in the County.

Moved by Klein and seconded by Reiter to set a bid date of Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 10:00 A.M. for Concrete Overlay Project on Navaho Road starting at the 362nd Road (at the railroad tracks) and going south approximately 4600 feet. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Klein, Reiter, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz and McMullen. Absent: Morrow. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Klein and seconded by Loeffelholz to approve the maintenance of 63rd Street Place in Hawthorne Heights Subdivision. This road meets county specifications for maintenance. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Klein, Loeffelholz, Higgins, Kouba, Reiter and McMullen. Absent: Morrow. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Klein and seconded by Higgins to no longer pursue collections on the account of Daniel T Rheome (District Court Case) in the amount of \$2,534.04 with the Buffalo County Road Department accounts receivable. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Klein, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Reiter and McMullen. Absent: Morrow. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Higgins to enter into Executive Session at 9:54 A.M. for personnel matters. Deputy County Attorney Hoffmeister joined the Executive Session. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Reiter and McMullen. Absent: Morrow. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Higgins and seconded by Klein to move out of Executive Session at 10:20 A.M. and resume the open meeting. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Higgins, Klein, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Reiter and McMullen. Absent: Morrow. Motion declared carried.

Chairman McMullen called for Citizen's forum. Jay Bruegman addressed the Board about his prior employment with Buffalo County. County Surveyor Trenton Snow updated the Board of the resignation of the employee that was in the Surveyor's office located in the Courthouse. Surveyor records are still accessible in the Courthouse and the phone numbers to reach the Surveyor are posted on the Surveyor's office door in the Courthouse.

At 10:32 A.M., Chairman McMullen asked if there was anything else to come before the Board before he declared the meeting adjourned following the quarterly jail inspection until the regular meeting on Tuesday January 28, 2020 at 9:00 A.M.

ATTEST:

William McMullen, Chairman
Buffalo County Board of Commissioners

(SEAL)

Janice I. Giffin
Buffalo County Clerk