

**BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2022**

The Buffalo County Board of Commissioners and the Buffalo County Board of Equalization met on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 9:00 A.M. and 9:30 A.M. Chairman Klein called the meeting to order and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. The following Board members responded to roll call: Timothy Higgins, Myron Kouba, Ronald Loeffelholz, Daniel Lynch, Bill Maendele, Sherry Morrow and Ivan Klein. A copy of the acknowledgment and receipt of notice and agenda by the Board of Commissioners is attached to these minutes. Public notice of this meeting was published/posted in the Kearney Hub, on the Buffalo County web site, and the bulletin boards located outside the County Clerk's office and County Board Room on May 5, 2022. Chairman Klein announced that in accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for review and posted at the back of the Board Room. 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.

REGULAR AGENDA

Moved by Higgins and seconded by Kouba to approve the April 26, 2022 Board meeting minutes. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Lynch, Maendele, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Morrow and seconded by Loeffelholz to ratify the following May 6, 2022 payroll claims processed by the County Clerk. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Morrow, Loeffelholz, Higgins, Kouba, Lynch, Maendele and Klein. Motion declared carried.

GENERAL FUND			
NET PAYROLL			290,417.21
AMERICAN FAMILY LIFE	I	PREMIUMS	1,238.45
RETIREMENT PLANS AMERITAS	R	EMPE RET	49,546.37
BUFFALO CO TREASURER	I	PREMIUMS	123,967.50
EMPOWER RETIREMENT	R	DEFERRED COMP	1,175.00
FIRST CONCORD	E	FLEX FUNDS	5,377.52
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	T	FEDERAL TAXES	99,328.13
KEARNEY UNITED WAY	E	DONATIONS	114.67
MADISON NATIONAL	I	PREMIUMS	1,067.59
MADISON NATIONAL	I	LT DISABILITY	298.87
ERIN M MCCARTNEY	E	GARNISHMENT	402.00
NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT	R	DEFERRED COMP	1,860.00
NE CHILD SUPPORT	E	CHILD SUPPORT	1,200.00
NE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE	E	GARNISHMENT	55.00
PRINCIPAL	E	DENTAL	3,493.48
STATE OF NE	T	STATE TAXES	16,758.57
VISION SERVICE PLAN	E	EMPE VSP EYE	879.98
ROAD FUND			
NET PAYROLL			52,279.19
AMERICAN FAMILY LIFE	I	PREMIUMS	996.79
RETIREMENT PLANS AMERITAS	R	EMPE RET	8,303.48
BUFFALO CO TREASURER	I	PREMIUMS	2,701.50
FIRST CONCORD	E	FLEX FUNDS	697.84
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	T	FEDERAL TAXES	15,195.78
MADISON NATIONAL	I	PREMIUMS	140.96
MADISON NATIONAL	I	LT DISABILITY	96.24
NATIONWIDE RETIREMENT	R	DEFERRED COMP	272.50
PRINCIPAL	E	DENTAL	855.88
STATE OF NE	T	STATE TAXES	2,265.82
VISION SERVICE PLAN	E	EMPE VSP EYE	222.88
WEED FUND			
NET PAYROLL			5,061.08
RETIREMENT PLANS AMERITAS	R	EMPE RET	800.66
BUFFALO CO TREASURER	I	PREMIUMS	268.50
FIRST CONCORD	E	FLEX FUNDS	40.84
FIRST NATIONAL BANK	T	FEDERAL TAXES	1,623.80
MADISON NATIONAL	I	LT DISABILITY	3.54
PRINCIPAL	E	DENTAL	60.96
STATE OF NE	T	STATE TAXES	254.12

Sheriff Neil Miller, Chief Deputy Dan Schleusener, Deputy Mike Page, Deputy Joe Anderson, Deputy Nicholas Alexander, Sergeant David Gibbs, Sergeant Theodore Huber and Sergeant Ephraim Valenzuela were present for the Proclamation of the National Police Week. Chairman Klein read the proclamation and thanked those who serve Buffalo County. Moved by Higgins and seconded by Lynch to proclaim the week of May 8th through May 14th, 2022 as “National Police Week” in Buffalo County with the following Resolution 2022-16. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Higgins, Lynch, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Maendele, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

RESOLUTION 2022-16

Proclamation

Name the Week of May 8, 2022 through May 14, 2022 as “National Police Week” in Buffalo County

WHEREAS, National Police Week was first proclaimed in 1963 by President Kennedy when he signed Proclamation 3537 creating “National Police Week” to recognize the service given by men and women who, night and day, protect us through enforcement of our laws, and

WHEREAS, the members of the law enforcement agencies of Buffalo County play an important role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of Buffalo County; and

WHEREAS, it is important that our citizens know and understand the duties, responsibilities, hazards, and sacrifices of their law enforcement agencies, and that members of our law enforcement agencies recognize their duty to serve the people by safeguarding life and property, by protecting them against violence or disorder, and protecting the innocent against deception and the weak against oppression or intimidation; and;

WHEREAS, the men and women of the Buffalo County Sheriff’s Office unceasingly provide vital public services;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Buffalo County Board of Commissioners hereby proclaim the week of May 8th through May 14th as “National Police Week” to honor those law enforcement officers, who, through their courageous deeds, have made the ultimate sacrifices in service to their community or have been disabled in the performance of duty, and let us recognize and pay respect to the survivors of our fallen heroes. All Buffalo County citizens are encouraged to pay tribute to the many law enforcement officers, past and present, who by their faithful and loyal devotion to their responsibilities have rendered a dedicated service to their communities and, in so doing, have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens.

Pleasanton EMT Chad Dixon, Gibbon EMT Kathy Middleswart, Ravenna Paramedic Peg Dethlefs, Shelton EMT Jason Wiehn, Elm Creek EMT Ron Knapp, Summer-Eddyville-Miller EMT Rachel Schroeder, and Kearney Volunteer Fire Department EMR John Sydow were present for the Proclamation of the Emergency Medical Services Week. Chairman Klein read the proclamation and thanked those who serve Buffalo County. Moved by Maendele and seconded by Higgins to proclaim the week of May 15th through May 21, 2022 as “Emergency Medical Services Week” in Buffalo County with the following Resolution 2022-17. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Maendele, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Lynch, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

RESOLUTION 2022-17

PROCLAMATION

To designate the Week of May 15, 2022 through May 21, 2022, as “Emergency Medical Services Week” in Buffalo County

WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Services is a vital public service; and

WHEREAS, the members of Emergency Medical Services teams are ready to provide lifesaving care to those in need 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, access to quality emergency care dramatically improves the survival and recovery rate of those who experience sudden illness or injury; and

WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Services has grown to fill a gap by providing important, out of hospital care, including preventative medicine, follow-up care, and access to telemedicine; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Medical Services system consists of first responders, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, emergency medical dispatchers, firefighters, police officers, educators, administrators, pre-hospital nurses, emergency nurses, emergency physicians, trained members of the public, and other out of hospital medical care providers; and

WHEREAS, the members of emergency medical services teams, whether career or volunteer, engage in thousands of hours of specialized training and continuing education to enhance their lifesaving skills; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the value and the accomplishments of emergency medical services providers by designating Emergency Medical Services Week.

NOW THEREFORE, in recognition of this event do hereby proclaim the week of May 15-21, 2022, as EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK with the EMS Strong theme, EMS WEEK: Rising to the Challenge, the Buffalo County Board of

Commissioners encourage the community to pay tribute to the many EMS workers in Buffalo County for the vital public service they provide.

South Central Economic Development District (SCEDD) Executive Director Sharon Hueftle was present to give updated reports and file the 2021 annual report.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Lynch to accept the Clerk of the District Court April 2022 Report. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Lynch, Higgins, Kouba, Maendele, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Morrow and seconded by Lynch to accept the Buffalo County Treasurer April 2022 Fund Balance Report. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Morrow, Lynch, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Maendele and Klein. Motion declared carried.

The following early claim was submitted and tabled at the April 26, 2022 Board meeting. After review, moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Morrow to approve the early claim submitted by the County Clerk as listed below. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Morrow, Higgins, Kouba, Lynch, Maendele and Klein. Motion declared carried.

GENERAL FUND			
Goodfellows Paint and Body Repairs	S	REPAIR	\$2,408.37

Moved by Lynch and seconded by Morrow to accept the March 2022 Community Action Partnership of Mid-Nebraska RYDE Report. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Lynch, Morrow, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Maendele and Klein. Motion declared carried.

The Board accepted Marta Moorman's resignation from the Advisory Board of Park and Recreation Commissioners at the April 26, 2022 Board meeting. It was tabled until today's Board meeting to appoint a new member to the Advisory Board. After discussion, moved by Morrow and seconded by Lynch to appoint Michaela Lewis to the Advisory Board of Park and Recreation Commission. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Morrow, Lynch, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Maendele and Klein. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Morrow and seconded by Loeffelholz to approve the addition of pledged collateral for the Buffalo County Treasurer in the amount of \$5,000,000.00 at the NebraskaLand National Bank. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Morrow, Loeffelholz, Higgins, Kouba, Lynch, Maendele and Klein. Motion declared carried.

The following agenda item was tabled from the April 26, 2022 Board meeting. After review and discussion, it was moved by Maendele and seconded by Higgins to deny the request to amend the contract with USDA Wildlife Services. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Maendele, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Lynch, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

After discussion, it was moved by Higgins and seconded by Lynch to authorize Chairman Klein to cast the 2022 Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) Board of Directors Ballot for Jon Rosenlund. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Higgins, Lynch, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Maendele, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

Following discussion and review of the County Sheriff's report, it was moved by Higgins and seconded by Lynch to approve the Special Designated Liquor License application filed by The Village 1919 for events to be held on June 4, June 11 and June 18, 2022. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Higgins, Lynch, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Maendele, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

After discussion and review of the County Sheriff's report, it was moved by Higgins and seconded by Lynch to approve the Special Designated Liquor License application filed by Kearney Investment Corporation for an event to be held on June 4, 2022. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Higgins, Lynch, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Maendele, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

Following discussion, it was moved by Maendele and seconded by Higgins to authorize Chairman Klein to sign the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 Grant Contract with The Family Advocate Network (FAN) with the following resolution 2022-18. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Maendele, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Lynch, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

RESOLUTION 2022-18

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act (H.R. 1319), § 4001, ARPA") was signed into law providing federal funding relief for American workers, families, industries, and state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, on May 10, 2021, the United State Department of Treasury released an interim final guide on allowed uses of funds and allocated \$ 350 billion for state, local, territorial, and Tribal governments from the American Rescue Plan Act Fund; and

WHEREAS, Buffalo County has received funds to be used for purposes designated by ARPA, and

WHEREAS, after requests from political subdivision of this county were made to Buffalo County for ARPA funds, this Board's Budget Committee reviewed these requests and has made recommendations to this Board as to an allocation of some of the ARPA funds that have been received by this County, and

WHEREAS, ARPA provides funds to charitable entities to make necessary investments in structures and infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, Buffalo County pursuant to that committee's report on allocations, desires to allocate a portion of received ARPA Funds to the Family Advocate Network (FAN) to assist that charitable organization in the purchase of land, construction, improvement, expansion, and/or renovation to its' offices, to help with the payment of these improvements because the non-profit organization has suffered negative economic impacts as a result of the COVID- 19 public health emergency; and

WHEREAS, Buffalo County has determined that contracting with FAN would yield efficiencies in time and process in the development and implementation of the goals of that charitable organization.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY BUFFALO COUNTY, NEBRASKA, ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS that the Chairperson of this Board is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to execute a American Rescue Plan Act Agreement with the Family Advocate Network (FAN) for the financial assistance to FAN for the purchase of land, construction, improvements, expansion, and renovation to its offices for the duration of the Agreement, and to take all necessary steps required to complete the Project Agreement.

Sheriff Miller and Chief Deputy Schleusener presented a proposal for Jail food service. Moved by Maendele and seconded by Morrow to set the date of June 14, 2022 for the Jail food service Request for Proposal (RFP). Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Maendele, Morrow, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Lynch and Klein. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Higgins to recess the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners at 9:37 A.M. and reconvene as a Board of Equalization. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Higgins, Kouba, Lynch, Maendele, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

Chairman Klein called the Board of Equalization to order in open session. County Assessor Ethel Skinner and Deputy County Treasurer Brenda Rohrich were present.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Higgins to approve Tax List Corrections numbered 4877 through 4878 submitted by County Assessor Skinner. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Higgins, Kouba, Lynch, Maendele, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Maendele and seconded by Lynch to approve the Valuation Change submitted by County Assessor Skinner for B & G Investments, LLC on parcel number 602138025. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Maendele, Lynch, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Lynch and seconded by Maendele to approve the Valuation Change submitted by County Assessor Skinner for Reiley Wieland on parcel number 040174000. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Lynch, Maendele, Higgins, Kouba, Loeffelholz, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Lynch to approve Motor Vehicle Tax Exemption as indicated on the application by County Treasurer Jean Sidwell for Community Action Partnership of Mid-Nebraska for a 2022 Chevy Equinox. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Lynch, Higgins, Maendele, Morrow and Klein. Abstain: Kouba. Motion declared carried.

Moved by Loeffelholz and seconded by Maendele to adjourn the Board of Equalization and return to the regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners at 9:41 A.M. Upon roll call vote, the following Board members voted "Aye": Loeffelholz, Maendele, Higgins, Kouba, Lynch, Morrow and Klein. Motion declared carried. Commissioner Higgins excused himself from the meeting.

REGULAR AGENDA

Jerad Reimers representing Congressman Adrian Smith presented updated reports from the Congressman's office.

Chairman Klein reviewed correspondence from the Alliance for The Future (AFAN) regarding the Central Nebraska Modern Livestock Facility Tour on June 2, 2022. Chairman Klein called on each Board member present for committee reports and recommendations.

Chairman Klein called for Citizen's forum and no one addressed the Board.

Chairman Klein asked if there was anything else to come before the Board at 9:56 A.M. before he declared the meeting adjourned until the regular meeting at 9:00 A.M. on Tuesday, May 24, 2022.