BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING – Tuesday, January 7, 2025

Auditor/Register of Deeds Debra Morrison called the meeting to order at 1:00pm with Commissioner Dawn Cable and Commissioner Donita Loudner present.

Also, present was Steve Fox, Assistant States Attorney; Debi Kourt, Central Dakota Times; and several Buffalo County Employees and citizens. Recited Pledge of Allegiance.

Loudner made a motion to keep the Chairperson and Vice-Chair in the same; seconded by Cable. Motion carried by all voting Aye.

Steve Fox administers Oath of Office for Treasurer Janice Von Eye and Commissioner Dawn Cable.

Zastrow moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Loudner. Motion carried by all voting Ayes.

Loudner made a motion to approve the December 26, 2024, Fiscal Meeting; seconded by Zastrow. Motion carried by all voting Ayes.

Highway Superintendent Tanner Grohs gave his Highway Report. January 2025 Fuel quotes/bids from Total Oil, Inc. for Unleaded Gas @ $2.74 per gallon, Ethanol Gas @ $2.50 per gallon, Diesel #1 Dyed Premium @ $2.90, and Diesel #2 Dyed Premium @ $2.68 per gallon. Motion to accept by Loudner, seconded by Zastrow. Motion carried by all voting Ayes.

Director of Equalization/E-911/Weeds Supervisor Lee Sinkie gave his monthly report. No action was taken.

Auditor/Register of Deeds Debra Morrison gave her report. There were 2 hospitalizations last week. Treasurer/Auditor report: Bank Balance: $1,748.843.59; C.D.: $200,000.00; Cash & Cash Items: $400.00; total: $1,949,243.59.

Loudner made a motion to have signed the 2025 Beatle County Agreement for Prisoner Board, 2025 Beadle County Agreement for Juvenile, and 2025 Brule County Jail Contract: seconded by Zastrow. Motion carried by all voting Ayes.

Zastrow made a motion to approve the use of 911 funds for 50% of the costs associated with the training, including tuition, or any other costs directly related to the training such as travel, lodge, etc. for Arlen Gortmaker and Tommy Thompson: seconded by Loudner. Motion passed by all voting Aye.

Zastrow made a motion for 2025 State Rates and Boards remain the same as 2024: Legal Place for Holding Foreclosure Sales – Gann Valley Courthouse, Official Newspaper – Central Dakota Times, Official Depository – Quoin Bank, Coroner – Darrin Hickey, Mileage – State Rate $.655/Sheriff Rate $.715 cents per mile, Domestic Abuse Funds, Veterans Services, Election Precincts and Polling Places – Buffalo County Courthouse, Fort Thompson Catholic Hall, and Crow Creek Community Hall; seconded by Loudner. Motion Carried by all voting Aye.

Loudner made a motion to approve the following 2025 appointed boards/designations remain the same at 2024: Planning and Zoning – Rex Zastrow, Allen Fuegen, Jack Abernathy, Clayton Knippling and Linda Ness, Weed & Pest Board – Donita Loudner, Richard Coleman, Jeff Fuegen, Brian Rodner and Dana Douville, Landfill Board – Dawn Cable, Mental Health Board – Deach Koch, Carol Grabin, Susan Hoarty, District III – Donita Loudner, Drainage Board – Buffalo County Commissioners; seconded by Zastrow. Motion passed with all voting Aye.

Cable requested to enter Executive Session was called at 2:43pm for personal reasons. The Executive Session ended at 3:43pm and regular Buffalo County Commissioners resumed.

Zastrow made a motion to approve 2025 the Board Members meetings $225 per day/mileage, Election School/Election Day/Post Election Day $25 per hour/mileage, Weed and Pest Meetings $25 per hour/mileage, Weed and Pest meetings (away) per day/mileage; seconded by Loudner. Motion carried by all voting Aye.

Loudner made a motion to approve 2025 raises for Highway Assistance hourly– Joe Lopez new rate $24.47/hour, Ben Rostyne new rate $25.48/hour; seconded by Zastrow. Motion carried by all voting Aye.

Loudner made a motion to approve a 5% across the board raise to Commissioners, Highway Superintendent, Sheriff, Treasurer, States Attorney, Auditor, Register of Deeds, and Director of Equalization; seconded by Cable. Two voted Yes – One voted No. The new salaries will be as follows:

Chairperson Dawn Cable $225.50 Compensation/month, $225.50 Per Meeting + mileage

Vice-Chair Donita Loudner $225.50 Compensation/month, $225.50 Per Meeting + mileage

Commissioner Rex Zastrow $225.50 Compensation/month, $225.50 Per Meeting + mileage

Highway Superintendent Tanner Grohs $58,800.00

Sheriff Wayne Willman $57,750.00

Treasurer Janice Von Eye $46,305.00

States Attorney Dave Larson $43,253.00

Auditor & Register of Deeds Debra Morrison $44,100.00

Director of Equalization Lee Sinkie $22.05/hour

Weed & Pest Supervisor Lee Sinkie $3,150.00

Loudner made a motion for 2025 fees to remain the same as 2024 regarding Retail On and Off-Site Malt Beverage License, Retail On-Sale Liquor License and One-Day License Fee; seconded by Zastrow. Motion carried by all voting Aye.

Loudner amended a motion to have an explanation for each voucher printed in the newspaper; seconded by Zastrow. Motion carried by all voting Ayes. Will be revisited in a few months.

Loudner made a motion to approve vouchers; seconded by Zastrow. Motion carried by all voting Aye.

AB Water – HWY/CRT Utilities - $58.25

AMKOTA FARM – HWY Supplies - $250.00

AT&T – HWY IPAD - $1,257.75

Bakers – HWY Pickup Repair - $1,178.84

Brule County – County Jail, VA Salary, Sheriff Professional Services - $7,776.50

Budde – HWY Septic Cleaning - $250.00

Butler – HWY Supplies - $818.38

Connecting Point – Treas/Aud Tech Support - $245.00

ES&S – Election Annual Maintenance - $224.08

L&M – HWY Utilities - $210.00

McLeods – Aud/CRT/Weed&Pest Supplies - $306.37

Midstate Comm – Utilities - $448.75

Scheel, Audra – 4H Extension - $14.02

SDACC – 2025 Membership Dues - $1,179.00

SDACO – 2025 Membership Dues - $716.92

Motion to adjourn made by Zastrow; seconded by Cable. Motion carried by all voting Ayes.

Attested: /s/Debra Morrison, Auditor Approved: /s/ Dawn Cable, Chairman