

Butte County Special Meeting Minutes
Butte County Courthouse
Commission Meeting Room
839 5th Avenue
Belle Fourche, SD 57717
Phone: 605-892-4485

Friday, December 29th, 2023

THE BOARD OF BUTTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONVENED AT 9:00 A.M. on Friday , December 29, 2023, for a Special 2023 Year End Meeting in the Commissioners' Room at the Butte County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Harms, Ager, Walton, Herman, and Erk.

Chairperson Harms called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Ager Second by Erk to approve the meeting agenda with no changes. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried

Beginning at 9:03 AM a Public hearing was held on Adoption of Budget Supplements (Increase in Spending Authority for 2023).

- Travis Ismay asked for an explanation on the proposed supplements. Auditor Capp explained each line item and the reason for each needed supplement.
- Katie Hoffmann asked about the cash reserves and commissioner contingency and whether the Cash reserves were considered a savings account or checking. Auditor Capp explained the differences in the accounts and that the Cash account is similar to a checking account.

Motion by Walton, Second by Ager to approve the following Budget Supplements from Cash Reserves. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Account Number	Description	Amount
101-5-161	Gen Gov Buildings	\$ 98,000.00
101-5-171-429	Information Tech	\$ 25,000.00
101-5-212	Jail	\$ 252,000.00
101-5-215	Regional Juv Det	\$ 80,000.00
206-5-315	Wheel Tax	\$ 5,500.00
211-5-221	Fire	\$ 150,000.00

Beginning at 9:14 AM the following citizens appeared during the Public Comment Session:

- Katie Hoffmann spoke on the Commissioner Contingency Budget and guidance she received from an accountant. Guidance received was that it would be better to have the contingency fund assigned to specific expenditures/jobs rather than sitting in a fund with no direction. Ms. Hoffmann also commented on the over budget of the jail and juvenile detention budgets. Ms. Hoffmann questioned if increased expenses might be due to increased crime or inflated numbers in State's Attorney Office.
- Travis Ismay said he did not want the commissioners to pay \$17,000 on Audio/Video equipment but would rather simpler recording devices be purchased and used. Mr. Ismay explained that he had talked with other counties and gave examples of how they are recording their meetings.

Motion by Erk, Second by Walton to approve the following budget supplements from the Commissioners' Contingency Fund. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried

Account Number	Description	Amount	Balance
101-5-112-429	Commissioners Contingency		\$ 100,000.00
101-5-111-429	Commissioners	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 94,500.00
101-5-163-429	Register of Deeds	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 90,500.00

101-5-171-429	Information Tech	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 65,500.00
101-5-222-429	Emergency Management	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 56,000.00
101-5-524-425	County Fair	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 46,000.00

- Members of the Butte County Fire Protection we available to share updates on 2023 activities including turn over, grant applications, purchases of bunker gear, outdated SCBA, wild land gear, fundraising activities, and money received from State Grant and what funds were used for. Funds received from the County will be used for money need to match 50/50 grants. State funds were only able to be used for coats and pants. Other needed equipment needed is very expensive.
- Don Tishmeck (Newell fire Department) and Mark Hespe (Butte County Fire Protection Services) County) thanked the commissioners for their support and spoke on volunteers, equipment purchased with state grant funds, stated any available funding would be used to purchase needed equipment, and mentioned the collaboration amongst fire departments and community members.
- Commissioner Harms asked where each department was sitting with PPE equipment. Some new PPE was purchased using State grant money. The only exception was the newly formed department because they were not eligible because they hadn't been formed for at least one year.

Motion by Ager, Second by Herman to approve the following cash transfers. Vote Aye-3 with Commissioner Erk abstaining from the vote. Motion Carried.

Amount	Description
\$ 2,000.00	From General Fund Cash (101-101) to Domestic Abuse Cash (229-101)
\$ 512,492.00	From General Fund Cash (101-101) to Highway Cash (201-101)
\$ 100,000.00	From General Fund Cash (101-101) to Fire Cash (211-101)
\$ 239,088.48	From ARPA Fund Cash (290-101) to Highway Cash (201-101)
\$ 151,889.99	From ARPA Fund Cash (290-101) to E911 Cash (207-101)
\$ 5,087.18	From ARPA Fund Cash (290-101) to 24/7 Cash (248-101)
\$ 759,284.52	From ARPA Fund Cash (290-101) to General Cash (101-101)
\$ 646,000.00	From General Fund Cash (101-101) to Restricted Cash Building (101-107.3)

Motion by Erk, Second by Herman to appoint Ed Dibble for another three term (2024-2027) on the Railroad Authority Board. Vote Unanimous. Motion Caried.

Three applications for Planning Board Commission opening were reviewed. An interview committee was formed to hold interviews and bring recommendations to the board. The panel will include Chair of the Planning Commission Heidi Lewis, Planning Director Cristina Wilson, and Commissioners Herman and Erk.

Motion Herman second by Ager to enter Executive Session Personnel SDCL 1-25-1 at 9:49 AM. Vote Unanimous. Motion Caried. Out of Executive Session at 9:59 pm. No action taken as a result of the executive session.

Motion by Herman Second by Erk to adjourn the meeting at 9:59 AM. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

APPROVED: Stan Harms, Chairperson

ATTEST: Annie Capp, Auditor