

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

Tuesday, December 17, 2024

THE BOARD OF BUTTE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CONVENED AT 9:30 A.M. on Tuesday, December 17, 2024. Commissioners present were Ager, Walton, Erk, and Batterman, Herman attended via phone.

Chair Ager called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Erk, Second by Walton to approve the meeting agenda with removal of 9b (Compass Point). Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried

Chair Ager called for a moment of silence/reflection.

Motion by Batterman, Second by Erk, to approve the Consent Agenda Items with addition of Ken Thomas invoice. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Consent Agenda - The following items were placed on the consent agenda for final action to be taken on all items by a single vote. Any item may be removed from the consent agenda by any member of the Commission for separate consideration.

- a. Approval of regular meeting minutes – 03Dec2024
- b. County Lien Report

LIEN REPORT BUTTE COUNTY				
	EXPENSES NOV 2024	EXPENSES YTD	RECOVERED NOV 2024	RECOVERED YTD
CAA/PUBLIC DEFENDER	\$ 25,751.81	\$ 251,501.34	\$ 2,348.45	\$ 33,849.10
JAIL	\$ 1,798.98	\$ 322,742.95	\$ 2,502.47	\$ 38,715.51
POOR LIEN	\$ 800.00	\$ 4,053.78	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
REG JUV DETENTION	\$ 0.00	\$ 124,945.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 87,547.98

- c. Bills per Printout
- d. Apportioning and Other payments
- e. Register of Deeds Report
- f. Travel Request:
 - i. Dispatch: Jonas Killian to attend 911 Basic Course in Pierre, SD January 5-17, 2024.
- g. Planning:
 - i. Final: Owner: Robert Shear; Lots J1 and J2 Lot J and Lots K1, K2 & K3 of Lot K of Peaceful Pines Subdivision Located in the NE4SE4 of SECTION 8, T8N, R2E, B.H.M., Butte County, South Dakota
 - ii. Final: Owner: Neal & Teann Rogers; Lot 1 of Hope Road Hills Subdivision, Located in the NE4NE4 of Section 35, T9N, R6E, BHM, Butte County, South Dakota

Beginning at 9:35 AM, the opportunity for public comments was opened. Tom Brunner provided comments regarding GOP attendance and legislative session, state budget, proposed library and property tax cuts, and their effect on counties. Mr. Brunner suggested cutting regulations. Chairman Ager asked Mr. Brunner about the process for introducing a bill. Mr. Brunner explained that it depends on the specificity and if asking for money. He suggested starting with county associations - SDACC/SDACO.

Brian Kline of Kline Funeral Home and Mark Leverington of Leverington Funeral Home requested an increase in indigent burial allocations. The fee increased by \$100.00 since 1994 while costs to funeral homes have drastically risen. Mr. Klien and Mr. Leverington requested \$2500 for cremation, \$3000 for a traditional funeral

with additional costs of opening and closing of the grave at \$531.00, and vault \$1100. Statistics were shared with the average number of funerals, percent of cremation vs traditional, how many are indigent burials, and the reasons for indigent burial requests. Mr. Kline and Mr. Leverington shared amounts paid in surrounding counties ranging from \$1,700-\$3,000. Butte County will request cities with cemeteries to waive the opening and closing of graves when an indigent.

Commissioner Ager received a request to reduce the speed on Upper Redwater Road from 55 to 25 MPH. Discussion was held regarding the length, amount of travel, type of road (primary/through), and gravel pit. Highway Superintendent Heidrich believes that this road is not justified to reduce this road. Cannot get a haul agreement with gravel pit owners because of the different companies hauling the gravel. The trucks are slower than other vehicles. Development is ongoing. No action to be taken.

Equalization/Planning – Cristina Wilson presented an Abatement request for Parcel 09.6.20.2.1 regarding Owner Occupied Status. Motion by Erk, Second by Batterman to deny Abatement request for Parcel 09.6.20.2.1. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Auditor Capp presented an annual report on behalf of Treasurer Debbie Lensegrav including collected vehicle fees, 605Drive Motor vehicle system, delinquent property taxes, tax notices, and assessment freeze for elderly and disabled. Treasurer Lensegrav thanked States Attorney LeEllen McCartney and her team for all of their hard work on the tax deed process.

Highway Superintendent Dwayne Heidrich provided a year-end activity report including hours of labor broken down by type of work done, miles of shoulder pulled, gravel used, cost of signs (replacement), and completion of Hoover/Zeona Bridge replacement. Heidrich thanked his crew for all their hard work and expressed his appreciation for his employees' efforts in 2024. Commissioners echoed the appreciation. Discussion was held regarding the potential of purchasing or leasing 2 or 3 more bladders and hiring additional employees to run the equipment based on projected growth. Commissioner Herman thanked Heidrich and the highway crew for all their work and collaboration.

States Attorney LeEllen McCartney provided an activity report including, conflicts of incoming States Attorney Barnaud based on his work as a defense attorney (42/420 open cases), probation violations, busy court calendar, end of year report will be provided during Jan 07, 2025, meeting.

Chairman Ager presented States Attorney LeEllen McCartney with a recognition for her years of service.

A five-minute recess was called.

Sheriff Lamphere provided a monthly activity report and said he will be up to full staff in the next weeks.

Auditor Capp provided an activity report including levy approvals, SDACO Executive Board Meeting, issues with the administration building. Capp to follow up with Public Works to install a check valve at the manhole and have the line scoped on the county side.

Auditor Capp presented the 2025 Increase in Court-Appointed Attorney Fees. This will affect the 2025 Court Appointed Attorney Budget and may need to be addressed at the end of 2025.

Auditor Capp presented a rent increase for Health Services and Court Services offices. Discussion was held regarding alternate space and terms of the contract. Motion by Erk, Second by Walton to permit Chairman Ager and Auditor Capp to sign the Lease Agreement. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried

Commissioner Ager nominated Commissioner Batterman to serve on the Railroad Authority Commission Appointee (2025-2027), seconded by Walton. Vote unanimous. Motion Carried.

Auditor Capp presented the Department of Transportation – FHWA Urban Area Map Belle Fourche Boundary change. Commissioners asked to table the approval until more questions could be answered.

Committee Reports were given: Commissioner Erk - Weed and Pest, nothing new

Old/Unfinished Business:

- Commissioner Herman thanked past and present commissioners for the collaboration and accomplishments in the two terms she has served.

Informational;

- Auditor Capp provided some Property Tax Relief information received from DOR and proposed legislation.
- End of Year Special meeting will be on Dec 30, 2024, at 9:30 AM.

Motion by Erk, Second by Walton to adjourn the meeting at 11:47 AM. Vote Unanimous. Motion Carried.

PAYMENTS**SALARY**

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE/PLANNING \$8,434.76, AUDITOR'S OFFICE \$8,607.75, BUILDING \$4,054.87, COMMISSIONERS \$4,158.92, DISPATCH \$17,578.73, ELECTION \$2,214.03, EM/911 \$940.58, EXTENSION \$1,881.60, HIGHWAY DEPT/WEED CONTROL \$25,084.35, JUDICIAL \$1,635.31, NURSE'S/WIC OFFICE \$1,180.80, REGISTER OF DEEDS OFFICE \$4,658.23, SHERIFF/JAIL DEPT \$24,720.36, STATES ATTORNEY OFFICE \$14,249.99, TREASURER'S OFFICE \$10,143.02, VETERAN SERVICE OFFICE \$853.25.

COUNTY SHARE FICA

BUTTE COUNTY SHARE \$9,638.83

SDRS RETIREMENT

BUTTE COUNTY SHARE \$7,258.75

GROUP INSURANCE

BUTTE COUNTY SHARE \$32,804.17

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

JUROR FEE \$996.42, A WICH \$231.62, ANDS PLMBG \$240.00, A RECH \$256.12, ARCT SPCL \$6,793.29, AT&T \$1,057.08, A HILL \$268.50, A-Z SHRD \$56.96, B BRNR \$310.18, BULA HLMR \$227.04, BILL SMRT \$216.32, C MILLS \$180.10, C CTNGM \$176.02, C DUNN \$228.05, CNTY DRUG \$442.65, L CLVR \$227.54, C LWIS \$254.08, D ELIT \$49.02, D ADMS \$200.51, DOH \$290.00, D TOPE \$175.00, 03705 - D PTTS \$235.70, DBLE STAR \$2,574.63, FRST INTER \$1,743.17, FISH WNDW \$99.00, F CLVLND \$250.00, G HLMR \$254.98, G MINR \$270.91, JUROR FEE \$23.40, H PRKR \$47.01, B HDRCH \$230.60, IAAO \$720.00, J ASTN \$203.06, J WLKR \$216.32, J SNZY \$176.02, K DAVS \$201.02, K SLZAR \$201.02, K RCHRDS \$251.00, KNNY LAW \$7,585.82, G KTZN \$222.44, KONE \$507.51, L BENT \$203.06, L SKGB \$229.08, L HNTZ \$251.53, L CAPP \$200.00, L SNZY \$252.04, L HYES \$221.34, L VLMR \$200.00, MAPS \$640.00, MARGARET LADUE \$25.00, M BRDN \$258.16, M ADMS \$2 OSS, JANICE 75.50, M KPSSA \$200.00, M WNDT \$258.16, MEAD CO AUDT \$37,430.00, MNMNT HTH NTWK \$86.59, MNMNT HLTH \$35.00, NALA \$115.50, N TRBVL \$202.04, N KRFT \$201.02, J OSS \$210.22, R BRLY \$200.00, R BCHMN \$330.20, R VLRY \$176.53, R WKNS \$227.04, RYL SPRY \$998.25, RUSH CMNS \$23,615.68, S MASN \$225.00, S MTLR \$284.68, S SCHR \$179.08, SCRM \$27.00, SD ASSN COMM \$2,979.00, SD ASSN HWY \$350.00, SD DPT REV \$479.22, SDDOT \$1,457.80, SD DVLP \$60.00, SDPA \$75.00, SRVL \$285.18, S CAPP \$203.06, S KRMN \$252.04, S HODG \$260.71, S SMNK \$222.44, S BLKE \$202.56, S RASN \$251.02, S HYES \$271.02, T BAKR \$202.04, T NLSN \$175.00, TYLR TECH \$2,005.76, V MDNSY \$202.04, V HNYZ \$176.53, WD LRSN \$724.98, WRNG BF \$659.20, W GLBT \$203.06, L WLLS \$301.51, WSTRN JUV \$2,385.00, W GHGR \$201.02, L WNDLY \$175.51, Z PRDT \$530.25

PUBLICATIONS

BH PNER \$51.44,

RENT/LEASE

BH PURE \$45.25, CNTRY BSNS \$429.77, CULG OF BH \$135.00, 00767 - DKTA EQPT \$1,057.60

REPAIRS/MAINTENANCE

AUTO PROS \$583.31, BTLR MCHN \$11,030.47, CBH \$3,385.43, FRSR WLDG \$475.00, HRTLND ELTC \$9,944.66

SUPPLIES

A&J SPPLY \$1,079.68, AUTO VALUE BF \$965.91, HLYRD \$60.38, JD PWER \$450.00, MCGAS \$1,058.49, MG OIL \$ 12,513.19, OFFC EMPR \$48.59, PRAR AUTO \$39.99, PRAR HLS ENGR \$93.58, PRAR HLS PHRM \$120.00, PRNT MKT \$108.68, RUNGS \$3,533.00, STGS RSPD \$498.99, TMSN RUTRS \$321.60, WST TIRE \$13,638.73

TRAVEL/CONFERENCE

RMKTA \$438.00,

UTILITIES

BH ENRGY \$3,013.46, BLUE PK \$349.68, BUTTE ELTC \$251.12, BUTTE MEADE WTR \$55.00, CNTRYLNK \$1,351.79, GLDN WEST \$23.45, MDU \$1,079.44, TOWN NSLD \$80.26

APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION: James Ager, Chairperson

ATTEST: Annie Capp, Butte County Auditor