

Garfield County Board of Commissioners Record

Burwell, Garfield County, Nebraska

The Garfield County Board of Commissioners met Tuesday, March 12th, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. in the Commissioners Room at the Garfield County Courthouse in Burwell, Nebraska pursuant to public notice posted in three public places. Chairman Krause called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. with the following present: Commissioners, Krause, Zulkoski and Hurlburt.

Motion made by Hurlburt to approve the agenda, second by Zulkoski. Roll call vote: Aye, all; Nay, none.

Motion made by Hurlburt to approve & adopt minutes of last County Commissioners meeting held February 27, 2024, second by Krause. Roll call vote: Aye, all; Nay, none.

In unfinished business the matter of FEMA Disaster DR4420 was discussed. Road Superintendent Kinney stated that the final inspection is scheduled for April 1, 2024. Commissioner Hurlburt stated that she spoke with NEMA recently regarding payment and they will be remitting payment for final reimbursement by month end, less the administrative costs.

Commissioner Zulkoski presented information from the GLW Extension meeting he recently attended to discuss the proposed interlocal agreement. He said that GLW Extension was waiting on a County to take the lead on this. Garfield County will initiate conversation with other counties and start the process.

The District Court month end report was reviewed as presented.

At 1:45 p.m., Chairman Krause recessed the regular meeting and opened the public hearing for the flex district amendment. Kali Bolli, Planning and Zoning Administrator, presented with an amendment to the flex district that was approved by the planning and Zoning Board. With no comments from the public, at 1:50 p.m. Chairman Krause reconvened the regular meeting. Motion made by Hurlburt to approve the amendment to the flex district as presented, second by Zulkoski. Aye, all; Nay, none. Roll call vote: Aye, all; Nay, none.

The County Treasurer presented a change in pledged collateral, revenue listing and disbursement report. All were reviewed, as presented. The tax sale certificates issued were reviewed and all parcels were sold this year.

Discussion was held about the structure of the Law Enforcement between Garfield County and the City of Burwell. Both entities are having difficulties hiring law enforcement officers. Possible consolidation, with tier payment program offered for new hires. Motion made by Krause to form a committee to explore solutions for consolidation of the sheriff and police department, with those members including Sheriff Korey Johnson, Deputy Paul Cox, City Administrator Jeff Pohl, and Commissioner Diana Hurlburt, second by Zulkoski. Aye, all; Nay, none.

Discussion was held on the County building a cash reserve. Hurlburt asked if the interest earned from NPAIT could be used for a cash reserve or how could the County build a reserve. County Treasurer, Tammy Hitchcock, stated that currently the interest goes to County General, but she would check with the State Auditors office and check.

Hurlburt shared on LB1067, the elimination of the inheritance tax. NACO is opposing this bill and asking that the Governor propose a sustainable revenue to replace the inheritance tax.

In other new business, Kali Bolli shared a quarterly report from the safety committee. The only concern currently is a tote that is being stored in the furnace room inside the door that should be moved out of the way or to a different location.

With no further business, Chairman Krause adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Attest: _____
Keri L. Koenigsberg,
Garfield County Clerk

Attest: _____
Scott L. Krause,
Chairman of the Board