

Unofficial draft Minutes of the May 3, 2011, Buffalo County Commission Board meeting.

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BUFFALO COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
May 3, 2011**

Chairman Lloyd Lutter called the meeting to order with Commissioners Ronald Petersen and Donita Loudner present; none absent.

Highway Superintendent Ken Wulff presented pictures of a headwall for a culvert to be installed in 224th Street the third week of May. The retriever is being used now to reclaim gravel from the ditches.

Mr. Wulff reported on the FEMA Hazard Mitigation grant specifications for assistance. A professional engineer is required to be involved and would be the County's expense responsibility with no assurance the project would be approved for the 75/25% cost share grant funds. The Highway Superintendent was requested to do a feasibility study on one site on 356th Avenue.

Loudner moved to surplus the old shop lights replaced by the Energy grant, seconded by Petersen. Vote: Petersen-Aye; Loudner-Aye; Lutter-Aye. Motion carried. If the lights aren't sold, they will be scrapped.

Because of public support, Petersen moved to approve a work week of 4 ten hour days for the Highway Department, seconded by Lutter. Vote: Petersen-Aye; Lutter-Aye; Loudner-Abstain. Motion carried.

Petersen moved to accept the fuel bid from Darrell's Oil Inc for unleaded gas @ \$3.90.8 per gal; Ethanol gas @ \$3.85.4 per gal; Diesel #2 dyed @ \$3.77.5 per gal, seconded by Loudner, motion carried, with all voting aye.

Highway Superintendent Ken Wulff reported that Andrew Zastrow had been hired for part-time summer help.

Representatives of the SDSU Cooperative Extension Service met with the Board to discuss the restructuring of the Extension Service due to cuts in funding. There will be seven regional sites with the Mitchell and Pierre centers assisting Buffalo County. Counties are being asked to support Youth Advisory Positions. Buffalo County could possibly join Jerauld and Sanborn Counties or Brule and Aurora. Petersen will attend a meeting at Chamberlain on May 9th with Brule, Aurora and Lyman Counties.

Loudner moved to approve an Application of Occupancy on the Right of Way of County Highways from Venture Communications Coop. to upgrade their Harrold and Highmore exchanges by burying fiber optic cables, seconded by Petersen. Vote: Loudner-Aye; Petersen-Aye; Lutter-Aye. Motion carried.

Central Electric is preparing an environmental report for FEMA for assessment of impact of upcoming storm construction in Jerauld and Buffalo Counties and requested comments. Petersen moved to support this environment, seconded by Loudner, motion carried, with all voting aye.

Notices of Hospitalization were reviewed.

Petersen moved to reject a Hospital Request for Payment due to lack of information, seconded by Loudner. Vote: Petersen-Aye; Loudner-Aye; Lutter-Aye. Motion carried.

Loudner moved to renew the Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of South Dakota group health insurance coverage with no changes for Buffalo County employees, seconded by Petersen. Vote: Loudner-Aye; Petersen-Aye; Lutter-Aye. Motion carried.

The vacant positions of the Roving Deputy and Deputy Sheriff were discussed. Sheriff Willman presented Sheriff Dept. budget and jail figures and explained jurisdiction issues and activities of his office. He indicated he was not required to furnish a log of activities to the Board and didn't plan to do so. He does furnish a mileage log. Mr. Willman stated all radios will be required to be reprogrammed to narrow band by January 1, 2013.

Petersen moved to authorize employees attend the quarter Southeast Central District meeting in Brule County May 5th, seconded by Loudner, motion carried, with all voting aye.

Loudner discussed a Suicide Task force Meeting regarding mental health funding.

Anyone interested in the Buffalo County Weed Supervisor position should contact a Commissioner.

A Public Meeting will be held June 7th at 4:00 P.M. to discuss Tax Opt Out issues for Buffalo County. The public is encourage to attend.

Petersen moved to recess as a Board of Commission and reconvene as a Board of Equalization, seconded by Loudner, motion carried, with all voting aye.

Chairman Lutter opened the meeting as a Board of Equalization. A letter received from Val Roberts requesting the Roberts Family Trust real estate taxes be lowered was reviewed. After consideration of all information received, Petersen moved to not make any changes in assessment values for the land in question, seconded by Loudner. Vote: Petersen-Aye; Loudner-Aye; Lutter-Aye. Motion carried.

Petersen moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Loudner, to meet June 7, 2011, at 1:00 P.M.