

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

The Board of Trustees of the Town of Buffalo met at the Harding County Memorial Recreation Center at 6:00PM on July 7, 2025. Trustee's present: John Klempel, Doris Dagman, Brandon Schleuning, Jason Lindholm, Tex Lermeny. Employee's present: Jaylene Stirling, Barb Williams, Ryan Smith. Guest's present: Sue Klempel, Stephanie Smith, Kaylen Padden, Tonya Hanson, Norman Negaard, Deputy Nathan Williams.

President Klempel called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Lindholm made a motion to approve the agenda as is, Schleuning seconded, all approved – motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Lindholm made a motion to approve the bills, Lermeny seconded, all approved – motion carried.

<u>WHERE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>\$ AMOUNT</u>
Amazon	Supplies	\$566.86
Badger Meter	Services	\$262.64
BH Pioneer	Advertising	\$127.30
Black Hills Chemical	Rec Center Floor Supplies	\$1,253.90
Buffalo Hardware	supplies	\$718.43
Casey Peterson	Audit	\$28,609.44
Doris Dagman	reimbursement for Elected Official Training	\$811.25
Grand Electric Cooperative	Utilities	\$2,466.15
Grand Electric Cooperative	easement & construction - rec center	\$12,360.30
Hett Plumbing	Bar plumbing	\$149.74
Jaylene Stirling	Reimbursement for meeting with CPA	\$218.00
Mandy Morris, CPA, LLC	services	\$2,881.10
Midcontinent	Water Testing Fees	\$78.00
Nations Center News	Minutes	\$109.04
NW SD Regional Landfill	Dump Fees	\$4,394.80
Olson Fuels	supplies	\$81.46
SD DOR	Sales Tax	\$407.74
SDML	Elected Officials Workshop - Doris	\$100.00
SDRS	fees	\$75.84
SDRS	fees	\$73.70
SDRS	fees	\$1,457.40
Servall	Rec Center Rugs	\$279.07
Town of Buffalo	utilities	\$592.41
USPS	Stamps - 5 Rolls	\$365.00
Waddington Boom Truck	Tree Removal	\$3,800.00
WRCTC	Utilities	\$283.47

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Schleuning made a motion to approve the minutes from July 7, 2025, Lindholm seconded, all approved – motion carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Deputy Williams was present and submitted his report for July to review and talked about reducing the speed limit through town, moving speed limit signs, and crosswalks. Stirling will meet with him, Cheryl, and Sherriff Sabo, to discuss what we need to do moving forward and have a plan for the board to review at the September meeting. He also brought forms for people to do a ride along with him and offered any board member to let him know when they would like to. Deputy Williams gave the analogy that trying to catch people for speeding is like fishing – some days are busy and others you just sit and wait.

BAR REPORT/LIQUOR LICENSES: No bar report was made available. Smith brought up that he had estimates for getting mini splits to put in the bar side and the quotes were available to view if that is an option the board would like to proceed with. Discussion was also held about the door between Blossoms and Brew Buffalo Bar and Blossoms and Brew, it should probably be closed at all times to help with keeping the cold air in the Bar side, but it is convenient for the owners to be able to go back and forth to the kitchen. The board decided to wait on mini splits at this time. Dagman made a motion to approve two temporary liquor licenses for the Harding County Chamber of Commerce, one for August 30- September 1 at the Buffalo Rodeo Grounds and the other for August 31<sup>st</sup> at the Harding County Memorial Recreation Center. Lermeney seconded, all in favor - motion carried.

HARDING COUNTY MEMORIAL RECREATION CENTER REPORT: Williams informed the board that we are holding a glow in the dark pickleball tournament on August 30. Smith gave an update on the air conditioning unit progress. Klempel commented that the floors look good after being redone.

SIDEWALKS: Stirling informed the board that she is working on things still and will have a better update at the September meeting.

PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL: Dagman made a motion to postpone the special meeting to August 18<sup>th</sup> to confer with Dusty Ginsbach for legal advice. Lermeney seconded the motion, all approved - motion carried.

PUBLIC CONCERNS/COMMENTS: Negaard was present and brought up that he is not impressed that he has to pay the hydrant charge for his hydrant in his pasture north of town on Highway 85, the board should trust him that no water is being used, so he should not be charged. Stirling mentioned that he would have to pay due to the rates resolution for 2025, but those could change in 2026. Smith asked him if he could put a lock on that hydrant, Negaard repeated that the board should just trust him and does not want a lock on his hydrant. Lindholm asked to get a copy of the water ordinance and rates resolution for 2025 in September. Negaard also brought up

that he is not impressed that the bathrooms at the roadside park are not being cleaned, Smith will get a cleaning log set in the bathrooms, as he is cleaning them routinely.

HOMEcomings: Padden and Hanson were present to ask for street closures on Wednesday, September 24, 2025 on Main street from Hwy 85 to the hardware store, and 1<sup>st</sup> St West from Main St North 1 block from 7:00PM -10:00PM and Friday September 26, 2025 from 12:30PM – 2:00PM. Dagman made a motion to approve the September 24 street closure if they stay between the painted lines on the streets, Lermeney seconded, all approved - motion carried. Lindholm made a motion to approve the September 26 closure, Lermeney seconded, all approved - motion carried.

PIONEER BANK & TRUST: Stirling reported to the board that she was asked by Erica Wagner to put Pioneer Bank & Trust on the agenda due to them having late fees and her wanting Stirling to delete them. Stirling informed her that she could not delete late fees and that it would have to go through the board. Stirling reported that their bill was late two months, May was not paid until May 21, and June was not paid until June 26, therefore they had late fees applied and she had informed the local branch and the administrative office that those late fees would need to be paid. The administrative office agreed that they needed paid, as they were late with paying their bill. If further issues arise Stirling will bring it to the board. No one was present from Pioneer Bank & Trust to dispute the issue.

CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT ACCOUNTS: Stirling mentioned that she will look further into combining these accounts as they mature.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Stirling handed out Resolution #2019-001, regarding conflict-of-interest policy for elected and appointed officials to each board member to review.

TREE RESPONSIBILITY: Smith discussed that we need to discuss whose responsibility it is for trees in the right of way. Discussion was held and Stirling will ask Ginsbach about a waiver.

SLIM MILLER TREES: Smith plans to pull dead trees next spring and plant new ones. Discussion was held regarding making sure to get the roots out, soil, and water.

WATER: Discussion was held on the water in Buffalo sometimes being more yellow than other times. Smith explained the 3 different wells and that we have water samples from each well that are available to compare. Our water only gets treated with chlorine as it leaves each well, the water does not always make it from the wells to the tower before being distributed throughout the town. Dagman asked if a water sample has been sent to Pierre for testing, Smith reported that he follows state laws and has it tested in Rapid City. Smith mentioned we could look into more water treatment options, but it would triple the cost to consumers for water usage. Klempel asked if flushing the fire hydrants would help, Smith reported that it would not as the water comes from the wells and loops around town except in just a couple of places.

GRAND ELECTRIC EASEMENT: Lermeney made a motion to approve the easement, Lindholm seconded, all approved - motion carried.

911 ADDRESSES: Stirling reported that she will be working with Cheryl at the Sherriff's Department to get 911 addresses for anyone in town moving forward, they are also working on making 3<sup>rd</sup> Street East into an actual street on maps.

RESTRICTED USE SITE DANR REPORT: Smith explained the report to the board and discussion was held on new pits and room to grow at the restricted use site.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Smith asked the board if they would be okay if the Chamber used the dump truck during Labor Day – he will drop it off at the arena on Friday and pick it up Tuesday. Lermeney made a motion to waive all fees and Schluening seconded, all approved - motion carried. Smith explained that he found that the title for his position when Greg Ginsbach was hired in 1998 was Water/Wastewater/Streets Superintendent and Maintenance position, more discussion will be held at the special meeting on August 18. Smith also informed the board that he will be at the fair all weekend with not great cell service, he will also start using his time off and will inform the Board President or Vice President and Stirling when he plans to be out.

FINANCE OFFICER REPORT: Stirling brought an email from Buried Treasures Garden Center about using them to get planters throughout the Town, it was decided to continue using Buffalo Hardware. Stirling read thank you notes from 4H rodeo and VBS, along with a note from a citizen concerning handicapped parking and access on Main St. Stirling presented a letter from the Department of Legislative Audit that our audit report was accepted for the year ending December 31, 2024. The board discussed keeping \$100-\$150 in petty cash at the office for people who pay in cash, good records will be kept. Williams presented the idea of getting town apparel to sell.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Lindholm asked to go into executive session pursuant SDCL 1-25-2(1) at 7:28PM. Out of executive session at 7:58PM.

MISC: Misc discussion was held on sidewalks, meetings, communications.

Dagman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08PM, Schluening seconded, all approved - meeting adjourned.

The next Town Board Meeting will be a special meeting regarding Personnel Policies and 2026 Budget on August 18, 2025 at 6:00PM at the Town of Buffalo Municipal office.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
John Klempel, President

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jaylene Stirling, Finance Officer