



## Bismarck-Burleigh Commissions Committee

6/2/2023 - Minutes

Call to Order.

Burleigh County Commission Chair Becky Matthews called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM. Committee members present were City of Bismarck Mayor Schmitz, Burleigh County Commission Chair Becky Matthews, and Burleigh County Auditor Mark Splonskowski,

Future Meeting Dates.

- June 16, 2023
- July 7, 2023
- July 21, 2023

1. Consider approval of minutes of May 19, 2023, meeting.

Chair Matthews called for approval of the minutes from the May 19, 2023, meeting. Mayor Schmitz motioned to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2023, meeting as presented, and Auditor Splonskowski seconded. Upon a roll call vote, all voted aye. M/C.

2. Consider review of updated City/County Building Lease Agreement.

The group discussed the progress of the City/County Building Lease Agreement. Auditor Splonskowski noted he will provide his final calculations of the total square feet leased by Burleigh County to City Officials. Mayor Schmitz noted he will provide that information to the City Commission with a request to approve. They will discuss the Municipal Court lease agreement at the June 16, 2023 meeting.

3. Consider review of Public Health Joint Powers Agreement.

Chair Matthews started the discussion by suggesting that the Board of Health be composed of a seven-person committee with representation of a Bismarck City Commissioner, Burleigh County Commissioner, two members of the community-at-large, and three health care professionals.

Mayor Schmitz stated it is his belief that the budget for Public Health should be incrementally adjusted to reflect the larger burden placed on Burleigh County residents through Burleigh County tax collections. Mayor Schmitz explained that this would be different from the current

practice where 80% of Public Health's budget is supported through tax collections by the City of Bismarck. The Mayor continued by stating that it is his role as Mayor to ensure the City of Bismarck and its residents are treated fairly when it comes to taxation and services. Mayor Schmitz closed by noting that currently, the burden is falling unfairly on City residents due to the higher percentage of Public Health's budget being supported by the City of Bismarck residents, and it is his preference that the 2024 budget for Public Health would be split 75% City and 25% Burleigh County.

Commissioner Cleary noted it is her goal to reach a compromise for the Public Health budget and noted to be fair to all Burleigh County residents, and the budget should be the sole responsibility of Burleigh County, with the Bismarck residents contributing to the Burleigh County tax collections annually. Commissioner Cleary believes the transition should allow adequate time for the Board of Health to adjust and develop its role meanwhile incrementally shifting the taxation responsibility to Burleigh County.

General consensus of the group will be to proceed with a 2024 budget with a proposed split of 75% of City funding and 25% of County funding, referring to the worksheet attached to the agenda.

4. Consider continued review of City/County IT Services Agreement.

Tandra Kraft, City IT Manager, reported that there is a need to have City IT and County IT meet to develop a plan to transition Burleigh County to its own network. Ms. Kraft noted that the shift from City IT services would need to be developed through a series of meetings and implemented as a single action to avoid threats from cyber security.

Chair Matthews noted that she will be recommending the County budget for a full year of City IT services in 2024 to allow for a plan and implementation strategy to be developed.

5. Other business.

Adjourn.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:36 AM.