



Otoe County Board Minutes



November 22, 2016

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:45 a.m. on November 22, 2016, to audit and sign payroll claims and regular claims and to take care of such other matters as are on the agenda for this meeting. Advance notice of this meeting was published in the Nebraska City News Press and Syracuse Journal Democrat and posted in at least three public places, including the County's website. This meeting was open to the Public, and the agenda was kept current, and is on file for public inspection at the office of the Otoe County Clerk during regular business hours.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman of the Board, Timothy Nelsen. Answering present at roll call were Commissioner Nelsen, Commissioner Freshman, Commissioner Hauptman, Commissioner Lade and Commissioner Sornson; none absent.

Chairman Nelsen informed the public in attendance that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the south wall of the Courtroom. Additional copies are available upon request.

Commissioner Lade made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hauptman to accept the agenda as posted. There being no further discussion, Chairman Nelsen called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Nelsen, Freshman, Hauptman, Lade and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman to accept the minutes from the previous meeting and not have them read as each member was furnished with a copy of same. There being no further discussion, Chairman Nelsen called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Hauptman, Lade, Sornson and Nelsen. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Hauptman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lade to audit and sign payroll claims. There being no further discussion, Chairman Nelsen called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Hauptman, Lade, Sornson, Nelsen and Freshman. Commissioner Nelsen approved payment of all payroll claims except those claims submitted by the Public Defender's Office and County Attorney's Office to which he abstained. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Having reviewed the regular claims in advance of this meeting, Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to approve payment of the regular claims. There being no further discussion, Chairman Nelsen called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Lade, Sornson, Nelsen, Freshman and Hauptman. Commissioner Nelsen approved payment of all claims except those claims submitted by the Public Defender's Office and County Attorney's Office to which he abstained. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Otoe County Public Defender, Mike Ziskey, came before the Board to request funds to purchase two new desks for his staff. He presented a quote from Cornhusker Industries, which is a state organization utilizing prison inmates to manufacture office furniture. He noted that he did not get new furniture in 2007 when other county officials were given the opportunity to update their offices during the courthouse renovation. Their current desks are nearly 30 years old. Commissioner Freshman said the County could repurpose the old desks if they were in good enough condition. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to allow Mr. Ziskey to purchase two new desks from Cornhusker Industries. The quoted price was \$3,490; said purchase will be expended from the Inheritance Tax Fund. There being no further discussion, Chairman Nelsen called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Freshman, Hauptman and Lade. Commissioner Nelsen abstained. Motion carried.



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For the past several years, the County has purchased most of its rock from Martin-Marietta Aggregates. But within the last two years, the company has been unable to keep up with rock demand. Supervisor Jon Brinkman received a current price list from Martin-Marietta and Kerford Limestone Co. He said Kerford's price was higher, but they would guarantee availability if the County committed to purchase a specified amount of tons. Mr. Brinkman was directed to advertise for bids for the purchase of rock and to draw up a contract specifying terms and conditions. County Attorney Dave Partsch reminded the Board that several factors should be considered when awarding a bid, including price and availability when needed.

Commissioner Freshman said he would like to advertise for the purchase of a cab and chassis to replace the truck currently being used by Crew Foreman, Ryan Neemann. He said the specs include a four-door cab without a box so it can be used as a flat bed. Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hauptman to proceed with advertising for the purchase of a cab and chassis for the Road Department. There being no further discussion, Chairman Nelsen called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Nelsen, Freshman, Hauptman, Lade and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Nelsen opened a public hearing to hear comments regarding the plat for MK Acres Subdivision located in Part of the SE 1/4 NW 1/4 S23-T9-R9 as requested by Arnold and Marlene Schroder; site location at 891 E Rd. There being no comments, the hearing was closed. Surveyor Dave Schmitz said the couple plan to build a new house on this 6.34 acre tract; all zoning requirements have been met. Commissioner Lade made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman to authorize the Chairman to sign the plat map for MK Acres Subdivision located in the WE 1/4 NW 1/4 S23-T9-R9. There being no further discussion, Chairman Nelsen called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Hauptman, Lade, Sornson and Nelsen. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Jon Brinkman gave the following road report:

- Syracuse West (490) - Deck has been poured (located on old Hwy 2)
- Otoe North (408) – tying steel and pouring deck next week
- Syracuse SE (BRO-7066(32) – deck and rails poured; starting dirt work
- K Rd Extension – removing subgrade and adding dirt
- Dunbar West (585) – contractor moving equipment in today; will be closed Monday
- West construction crew working in the area I-14 and I-16; also completing FEMA projects
- East construction crew working south of Nebraska City; then moving to F-59 near girl scout camp

Commissioner Nelsen said he received a call requesting the rocking of a road leading to a Pioneer Cemetery south of Burr. State Statute does not require the County to furnish rock as part of its obligation to maintain pioneer cemeteries. Commissioner Lade said the County hauled some there about 6 years ago; it's about 700 feet from the road to the gate. County Attorney Partsch said the County is limited to spend \$1000 a year to maintain each pioneer cemetery. Commissioner Nelsen thought there were only four designated pioneer cemeteries in the county. Commissioner Hauptman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Lade to furnish rock for pioneer cemeteries, not to exceed \$1000 per cemetery. There being no further discussion, Chairman Nelsen called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Hauptman, Lade, Sornson, Nelsen and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.



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Sandy Morrissey, Director of the Region V Prevention Coalition, presented her annual report. She said they were recently awarded a 2016 Prevention Block Grant in the amount of \$16,411. The money will be used to help sponsor school programs such as June Jam Assistance, Red White Tailgate and Red Ribbon Week. She said they are working to get a grant for education and awareness of youth suicide attempts, including the development of support systems for suicide survivors. She also said binge drinking and drug usage is on the rise in Otoe County and she hopes these programs will prevent or deter youth from participating in these high risk activities.

Commissioner Lade made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to adopt Resolution 11-22-16-38 bringing the pledged security amount at Arbor Bank, Nebraska City, to \$4,480,863.08. There being no further discussion, Chairman Nelsen called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Lade, Sornson, Nelsen, Freshman and Hauptman.

Otoe County Extension Educator, Sarah Purcell, presented the Board with three nominees to serve on the Otoe County Extension Board. Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman to appoint Brian James, Russel Moss and Michael Wieckhorst II to serve as members on Otoe County Extension Board. There being no further discussion, Chairman Nelsen called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Nelsen, Freshman, Hauptman and Lade. Nay – none. Motion carried. Ms. Purcell acknowledged Sarah Davis for being named as the Outstanding 4-H Alumni and Myldred Dettmer as the Friend of 4-H during a recent 4-H Celebration event.

There being no further business to come before the Board at this time, and since all items on the agenda have been disposed of, Chairman Nelsen declared this meeting adjourned at 9:17 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on December 13, 2016.

I, Janene Bennett, County Clerk of Otoe County, do hereby certify that the above minutes were taken by me, and are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and I therefore set my hand and affix the county seal this 22nd day of November 2016.

Janene Bennett
Otoe County Clerk