



Otoe County Board Minutes



February 14, 2017

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on February 14, 2017, to audit and sign 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, Rick Freshman. Answering present at roll call were Commissioner Freshman, Commissioner Sornson, Commissioner Hauptman, Commissioner Parsons and Commissioner Speth; none absent.

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

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

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson 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 Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Hauptman, Parsons, Speth and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Having reviewed the regular claims in advance of this meeting, Commissioner Hauptman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to approve payment of the regular claims. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Hauptman, Parsons, Speth, Freshman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Bids were opened for the purchase of two patrol vehicles. Larson Motors, Nebraska City, submitted a bid of \$27,231 for a 2017 Dodge Ram 1500 SSV pickup which included all government concessions. Sheriff Gress said the state base bid was \$30,175; however, he requested an additional key for \$50, which came to a total of \$30,225. Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons to purchase the 2017 Dodge Ram 1500 SSV pickup from Larson Motors for the quoted price of \$27,231, allowing Sheriff Gress to purchase an additional key if it was not included in the bid. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Speth, Freshman, Sornson and Hauptman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Larson Motors submitted a bid of \$26,350 for a 2017 Dodge Charger RWD V8. Sheriff Gress noted the state base bid started at \$25,673; however, he added a touch screen computer for \$1994 and deleted a dual battery in the amount of \$650 leaving a total bid price of \$27,017. Chairman Freshman asked Sheriff Gress to verify whether Larson's bid included the same changes; that is, adding the touch screen and deleting the dual battery for the same amount of money. Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons to award the bid to Larson Motors if their bid does not exceed \$27,694 – the calculated amount that would include the changes identical to the state bid. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were



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Commissioners Speth, Freshman, Sornson, Hauptman and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried. Neither bid included trade-ins.

Desaray Johnson, Family Development Specialist with SENCA, furnished each Board Member with a written quarterly report detailing the number of clients served and the types of services received. Funding sources included \$10,000 from the Kimmel Foundation and \$2000 from the Wirth Foundation.

Lead Supervisor Jon Brinkman explained the terms of the Bridge Match Program Agreement between NDOR and Otoe County. Brinkman said Otoe County is the lead county for six bridge replacement projects – two in Otoe County, two in Saunders County and two in Nemaha County. All six sites will be advertised as one large project which should result in more competitive bidding. All three counties will need to sign interlocal agreements as well, but these have not been drawn up yet. County Attorney Partsch recommended to table signing the resolution and program agreement until the interlocals are finalized; then sign all related documents at the same time. The two structures in Otoe County are #C006600335 located south of Intersection I-2; and #C006602825 located on N Rd two miles east of Douglas.

Road/bridge progress report as given by Supervisor Brinkman:

- The road crew is completing the backfill and installation of a culvert south of I-42 - Project (585)
- Another crew is cleaning out ditches southwest of Douglas and burning brush piles as weather permits
- Others have been assigned to count and measure all the culverts in the county
- The contractor, Midwest Underground, is finishing up Project (584) east of Douglas

Brinkman announced the Road Department is going back to its original format for dividing up the work. Foreman Ryan Neemann will be in charge of the crew performing grading and construction work on Road 36 and west while Foreman Chad Watkins will be responsible for the crew working east of Road 36. The rock hauling boundary line was adjusted at N Road west to 30th Road based on the number of miles of rock roads.

The cost for building K Road west of the Midwest Co-op grain handling facility was estimated at \$309,787. Commissioner Parsons felt the Co-op should pay the difference if the project goes over the estimate. All other board members agreed.

Pursuant to State Statute 33-106.02, Chairman Freshman acknowledged receipt of the monthly report from the Clerk of the District Court certifying fee collections in the amount of \$81,570.69 for the month of January 2017. Said report will be filed in the County Clerk's Office.

Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging is applying for a grant through the Nebraska Department of Roads that is used to fund a Public Transportation System for the aging population of southeast Nebraska. As a grant requirement, a letter of support must be included from each entity that they serve. For the past several years, Otoe County has pledged an annual contribution not to exceed \$25,325. Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hauptman to authorize the Chairman to sign and send a letter of support to Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging pledging a contribution up to \$25,325. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Sornson, Hauptman, Parsons and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried.



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At 8:52 a.m. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to recess until 10:00 a.m. at which time the Board is scheduled to meet in closed session for mediation of a personnel issue. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Hauptman, Parsons, Speth and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

At 10:06 a.m. the regular meeting resumed. Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hauptman to go into closed session for mediation of a personnel issue; closed session is necessary for the protection of public interest and the prevention of needless injury to individuals. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Sornson, Hauptman, Parsons and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried. All parties associated with the mediation were asked to remain in the meeting room. Chairman Freshman restated that discussion will be limited to the mediation of a personnel issue. He expects there will be no action taken today.

At 11:30 a.m. the County Attorney notified the County Clerk that the mediation session had adjourned. The next regular meeting will be held on February 27, 2017.

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 14th day February of 2017.

Janene Bennett
Otoe County Clerk