



Otoe County Board Minutes



August 8, 2017

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on August 8, 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 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 Courtroom. Additional copies are available upon request.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hauptman 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 Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hauptman 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 Parsons 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.

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 \$34,038.84 for the month of July 2017. Said report will be filed in the County Clerk's Office.

Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hauptman to cancel check #17070067 in the amount of \$209.90 due to double payment. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioner Parsons, Speth, Freshman, Sornson and Hauptman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Lead Supervisor Brinkman gave the following Road/Bridge Report:

- Contractor is working on Project BRO-7066(43) south of P-28
- Contractor has equipment on site for Project (601) west of G-24, but waiting for delivery of steel
- West Crew has completed abutment repair on Bridge #10705 north of Q-6; They moved to Road E west of Road 28 to replace a crossover culvert and driveway culvert; Continue to blade roads and haul rock as needed
- East Crew is working on Project (543) west of L-54, removing bridge and replacing it with a metal culvert; Repaired dirt on low water crossing west of J-50; Fixed a crossover culvert and hauled rip rap; Continue to haul rock and blade roads as needed



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There was a brief discussion regarding a County Tree Policy. Commissioner Parsons suggested advertising the statutes in the newspaper, reminding the landowner's of their responsibilities to keep the roadsides trimmed of trees and shrubs. Chairman Freshman felt a letter should be sent to the landowners since many of them don't read the newspaper. As another option, Brinkman suggested to include a notice with the tax statements that will be mailed out in November.

Five years ago, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Emergency Response Agencies in Cass and Otoe who agreed to share radio frequencies. Its purpose was to meet the safety needs of both counties, to ensure compliance with FCC Rules and Regulations and to provide authorization for frequency use. Within the terms of the MOU, the agreement shall be reviewed every five years, but may be cancelled by either party with a 30 day advance written notice. The document was reviewed and approved by the County Attorney. Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons to authorize the Chairman to sign and renew the Memorandum of Understanding by and among the Emergency Response Agencies of Cass and Otoe Counties regarding the shared use of radio frequencies. The agencies include Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Services, Fire Departments and Sheriffs' Departments. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Freshman, Sornson, Hauptman and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Freshman called for a recess at 8:45 a.m. until the representatives arrived to give their annual reports. At 8:55 a.m. the meeting resumed with all Commissioners being duly noted as present.

CJ Johnson, Regional Administrator for Region V Systems, gave his annual report for fiscal year 2016. His agency is responsible for providing mental health services to youth and adults in sixteen southeast counties of Nebraska. The State funded 78% of the nearly \$22,000,000 budget; 12% came from federal funding; 5% from counties and the remaining 5% from other sources. He outlined the benefits of several programs that have proved to be very successful such as Emergency Protective Care (EPC) and Crisis Prevention Hotline – used by law enforcement when dealing with individuals who are experiencing a behavioral health situation; Prevention Professional Partner and Transition-Age Professional Partner that assist youth who are at risk of entering juvenile justice or child welfare involvement. Otoe County's contribution for mental health will remain at \$35,079; the contribution for substance abuse will remain at \$6,311. These formulas are based on a per capita rate.

Dave Merrill, Executive Director for Region V Services, said their purpose is to provide support and training to people with mental disabilities that help them to become interdependent within their community. In the past year, they served nearly 900 people. Their budget request for FY18 remains the same as last year at \$28,017 even though the State has mandated additional expenses to their agency and cut revenue allocations.

Linda Plager Director of Services in Nebraska City introduced Michelle Kreifels as one of the Region V Service clients. Region V clients and staff have prepared the meals for the inmates at the Otoe County Detention Center since 1988. Others help in the manufacturing of military tool bags that are used worldwide. They will start a new session of "Career Academy" in September where clients learn skills that will be useful to them when applying for a job.

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 Freshman declared this meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on August 22, 2017.



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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 8th day of August 2017.

Janene Bennett
Otoe County Clerk