



Otoe County Board Minutes



February 13, 2018

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:35 a.m. on February 13, 2018, 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 and Commissioner Speth. Commissioner Parsons was absent due to illness.

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 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 and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth 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, 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, Speth and Freshman. Commissioner Sornson approved payment of all claims with the exception of the one submitted by Johnny's Cycle in the amount of \$44.95 to which he abstained. Nay – none. Motion carried.

A Network Administration & Service Agreement with John Beal of Action Technology Inc was reviewed. Mr. Beal said he has been in business for 17 years, working in Nemaha and Otoe Counties. He has had a contract with the Otoe County Sheriff Department since the installation of its 911 equipment in 2001. He offers a three tiered support system – regular technician duties when the County's IT employee is unavailable; administrative support including project planning and management, complex hardware installations and repairs, on-call assistance when needed; provide diagnostic testing, advanced troubleshooting and help develop a disaster recovery plan. He also requested that the County form an IT Committee who will represent several departments and create a plan for future technology of county operations. Commissioner Hauptman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to authorize the Chairman to sign the Network Administration and Service Agreement with Action Technology Inc who agrees to provide technology services for all county offices for a term of one year, effective March 1, 2018 thru February 28, 2019. The agreement has been reviewed and approved by the County Attorney. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Freshman, Sornson and Hauptman. Nay – none. Motion carried.



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Sheriff Jim Gress came before the Board to request permission to advertise for the purchase of a new patrol vehicle which will replace a 2013 Dodge pickup driven by Deputy Lionberger. He said the current pickup is set-up as a K-9 Unit, so he intends to advertise for a similar Dodge pickup that will accommodate the K-9 equipment. He will advertise for bids to make an outright purchase or with a trade-in. Chairman Freshman said they budgeted for the purchase of three new vehicles in FY18; two others were ordered in December. Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth to grant Sheriff Gress permission to advertise for a new patrol vehicle, with or without a trade-in allowance of the 2013 Dodge pickup. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Sornson, Hauptman and Speth. 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 \$104,237.03 for the month of January 2018. Said report will be filed in the County Clerk's Office.

Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hauptman to cancel check #17090026 in the amount of \$18.00; check was returned when a county employee did not attend a certification class. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Hauptman, Speth and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Freshman acknowledged the receipt of a letter of resignation from the Otoe County Veterans Service Officer, Sue Baumann. She will be accepting the position of a Veterans Service Officer with the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office in Lincoln. Ms. Baumann thanked the Board for her time here and felt it was very important to keep the Otoe County Office open five days a week. She noted helping veterans and their families is a boost to local economy. Over \$312,000 in benefits was paid out last year. Her resignation will become effective February 23rd.

Craig Bolz appeared before the Board to express opposition to the proposed road/bridge project southwest of Palmyra. He questioned why the County is spending money for a bridge replacement within the corporate limits of Palmyra. The County Attorney explained the project includes moving a county road in addition to replacing the bridge. It is a federal aid project whereby federal dollars pay for 90% of the total cost and the local entities pay 10%. Brinkman said of the 10%, the County will pay 61% and the Village pays 39%. Bolz also disagreed with the traffic count performed by the State Dept. He conducted his own count of only 40 vehicles in a 12 hour period. He said the County is rerouting a rural road through someone's farm which he considers to be unnecessary. Bolz stated the rural people are against it and the city people are for it. Commissioner Sornson said the project cannot be separated. No final decision has been made.

Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman presented a list of twelve items that are obsolete or no longer of any use to the Road Department. Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hauptman to declare the items listed as surplus so that they can be sold or disposed of. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Hauptman, Speth, Freshman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Subsequently, Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hauptman to adopt Resolution 2-13-18-03 giving Jon Brinkman the authority to sell the surplus items listed on Attachment A. There being no further discussion Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Freshman, Sornson and Hauptman. Nay – none. Motion carried. The list of items may be seen in the County Clerk's Office.



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Superintendent Brinkman received two quotes for the purchase of bridge planks. Midwest Service and Sales quoted a price of \$16,625.92 and B's Enterprises offered a quote of \$17,554.88. Commissioner Hauptman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to accept the low price of \$16,625.92 submitted by Midwest Service and Sales. Estimated delivery is two weeks. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Sornson, Hauptman and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Brinkman compiled a proposed 1&6 Year Road Plan for 2018-2023. A list of projects was emailed to all Commissioners prior to the meeting; no one contacted him to make any changes. The public hearing to adopt the final plan will be held at the next regular meeting on February 27th. A copy of the proposed Plan can be seen in the County Clerk's Office or at the Nebraska City Road Shop.

Brinkman reported that the road crews have been burning brush piles and removing snow as needed. They re-planked a couple of bridges south of Unadilla when they had a break in the weather. The contractor intends to start removing the old bridge on N 60th Road on March 26th.

In January, the County Attorney took over the handling of child support enforcement cases in Otoe County. The Department of Health & Human Services prepared a Subgrant Amendment to update language that will allow him to track actual time spent for calculating reimbursement. Commissioner Hauptman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to authorize the Chairman to sign the Subgrant Amendment for Child Support Enforcement Services regarding a revision of reimbursement rates that the County will receive for time spent working on child support enforcement cases. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Hauptman, Speth and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Freshman announced that all board members will visit the county jail facility upon adjournment per State Statute 47-109.

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 9:03 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on February 27, 2018.

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 day of 2017.

Janene Bennett
Otoe County Clerk