



Otoe County Board Minutes



March 13, 2018

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on March 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, 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 Parsons 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.

Upon the recommendation of the Veterans Service Committee, Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to appoint David Ramold to serve as a member of the Veterans Service Committee to fulfill the term of Steve Wademan who is moving out of town. 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.

Veterans Service Committee Chairman, Jim Pierce, introduced Leslie Durr as the Committee's selection for the position of the new Veterans Service Officer for Otoe County. Ms. Durr said she recently retired from the Nebraska National Guard after 29 years of service. She was born and raised in Nebraska City. Commissioner Hauptman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth to confirm the Veterans Service Committee's appointment of Leslie Durr as the new Otoe County Veterans Service Officer. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Freshman, Hauptman and Parsons. Commissioner Sornson abstained due to family relationship. 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 \$46,160.88 for the month of February 2018. Said report will be filed in the County Clerk's Office.



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Glacial Till Vineyard & Winery has completed an "Application for Deletion to Liquor License" with the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission to delete an 85' x 40' section of building from the premises listing on their current farm winery & catering license #YK-80900. This deleted area will be re-licensed as a brewpub for cider production and listed on a separate liquor license. Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth to approve the "Application for Deletion" as requested by Michael Murman for Glacial Till Vineyard & Winery. 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.

At 8:45 a.m. bids were opened for the purchase of a new pickup that will be used as a patrol vehicle. Larson Motors was the only dealer to submit bids from three manufacturers: 1) a 2018 Dodge 1500 SSV Crew Cab 4x4 in the amount of \$28,981.00; 2) a 2018 Chevrolet CK15543 Silverado Short Crew 4x4 for \$35,500; 3) a 2018 Ford F150 4x4 Crew Cab for \$34,929. All three bids would allow \$5,000 trade-in value for a 2013 Dodge pickup with a blown motor. Commissioner Parsons commented that he would like to try a Chevy pickup sometime - even though the purchase price would be higher, the cost for repairs may be less. Chairman Freshman said Dodge gives good government incentives, which lowers the purchase price. He checked the cost for repairs of county owned Dodge pickups from the last three years, but found no major ones. Chief Deputy Mike Holland said the console, cage and video camera are set up for a Dodge pickup and will be transferred to the new pickup. There would be an added cost if these accessories are installed in a different make/model. Commissioner Sornson said a Chevy may get better gas mileage, which could be another factor to look at in the future. Considering a \$7000 difference between the Dodge and Chevy bids, Chief Deputy Holland and Sheriff Gress recommended to accept the lowest bid and purchase the 2018 Dodge pickup. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to purchase the 2018 Dodge pickup from Larson Motors in the total amount of \$23,981 which includes the trade-in allowance of \$5,000. 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.

On behalf of Leadership Nebraska City Class #13, Dana Stovall and several other members came before the Board to request permission to install a kiosk on the courthouse sidewalk near the bottom of the steps of the main entrance. Ms. Stovall explained that each year, the graduating class is asked to come up with a project that would benefit the community. They are proposing to install an informational kiosk that is centrally located in the downtown area and easily accessible to visitors and local citizens. The structure has a 50 year no maintenance guarantee and would be bolted into the cement. A bulletin board will be secured under glass containing a city map, a full list of restaurants, lodging facilities and historical attractions as well as announcements for current events and festivals. LNC is applying for a grant to make the purchase; there is zero cost to the county. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to grant the Leadership Nebraska City Class #13 permission to install an informational kiosk near the bottom steps on the north side of the courthouse. 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.

Cody Beecham asked the Board to continue their efforts to provide an access road to the property where he intends to build a new home. The matter was discussed at the February 27th meeting when his father, Jim Beecham, came before the Board. County Attorney Dave Partsch proposes that the County reshape the 33 foot wide roadway that was created and agreed upon by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Royal and Wilton and James Beecham in 1989. After the roadway is rebuilt, it should be dedicated to



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the Beechams who will be responsible for rocking it and all other future maintenance. However, Partsch said he is still working with the current adjoining property owner, Glen Royal. He hopes to have a signed agreement by the March 27th meeting so that the Beechams can proceed with the construction of their new home.

On March 9, 2018, bids were publically opened at 10:00 a.m. for the purchase of various sizes of corrugated metal tubes in the presence of Commissioners Sornson and Freshman, Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman and John Bebout. The following bids were submitted:

Vendor	Riveted	Spiraled	Delivery
Metal Culverts, Jefferson City	\$65,607.50	\$67,103.60	3-4 weeks
Midwest Service & Sales, Schuyler	\$80,949.21	\$68,643.47	2-4 weeks
Contech, Lincoln	\$64,233.00	\$50,644.90	2-5 weeks
Ace/Eaton Metals, Kearney	No bid	\$65,411.00	3-6 weeks

Commissioner Hauptman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons to purchase various sizes of riveted corrugated metal tubes from the low bidder, Contech, in the amount of \$64,233.00. 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.

Bids for the concrete paving of K Rd from the Midwest Farmers Co-op facility to Hwy 50 were presented for consideration at the previous meeting, but action was tabled. The low bid was submitted by Knife River Midwest LLC from Sioux City IA in the amount of \$481,802.94. Supt Brinkman said the Co-op has not signed an agreement yet, but did send an email stating that the Co-op Board has approved to pay 50% of the project cost up to \$255,000. Commissioner Parsons questioned whether the County would be liable for the entire cost if the Co-op would change its mind. County Attorney Partsch said he is in the process of writing an agreement between the County and the Co-op. He advised the Board they could award the bid today, but not to enter into a contract with the contractor until the agreement with the Co-op is signed. Commissioner Speth said he did not like the idea of the County helping out big business. Brinkman said this has been a 3 year ongoing project; it is too far along to stop now. Paving will be cheaper in the long run than to continually maintain a heavily traveled rock road that is in a flood plain. Brinkman said the bid includes bringing the road up to grade before paving it. Commissioner Parsons said even though he has disagreed with the project from the beginning, the County will offset its costs when the Co-op pays thousands of dollars in taxes. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to award the bid to Knife River Midwest LLC in the amount of \$481,802.94 to pave K Rd from Hwy 50 to the Midwest Farmers Co-op Grain Facility (aka Project 594) contingent upon a signed agreement with the Co-op committing to pay 50% of the cost. 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.

Regarding Project BRO-7066(29), a bridge replacement on N 60th Road: Commissioner Hauptman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to sign Resolution 3-13-18-11 authorizing the Chairman to sign Supplemental Project Program Agreement No. 2-BL1266 between Otoe County and NDOT designating NDOT as the Responsible Charge (RC) for said project. Brinkman said this supplement agreement amends the original one signed in 2012 when the County was to have performed the “responsible charge” duties. 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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Brinkman reported that both construction crews continue to burn brush piles; motor grader operators are blading; and rock is being hauled to thin spots only.

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 9:10 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on March 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 13th day of March 2018.

Janene Bennett
Otoe County Clerk