



# Otoe County Board Minutes



October 9, 2018

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on October 9, 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 Hauptman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons 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 Parsons 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.

Sandy Morrissey, Region V Systems Prevention Coalition Coordinator, gave the annual report for fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. She said last year's block grant funds were used to promote opioid awareness in a five county area that included Otoe, Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee and Richardson. This year, they will receive \$46,400 and partner with the Southeast Health District to continue the program of drug awareness in Otoe, Johnson, Pawnee and Richardson Counties. They will also receive an additional \$1000 to fund the Second Step Program to promote social learning and mental health for elementary youth; \$1600 to assist with alcohol inspections to see if establishments are selling to minors; and \$1000 to conduct a media campaign deterring the usage of alcohol, meth and marijuana within our communities. Since it has been determined that the southeast corner of Nebraska is a hotspot for opioid use, more money is being allocated to fight the problem through prevention.

Glen Royal expressed his concerns regarding an access road between Royal and Beecham properties that was established as an easement in the 1980's. The Beecham family is building a new house on their property and have rocked the road to use as a driveway. Mr. Royal contended they had no right to make a drainage ditch; that the easement only addressed their right to use the road for ingress and egress. County Attorney Dave Partsch said the County has no responsibility to build or maintain this access road. Mr. Royal's concern is not a county issue.



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Highway Superintendent, Jon Brinkman, presented the Annual Road Certification Report which must be submitted to the Nebraska Department of Transportation by November 1<sup>st</sup> of any given year. The report includes actual and projected revenue and expenses; equipment and materials/supplies inventory and a listing of road/bridge projects valued over \$10,000 that were completed by a contractor. The report's purpose is to provide NDOT with an accounting of dollars coming in and going out. Commissioner Hauptman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to approve the annual road report as presented and to authorize the Chairman to sign. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Freshman, Sornson and Hauptman. Commissioner Parsons abstained. Motion carried.

Only one bid was submitted for the construction of Project (625) located south of P-60. The bid was opened on October 5<sup>th</sup> in the presence of Commissioner Freshman, Commissioner Sornson, Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman, Engineer Mark Mainelli and a representative from JJK Construction. Brinkman said this triple concrete culvert is similar to the one that was installed 1/4 mile west of P-60. JJK Construction from Ceresco submitted a total bid of \$647,435.65. However, Brinkman said the road crew could do the dirt work and save the County about \$38,000. Commissioner Speth was concerned about doing this project during the winter. Commissioner Sornson said the contractor considered this a winter project because they can build the forms in cold weather and will only pour cement when or if the temperature is right. Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Hauptman to award the bid to JJK Construction in the amount of \$609,777.51 for the construction of a concrete triple box culvert known as Project (625) with county forces to provide roadway construction. There being no further discussion, Chairman Freshman called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Sornson, Hauptman and Parsons. Commissioner Speth - Nay. Motion carried.

County Treasurer, Nicki Baker, furnished the Board with a list of four names of individuals who owe personal property taxes that are two or more years' delinquent. Per statute 77-1738 these taxes may be stricken from the tax roll by action of the county board. Since two of them owned businesses that are closed and the other two involved mobile homes that have been removed, Ms. Baker recommended that the taxes, in the aggregate amount of \$8,564.79, be stricken from the tax rolls. She also stated that striking the taxes does not cancel them; therefore, they can still be collected if the opportunity arises. 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.

Secondly, Ms. Baker informed the Board that two Certificates of Deposit are maturing on October 12<sup>th</sup>. They are currently being held at Premier Bank in Nebraska City who has agreed to match a competitor's rate of 2.51% interest for a 15 month renewal. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to direct the County Treasurer to renew the Certificates of Deposit at \$100,000 each with an interest rate of 2.51%. 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.

Jon Brinkman submitted the following road/bridge report:

- The culvert Project (616) north of G-2 is about half backfilled
- Need to finish dirt work, rock and seed on Project (557) east of P-64
- Contractor is starting to dig in preparation for the installation of a culvert east of P-70 known as Project (617)
- Regarding Project BRO-7066(29) north of G-60: the south bridge has been removed



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- West crew has been replacing culverts and removing debris and trees at multiple locations
- East crew is replacing culverts west of F-28 and north of B-38

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 \$22,532.61 for the month of September 2018. Said report will be filed in the County Clerk's Office.

Pursuant to State Statute 33-117 Chairman Freshman acknowledged receipt of the quarterly report from the County Sheriff denoting the amount of certain fees collected, from whom and for what service. The total amount received in the third quarter of the year was \$12,211.46.

Chairman Freshman acknowledged receipt of the financial reports for quarter ending September 30, 2018, of the petty cash accounts held by Janene Bennett, County Clerk; Gregg Goebel, Emergency Management; Teresa Johnson, Child Support Officer; Jan Reed, Register of Deeds; Jim Gress, Sheriff; Dave Partsch, County Attorney; Janis Riege, Clerk of the District Court and Cindy Cich, County Court Magistrate. Said reports will be kept on file in the County Clerk's Office.

Chairman Freshman announced that all Commissioners will visit and inspect the jail facility upon adjournment in accordance with 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 9:11 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on October 23, 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 9<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2018.

Janene Bennett  
Otoe County Clerk