



Otoe County Board Minutes



April 9, 2019

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on April 9, 2019 at the Otoe County Extension Office in Syracuse, NE, 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, Jerad Sornson. Answering present at roll call were Commissioner Sornson, Commissioner Parsons, Commissioner Freshman, Commissioner Speth and Commissioner Thurman; none absent.

Chairman Sornson informed the public in attendance that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the door. Additional copies are available upon request.

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

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

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

John Palmtag, Deputy County Attorney, presented a policy and grant applications regarding KENO funds, Resolution #4-9-19-6. The policy lists items that the KENO funds may be used for, financial restrictions, review period and application(s). Several examples of how the funds may be used are: educational advancement/scholarships, park and recreation facilities, training, beautification, civic events, maintenance or building of public structures. A process for scholarship applications would need to be implemented for next year as it is late in the year for students to apply prior to graduation. Commissioner Thurman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons to approve the policy and applications for the use of KENO funds and authorize the Chairman to sign Resolution #4-9-19-6. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Thurman, Sornson, Parsons and Freshman. Nay - none. Motion carried.

Pursuant to State Statute 33-106.02, Chairman Sornson acknowledged receipt of the monthly report from the Clerk of the District Court certifying fee collections in the amount of \$132,792.31 for the month of March 2019. Said report will be filed in the County Clerk's Office.

Pursuant to State Statute 33-117 Chairman Sornson 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 first quarter of the year was \$11,641.31.



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Chairman Sornson acknowledged receipt of the financial reports for quarter ending March 30, 2019, of the petty cash accounts held by Jennifer Bassinger, County Clerk; Gregg Goebel, Emergency Management; Teresa Johnson, Child Support Officer; Ruth Ann Weddle, Register of Deeds; Colin Caudill, 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.

Nicki Baker, Otoe County Treasurer, has informed the Board that a \$200,000 Certificate of Deposit held at American National Bank matures soon. She would like to renew the certificate at Commercial State Bank for 18 months at 2.58%. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman to authorize the Treasurer to renew the certificate with Commercial State Bank. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Thurman, Sornson, Parsons, Freshman and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried.

The Treasurer has requested the authorization to invest or renew investments without pre-approval from the board. Commissioner Freshman stated that Ms. Baker inquires with banks to find the best rates available. Chairman Sornson tabled the issue until a statute and legalities can be researched.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to authorize the County Treasurer to issue a tax refund in the amount of \$317.08 to Luke Jensen. The refund is a result of a TERC order on real estate property. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Parsons, Freshman, Speth and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman to approve a New Corporate Manager Application submitted by Nicholas Stukenholtz for Nebraska City Golf, LLC, dba Arbor Links. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Freshman, Speth, Thurman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

A Change of Location application was received for liquor license #I-055071 issued to Nebraska City Golf, LLC dba Arbor Links. The golf course is expanding the parking lot and clubhouse for additional kitchen, dining and retail space. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons, to approve the Change of Location application as submitted. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Speth, Thurman, Sornson and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Sornson read the Road Supervisor report as submitted by Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman with updates on several projects: Project(55), located at G & 60 N – girders have been set; Project(625), located at P & 60 S – the box has been poured and working on drop culvert installation; Project(536), located at D & 44 S – the box has been poured, working on the culvert installation and backfilling will start soon. The East crew has been working on tree removal at E & 46 East, removing a tree from a bridge at R & 40 E, and removing beaver dams at multiple locations. The West crew has been burning brush piles at D & 20 and replacing a collapsed culvert at M & 8 W. The crews have been blading and hauling rock.

Sarah Purcell, UNL Extension Educator, presented a quarterly update report. She stated that on April 2nd, they held the Connect the Dots event. Approximately 140 youth participated in the career simulation program. She also spoke in regards to master gardeners. To become a master gardener, one must complete courses and volunteer in the community. There are several in the area and they



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have volunteered by working with the landscaping at the Extension Office. Ms. Purcell introduced Erin Steinhoff, Assistant Educator, and Kelsey Ahrens, Office Manager.

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 Sornson declared this meeting adjourned at 9:09 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on April 23, 2019.

I, Jennifer Bassinger, 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 9th day of April 2019.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk