



Otoe County Board Minutes



May 28, 2019

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on May 28, 2019, to audit and sign payroll and 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 wall. 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 Parsons 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 Thurman, 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.

Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons to audit and sign payroll claims. 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.

Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman to appoint Jenniffer Panko-Rahe as Otoe County Attorney. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Thurman, Sornson, Freshman and Speth. Nay – none. Abstain – Parsons. Motion carried.

Chad Miller, Otoe County Veterans Service Officer, came before the board to offer recommendations for new County Veterans Service Committee members. The first recommendation is requesting Kurtis Knake to complete the term of Jim Pierce. Mr. Knake would serve the remainder of the term expiring June 30, 2023 and then a regular five year appointment. The second recommendation is requesting Roy Coulter to complete the term of Joy Schroeder. Mr. Coulter would serve the remainder of the term expiring June 20, 2019 and then a regular five year appointment. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth, to appoint Kurtis Knake and Roy Coulter to the Veterans Service Committee. 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.

Ashley Robertson and Desaray Johnson were present to represent Project Response. Project Response submitted an application requesting \$3,000 from the KENO fund. The organization recently lost the Rape Prevention Education, RPE, grant due the competitive format the grant was converted to. The grant funds allowed the Sexual Assault Advocate to provide education to the communities' youth. The education is taught



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with the Safe Date curriculum and is intended for youth age 13-17 and provides information healthy relationships and boundaries, domestic and sexual assault, stalking, etc. Currently, the organization is not presenting the curriculum to Otoe County schools, but will reach out to the schools for the upcoming year. Project Response has also requested monies from Nemaha, Pawnee, Richardson and Johnson counties. The request of \$3,000 is based on county population. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to approve the request of \$3,000 from the KENO fund to Project Response. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Freshman, Speth, Thurman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sornson opened a public hearing to hear comments regarding the approval of a subdivision plat Leefers Subdivision, a 6.70+ acre tract of land located in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 12, Township 9N, Range 10E as requested by Peggy A. Leefers. Site location is 2277 C Road. David Schmitz indicated the parcel is being separated to sell the farm. The rural water has been tested and passed. The plat meets the subdivision requirements and the taxes are paid. There being no public comments, the hearing was closed. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the plat map for Leefers Subdivision, requested by Peggy Leefers. There being no further comment, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Speth, Thurman, Sornson and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sornson opened a public hearing to hear comments regarding the approval of a subdivision plat of TJ Subdivision, a 3.00+ acre tract of land located in the W $\frac{1}{2}$ of the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 22, Township 9N, Range 9E as requested by Bobby R. Thomson, Trustee of the Joyce C. Thomson Revocable Trust. Site location is 1050 N 6th Rd. The parcel is odd shaped due to working around buildings and fences. There is rural water where the home will go. There is a barn on the property and Bobby Thomson has reserved lifetime use of the barn; the barn would then revert to the current acreage owner. There being no public comments, the hearing was closed. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the plat map for TJ Subdivision, requested by Bobby R. Thomson. There being no further comment, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Thurman, Sornson, Parsons and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to approve two letters of credit for pledged security agreements from Arbor Bank/FHL Bank for the Otoe County Treasurer. One letter of credit is for \$9,000,000.00 expiring on May 31, 2019 and one for \$6,000,000.00 expiring on May 8, 2020. 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.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to authorize the Chairman to sign the NACO Subgroup Application with Blue Cross Blue Shield for the County's health and dental insurance benefits. There are no changes to the plan benefits or deductibles. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Parsons, Freshman, Speth and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Jon Brinkman, Highway Superintendent, presented quotes received for preparing and crack filling Otoe County blacktopped highways in the following areas: Business 75 from North island at the North entrance to Timber Ridge Apartments West to island at Hwy 75 North; Centennial Ave. from North end of Morman Church North to the South side of the painted island at Business 75; County Road 56 from Hwy 2 to old Hwy 2; Syracuse to Unadilla old Hwy 2; C Road from Hwy 43 West to the end of the asphalt. Bader's Highway and Street Maintenance, Inc. submitted a quote of \$25,725.00 with the projects being completed in June. Skodeller Construction, Inc. submitted a quote of \$71,937.00 with the projects being completed in November. Mr. Brinkman recommended Bader's Highway and Maintenance, Inc. to complete the projects. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons, to approve and authorize Bader's Highway and Street Maintenance, Inc. to complete the projects as quoted. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Freshman, Speth, Thurman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.



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Highway Superintendent, Jon Brinkman, reported updates on several projects:

Project (55), located at G & 60 North - the South bridge has been completed and the abutment one of the North bridge has been poured and abutment two is being formed ; Project (625), located at P & 60 South – headwalls for culverts have been poured and need to seed, erosion control and rock; Project (536), located at D & 44 South – need to seed, erosion control and rock; Project (586), located at J & 52 South – the contractor is planning on moving in on June 1. The East Crew has backfilled abutment 2 at F & 48 East, Dug up and relay undermined culvert at N & 68 South, worked on landfill and fill in and repair washouts. The West Crew cleaned and repaired a ditch at B & 14E, installed two culverts and repaired a ditch at C & 16 South. Both crews have been blading and hauling rock. All four county trucks are hauling rock. Wessel and Westover are close to completing hauling projects. There has been an issue the past two weeks with getting rock.

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 9:05 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on June 11, 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 28th day of May 2019.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk