



Otoe County Board Minutes



June 25, 2019

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on June 25, 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 Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons, 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 Freshman 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 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 Thurman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, 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 Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman 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.

The public hearings to approve the subdivision plat of Johnson Gas & Go Subdivision and the vacation plat of Lot 2B, Beckman Subdivision were tabled as the planning commission meeting that was scheduled for June 20, 2019 was cancelled due the lack of quorum. The public hearings will be rescheduled for a future date.

The County Clerk reported that one budget will require a fund transfer to meet their obligations for fiscal year 2019. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons to adopt Resolution 6-25-19-12 transferring \$9,816.25 to the County Coroner Budget. The funds will be transferred from the Miscellaneous Budget – all within the General Fund. 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.

An occupation tax can be collected on Special Designated Licenses (SDL). The amount of the occupation tax can be an amount not to exceed double the amount of the license. The cost of the license is \$40, making the maximum occupation tax \$80. The funds collected from the occupation tax are to be credited to the General fund. The resolution presented at the meeting proposed the amount of \$25 for each SDL. After discussion, the commissioners agreed that the amount should be \$40 for each SDL. The occupation tax will be implemented for SDL issued for- events beginning January 1, 2020. The issue was tabled and a new resolution will be presented at the next meeting.

Vanessa Sherman, Otoe County Juvenile Diversion & Truancy Monitor Coordinator, came before the board with several items. Ms. Sherman announced that Otoe County was awarded a Crime Commission Grant in the



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amount of \$ 51,929.00. The County match of this project is \$5,770.00. The money will be used to fund Juvenile Diversion programs. She stated that by signing the award letter, the County is agreeing to the contingencies and reporting requirements of the grant. Commissioner Thurman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth, to accept the award and authorize the Chairman to sign the award letter. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Parsons, Freshman, Speth and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Ms. Sherman presented a contract renewal with CEDARS Youth Services to provide truancy tracking for juvenile services from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. The only change in the renewal contract is the price per visit will raise from \$50 to \$55. Cedars will provide the tracking services for youth that are participating in the program. The trackers also have family support training. The goal is to divert the youth from criminal justice of social service systems. Ms. Sherman stated the average time one is in the program is six months. Commissioner Thurman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the renewal contract with CEDARS. Being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Freshman, Speth, Thurman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Ms. Sherman presented a new contract with CEDARS to provide family support services for juvenile diversion from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. This program is to assist in a family plan and the parents are more engaged in the program. The student and family are referred by the school and County Attorney. The cost of each visit is \$65.00. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the contract with CEDARS. Being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Speth, Thurman, Sornson and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Ms. Sherman also presented a renewal contract with Partners for Otoe County to implement the community-based aid juvenile services program. The County match will be 10% instead the 40% previously. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the renewal contract with Partner for Otoe County. Being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Thurman, Sorson, Parsons and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Crystal Dunekacke, SENDD, was present to provide an update of services. SENDD is a 14 county development district that is an interlocal based cooperative program. The organization received state, federal and grant funds. SENDD has worked on several projects in Nebraska City. Owner Occupied Rehabilitation services the need to bring housing to code and more energy efficient. Community projects have included a new roof for the Veterans' Memorial Building and ADA updates to the restrooms at Nuckoll's Square park. A pilot project for the State is Purchase, Rehab and Resale. SENDD is working with an architect on restoration, rehabilitation and ADA updates to the Memorial Building. The program also administers the Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund with the City of Nebraska City. This program is available to qualifying businesses looking to come to or expand in Nebraska City.

On June 21, 2019, proposal were opened and publicly read for professional services for several sites that have suffered major damage due to the storms occurring on March 13 and 14, 2019. Those present were Commissioner Sornson, Engineer Jeff Wagner, Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman and County Clerk Jenny Bassinger. One proposal was received from Mainelli Wagner & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$54,600.00 for project (C006602535). The damaged sites may qualify for FEMA funding and the engineering costs may qualify for reimbursement with an RFP (Request For Proposal). It is unknown at this time if each site will need an individual RFP. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman to award the proposal to Mainelli Wagner with the contingency that Otoe County receives the FEMA funding. 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.



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On June 21, 2019, bids were opened and publicly read for the construction of a 3-span concrete deck slab bridge and other related incidental work. Those present were Commissioner Sornson, Engineer Jeff Wagner, Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman, County Clerk Jenny Bassinger, Midwest Infrastructure representative Cindy Richardson and Perrett Construction representative Eli Perrett. The following bids were received:

Vendor	Amount	Start/End
Perrett Construction, LTD	\$871,270.00	Aug. 2019/Nov.2019 or sooner
Theisen Construction, Inc.	\$683,350.06	Sept. 16, 2019/Jan. 18, 2020
Midwest Infrastructure, Inc.	\$647,357.68	Sept. 1, 2019/Dec. 14, 2019

The engineer's estimated the cost of the bridge to be \$634,000.00 and recommend Midwest Infrastructure, Inc. to complete the project. The bridge is located 1 mile South of Hwy 2 and butts up to Saltillo Road in Lancaster County. There is higher traffic in this area and ties into the Palmyra SW project. The bridge has been out for 1-2 years. This project is a County Bridge Match Program (CBMP)/FEMA approved project. The county will receive approximately \$155,000 from the CBMP and \$46,000 from FEMA. The County receives monies annually from the Highway Bridge Buyback Program (HBBP). This budget year, the estimated amount to receive is \$800,000 and funds received from this would assist in paying the remainder of the cost. Commissioner Speth has heard favorable opinions on opening the bridge from fire and rescue units in the area. After discussion of priority and cost, Commissioner Speth made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman to award the bid to Midwest Infrastructure, Inc. for \$647,357.68. Being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Freshman, Speth and Thurman. Nay – none. Abstain – Parsons. Motion carried.

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

Project (55), located at G & 60 North – forming to pour the floor ; Project (625), located at P & 60 S - Completed; Project (536), located at D & 44 South – Completed; Project (586), located at J & 52 South – the contractor is planning on moving in in 3 weeks. The East Crew has dug up and relayed an undermined culvert located at L & 36 E 1/2; dug up and relayed an undermined culvert at E & 44 N; and replaced three culverts at J & 36 E. The West Crew removed debris at B & 28 W; cleaned ditches at H & 20 S and at the fairgrounds; dug out a culvert at L & 33 W; replaced a culvert at L & 22 E. Both crews have been blading and hauling 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 9:43 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on July 9, 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