



Otoe County Board Minutes



July 9, 2019

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on July 9, 2019 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 south wall of the Courtroom. Additional copies are available upon request.

Commissioner Thurman 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 Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman 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.

Dan Mauk, Nebraska City Area Economic Development Corporation Executive Director, presented an activity report of economic development projects in Otoe County. Businesses looking at Otoe County as a prospective location can contact the NCAEDC for available buildings or properties. The company will work with the NCAEDC through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process. Since 2015, there has been 36 large RFPs. Examples of sectors include: agriculture, heavy and light manufacturing, automobile production, distribution, energy, research and development and data centers. Key issues that companies are looking for include being close to resources such as water, power, gas and transportation. NCAEDC has been exploring sites and projects throughout the county. Some challenges for Otoe County include: limited housing, limited flat building space, full capacity child care facilities, lack of large, vacant commercial buildings. Key opportunities for Otoe County include close proximity to OPPD as a power source, close to water, multiple fiber optic connections and railroad access. Being close to major highways is a plus for commuters and typically two-day trucking to 90% of the country.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth, to accept and authorize the Chairman to sign Resolution 7-9-19-13. The resolution is to implement a \$40 occupation tax on Special Designated Licenses (SDL) received effective January 1, 2020. The proceeds collected from the SDLs will be applied to the County General Fund. 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 Parsons, to cancel check #190400287999 in the amount of \$50.00 payable to Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center. The check was returned due to payment for services that were not required. 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.



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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 \$11,375.23 for the month of June 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 second quarter of the year was \$11,499.47.

Chairman Sornson acknowledged receipt of the financial reports for quarter ending June 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; Jenniffer Panko-Rahe, 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.

On July 10, 2019, bids were publicly opened for the hauling of aggregate for Otoe County in the presence of Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman, Commissioner Jerad Sornson and County Clerk Jenny Bassinger. The following bid were submitted:

Vendor	Truck Only	Truck & Pup	Rip Rap
Wessels Trucking	\$.30/loaded mile \$5.00 minimum	\$.17/loaded mile \$3.00 minimum	\$.25/loaded mile \$4.00 minimum

The pricing is the same as those provided in 2018. Westover Rock and Sand, Inc. submitted a bid that was received after the deadline. Mr. Brinkman stated that the bids were proposed for the period of July 31, 2019 through June 30, 2021. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to accept the bid from Wessels trucking for hauling aggregate. 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.

Also, on July 10, 2019, bids were publicly opened in the presence of Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman, Commissioner Sornson and County Clerk Jenny Bassinger for a 2007 ¾ ton Chevy 4X4 truck that had been deemed surplus. Two bids were received: \$615 from Larry’s Auto and \$300.00 from John Barrett. A bid from Zach Slevin was received after the deadline. The pickup was wrecked and has a salvaged title. The pickup was advertised as being sold as is. The road department was able to salvage several items that may be used on other County owned trucks. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth, to accept and award the bid of \$615 to Larry’s Auto. 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.

Jon Brinkman, Highway Superintendent, reported on several projects: Project (55), G & 60 N – the floor has been poured; Project (586), J & 52 S – waiting on contractor. The East crew replaced a culvert west of Dunbar on Old Hwy 2; replaced an undermined culvert at M & 50 S and H & 50 W. The West crew replaced a culvert at L & 22 W; finished a culvert and road top at L & 22 E. Both crews have been blading and hauling rock.

C.J. Johnson presented the 2017-2018 annual report for Region V Systems. Region V Systems is comprised of sixteen counties, including Otoe County and aids in mental and behavioral health. A centralized data system was implemented two years ago. Rental assistance is one program offered and approximately 130 people per year receive assistance throughout the sixteen county region. The emergency system has a crisis line available to law enforcement. The crisis line can be used to contact a therapist during a call. The therapist is able to evaluate the person and determine if EPC (Emergency Protective Custody) is necessary. Many times, EPC services are not needed. The crisis line can also be used for family issues and services available can be discussed. Mr. Johnson noted a 7.56% increase for services and stated that the increase was within statutory limits. David Merrill presented the 2018 annual report for Region V Services. Region V Services supports people with developmental disabilities. Region V assists with housing, transportation, employment and community relationships. Jobs are held within the community and at Region V. The county contribution for this year will be \$28,017, which is no increase from the previous year. Linda Plager was present to talk about the Nebraska City location. The local office has approximately 50 people being supported with several having jobs within the community. Region V has been working with Otoe County on providing meals to the jail for 37 years and has been producing tool



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bags for 30 years. Ms. Plager introduced Mark Loseke and he shared personal experiences with Region V and working at Orschlen's.

A contract renewal was presented for EPC Services between Region V Systems and Otoe County. Region V, through MHCC and The Bridge, will “assume the safekeeping, care and sustenance of certain acutely mentally ill individuals in the County who are under the County’s lawful authority.” The price for FY19-20 will increase from \$191/day to \$214/day. This amount is a percentage of the total cost and is determined by population and Mr. Johnson stated that an average evaluation takes 36 hours. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the contract with Region V Systems for EPC services. Being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Thurman, Sornson and Parsons. Nay – none. Commissioner Speth abstained. Motion carried.

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 9:30 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on July 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 July, 2019

Jennifer Bassinger, Otoe County Clerk