



Otoe County Board Minutes



August 13, 2019

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on August 13, 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 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 Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth 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 Parsons, 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.

Gregg Goebel, EMA Director, presented an interlocal agreement to create the Southeast Region-Cooperative of Public Safety Service. The original agreement was signed in 2017 and this document includes changes in regards to the grant administrator/financial officer. Every three years, one county within the region will be responsible to be the financial officer. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons, to approve and sign the SE Region Cooperative Public Safety Services inter local agreement. 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.

Steve Cody, Assistant EMA Director, came before the Board to present the Otoe County Radio System Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG). The document outlines proper use, management and service of radio systems used by agencies. The agencies included in SOG are Fire/EMS, Emergency Management, Hospitals, Schools and Long term care facilities. Law enforcement is not included as they operate on the State radio system. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to adopt the Otoe County Radio System Standard Operating Guidelines. 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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Chad Miller, Veteran Service Officer, was present to discuss a program available for a new vehicle for veteran transportation. Mr. Miller indicated that the three vehicles currently being used are owned by the American Legion and are older with higher miles and needing maintenance. The DAV has a program available in which a county can obtain a new vehicle by matching half of the cost of the vehicle. The DAV then purchases, insures, maintains and fuels the vehicle. The county share of one of the vans would be approximately \$16,500. Mr. Miller has received several donations and has submitted grant applications with local foundations. If funding is available, the County could obtain more than one vehicle through this program. The Commissioners discussed the use of KENO funds to aid in the purchase of a vehicle and Mr. Miller has submitted an application. With timely funding, the vehicle(s) could possibly be delivered during the spring of 2020.

Upon recommendation from the State Auditor's office, Mr. Miller requested to add Fund 1905 – Veterans' Special Fund to the County Budget to use for the funds raised for the Veterans' Van Fund project. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to approve the addition of Fund 1905 – Veterans' Special Fund to the County budget. 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 Speth, to approve and sign an interlocal agreement with the City of Nebraska City for ambulance services. The agreement allows the City of Nebraska City to charge Otoe County the lowest price possible for ambulance services. 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.

Chairman Sornson acknowledged the receipt of the Delinquent Personal Property Tax report for the Otoe County Sheriff.

Commissioner Parsons stated that the County is still researching options to convert from monthly payroll to twice a month.

Jon Brinkman, Highway Superintendent, presented quotes received for pavement marking 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 Mormon 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 (blacktop road); Woodland Hills Golf Course Rd from Hwy 43 west to the end of asphalt. Highway Signing, Inc. submitted a quote of \$15,067.50 with the projects being completed in September 2019. Burmester, Inc. submitted a quote of \$10,332.00 with the projects being completed September 10, 2019. Mr. Brinkman recommended Burmester, Inc. to complete the projects. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to approve and authorize Burmester, Inc. to complete the projects as quoted. There being no further discussion, Commissioner Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Speth, Thurman, Sornson and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Bids were opened publicly on August 8, 2019 for the construction of a low water crossing and other related incidental work for Project C-66(544); Unadilla Northwest in the presence of Commissioner Sornson, Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman, County Clerk Jenny Bassinger, Engineer Jeff Wagner, Steve Satora representing Midwest Infrastructure Services and Amber Lovitt representing JJK Construction. Two bids were received:

Bidder	Amount	Start/End Dates
JJK Construction	\$295,011.67	9-16-19 / 10-30-19
Midwest Infrastructure	\$349,432.77	10-14-19 / 12-14-19



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The bids are higher than the projected cost from FEMA. Mr. Brinkman and Mainelli Wagner recommend denying all bids at this time. John Stillwell is a resident near the project and stated that the low water crossing has been out for approximately five years. He has 100 acres of land that he would not have access to without the permission from his tenants allowing him to cross their property. He would like to see the project completed. Chairman Sornson stated that by denying the bids at this time, did not mean the project was rejected, but the County would need to seek better pricing. Commissioner Sornson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons to deny the bids submitted for Project C-66(544). 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.

Bids were opened publicly on August 8, 2019 for the sale of surplus property including a 1998 Mack Tractor Truck and a 2003 Corn Belt Trailer. Bids were accepted individually for the truck and trailer and as a pair. The following bids were submitted:

Bidder	Amount	Equipment
Scott Watermeier	\$10,878.00	Mack Truck
Harre Seed & Services, LLC	\$12,276.51	Corn Belt Trailer
Excell Underground	\$5,000.00	Corn Belt Trailer
Harre Seed & Services, LLC	\$23,751.51	Truck & Trailer Combined
Rodney Nincehelter	\$18,000.00	Truck & Trailer Combined

The trade in value of the equipment was \$16,000.00. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman to accept and award the bid of \$23,751.51 from Harre Seed & Service for the truck and trailer combined. 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.

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

Project (55), located at G & 60 North – open to the public, will need to do channel work once permits and agreements are complete; Project (586), located at J & 52 South – waiting on the contractor. The West crew has been replacing culverts at M & 30 West, I & 10 North, F & 24 and G & 24; removing debris at I & 6 West; rebuilding a short stretch of road at H & 2 South. The East crew has been replacing a culvert at O & 44 South; reshaping a shoulder at N & 52 South; burying a brush pile at L & 68 East and repairing a culvert at J & 52 South. Both crews have been hauling rock and blading.

Chairman Sornson announced that all board members will visit the county jail facility upon adjournment per 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 Sornson declared this meeting adjourned at 9:13 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on August 27, 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 13th day of August 2019.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk