



Otoe County Board Minutes



September 10, 2019

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on September 10, 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 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 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 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.

Chairman Sornson introduced resolution 9-10-19-17 that allows the Board to increase restricted funds an extra 1% in addition to the statutory allowance of 2.5% limit. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth, to adopt and sign Resolution 9-10-19-17 increasing the restricted funds limit by an additional 1% for a total of 3.5%. 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. Subsequently, Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to sign Resolution 9-10-19-18 adopting the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 as advertised and presented. 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.

A public hearing was held for the purpose of hearing support or opposition to set the property tax request at an amount different than the previous year. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson, to sign Resolution 9-10-19-19, setting the 2019-2020 property tax request at \$8,010,603.63 resulting in a tax rate of \$.339172. 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.



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Paul Moyer with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture was present to give an overview and evaluation of the county's noxious weed program for 2018. Physical inspections are done randomly and the results are reported to Weed Superintendent, John Bebout. Follow up inspections are done to evaluate if the problem areas have been controlled. The Department of Agriculture scores on county reports such as a roster, budget, activity, infestation and control plan. Scores are also provided for continuing education. Out of 3400 possible points, Otoe County had a score of 3,313 for 2018. Mr. Moyer indicated that the score was 100 points higher than last year.

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 \$15,799.72 for the month of August 2019. Said report will be filed in the County Clerk's Office.

In the absence of Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman, Commissioner Freshman read the following road/bridge report: Project (586), located at J & 52 South – waiting on the contractor; Project (579), located at G & 2 East – bridge replacement and road realignment, contractor has bridge moved and grading has started west of the bridge. The West crew worked on culvert replacement and ditching at J & 18 South; dug up and relayed undermined culvert at I & 22. The East crew has been working on a low water crossing at H & 46 West. Both crews have been hauling rock and blading.

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 8:52 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on September 24, 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 10th day of September 2019.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk