



Otoe County Board Minutes



October 22, 2019

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on October 22, 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.

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 Thurman 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.

Commissioner Thurman 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.

Chairman Sornson opened a public hearing to hear comments regarding the vacation plat of TMM Subdivision, a 3.00+- acre tract of land located in the N ½ of the SW 1/3 of Section 27, Township 8N, Range 14E as requested by Todd A. Moyer and Melinda M. Moyer. David Schmitz, Zoning Administrator, stated that there was an error on the original plat and the corrected plat was not able to be signed prior to the meeting. The planning commission has approved the plat contingent on signing the plat. Chairman Sornson tabled the vacation at this time and stated that it will be presented at a future meeting.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman to appoint Chuck Cole to the Otoe County Planning Commission. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Thurman, Sornson, Parsons, Freshman and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried. Otoe County Treasurer, Nickola Baker, stated that the County is the owner and holder of Certificates of Tax Sales of several parcels of real estate. A list of parcel numbers, certificate numbers and maturity dates was provided. After three years has passed without payment of taxes, the county can begin foreclosure on the properties. Commissioner Thurman made a motion, seconded by



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Commissioner Speth, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Resolution 10-22-19-26 authorizing the Otoe County Attorney to institute action to foreclose the lien on the listed certificates of tax sale. Being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Parsons, Freshman, Speth and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Ms. Baker also presented a list of eleven parcels that are at a minimum of 2 years delinquent in paying personal property tax. She recommended striking three parcels from the tax roll. The three suggested were listed as #38, 72 and 74. Of the three, one is a mobile home that is no longer there and two businesses that are no longer in business. The total amount to be stricken is \$840.61. Ms. Baker stated that the taxes could be collected in the future if the opportunity arose. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to strike the three parcels from the tax roll. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Freshman, Speth, Thurman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Sornson presented resolution 10-22-19-27 to authorize the issuance and use of a credit card for the Otoe County Road Shop. He stated that the card could be used for purchases that are made online or require online payments. Jon Brinkman, Highway Superintendent said that the Road Department would make purchases using the claim process as much as possible but there are a few times that a credit card is necessary. The resolution would allow for the application and issuance of a Visa Rewards Business Card through Arbor Bank and authorize the Highway Superintendent to be an authorized signer on the account. Commissioner Speth made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign resolution 10-22-19-27. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Speth, Thurman, Sornson and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Jon Brinkman, Highway Superintendent submitted the following road/bridge report: Project (579), located at G & 2 East – contractor is grading for bridge project. The East Crew is working on a low water crossing at H & 46 W – tied rebar, formed up and pouring concrete. The West Crew set culverts and is doing dirt work at Project (580), located at B & 6 West . Both crews have been blading and hauling rock.

Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to go into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. The reason for executive session is to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Thurman, Sornson, Parsons and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried. The Board of Commissioners meeting entered executive session at 8:48 am with Commissioners Sornson, Parsons, Freshman, Speth and Thurman, County Attorney Jenniffer Panko-Rahe, County Clerk, Jennifer Bassinger and Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman present. Commissioner Freshman made motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to resume in regular session. Voting aye were Commissioners Thurman, Sornson, Parsons, Freshman and Speth. The Board resumed in regular session. Commissioner Thurman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman to enter executive session with the following present: Commissioners Sornson, Parsons, Freshman, Speth and Thurman, County Attorney Jenniffer Panko-Rahe, County Clerk Jennifer Bassinger, Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman, Local 251 Nebraska Public Employees President Tony Burkhalter, Union Steward Fred Phillips and Jayme Smith. At 9:35 a.m. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman to exit executive session and resume in open session. Voting aye were Commissioner Parsons, Freshman, Speth, Thurman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion Carried. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson, to support the Highway Superintendent's decision of termination of an employee. Chairman Sornson called for a



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vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Thurman, Sornson and Parsons. Nay – Commissioner Speth. 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 9:36 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on November 12, 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 22nd day of October, 2019.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk