



Otoe County Board Minutes



October 8, 2019

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on October 8, 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 Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth, 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 Parsons 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 Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth, to declare a 2006 Chevrolet K1500 Suburban as surplus. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Thurman, Sornson, Parsons, and Freshman.

Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Resolution #10-8-19-23 authorizing Jerad Sornson to advertise and sell the 2006 Chevrolet K1500 Suburban as surplus. 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.

County Treasurer, Nicki Baker, presented a list of individuals/businesses that owe personal property taxes that are two or more years delinquent. Per statute 77-1738, these taxes may be stricken from the tax roll by action of the county board. Ms. Baker indicated that she would like to have a letter delivered to the individuals/businesses by the Otoe County Sheriff's Department as an attempt to collect before striking the taxes. Chairman Sornson tabled the striking of taxes until the letters could be delivered and the issue will be discussed at a future meeting with an update from the Treasurer.

Commissioner Thurman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman to approve and authorized the Chairman to sign Resolution 10-8-19-24 authorizing the County Treasurer to purchase



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certificates of deposit and/or make time deposits in banks, capital stock financial institutions or qualifying mutual financial institutions selected as depositories of county funds and to invest funds as needed. The provisions and terms of the resolution apply retroactively to August 1, 2019. 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 authorize the Chairman to sign the certification of cost allocation plan provided by Maximus. The fiscal year 2019-2020 indirect cost rate computation for District Court will be 30.02% and the rate for County Attorney will be 33.35%. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Freshman, Speth, Thurman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Thurman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to write off uncollected paper services fees due to the Sheriff's office from 2011-2015 in the amount of \$460.06. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Speth, Thurman, Sornson and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

The Otoe County Visitors Committee submitted the application and resume of Theresa Brown as a recommendation to fulfill a vacancy on the board. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons, to appoint Theresa Brown to Otoe County Visitors Committee. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Thurman, Sornson, Parsons and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Gregg Goebel, Emergency Management Director, presented the quarterly EMPG (Emergency Management Planning Grant) report.

The Nebraska Forest Service submitted information on preparing a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) for southeast Nebraska. The committee will define risk areas, measures to limit risks and implement a plan of action if necessary. There is no cost to the county to join the CWPP. Gregg Goebel volunteered to represent Otoe County on the steering committee.

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 \$15,346.66 for the month of September 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 third quarter of the year was \$12,083.44.

Chairman Sornson acknowledged receipt of the financial reports for quarter ending September 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; Jennifer 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.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, reschedule the Commissioner meeting originally set for December 24, 2019 to



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December 23, 2019. The payroll date for December will be December 24, 2019. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Parsons, Freshman, Speth and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Jon Brinkman, Highway Superintendent, presented the Annual Road Certification Report. The report includes a budget and expenditure report, road and bridge contracts report, machinery & equipment inventory report. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to approve Resolution 10-8-19-25 authorizing the Chairman to sign the certification for the Annual Road Certification report. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Speth, Thurman, Sornson and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Mr. Brinkman presented the following road/bridge report: Project (586), located at J & 52 South – contractor is planning on 11-1-19 start date; Project (579), located at G & 2 East – contractor is grading on west side of the bridge; Paint striping project – striping has been completed on Business 75, Centennial, 56th Rd, old Hwy 2 from Unadilla to Syracuse and Steinhart Park Rd. The West crew removed a bridge and started shaping channel at B & 6 W; removed trees and repaired a ditch at Q & 34N; removed eroded concrete culvert apron at I & 34 N and cleaned up the Syracuse yard. The East crew has been working on a low water crossing at H & 46 West - tied rebar, formed up and been pouring concrete. Both crews have been hauling rock and blading. The road department has started mailing out tree letters.

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 8:58 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on October 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 8th day of October, 2019.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk