



# Otoe County Board Minutes



December 23, 2019

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on December 23, 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 Freshman 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 Freshman 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 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.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth to audit and sign payroll claims. 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.

Commissioner Sornson acknowledged the calling of two pledged securities held at Commercial State Bank in amount of \$55,000.00 each and replaced with \$100,000.00. The County's total current pledged securities at Commercial State Bank is \$300,000.00 par value.

John Hassett, representing Advanced Gaming Technologies, presented a County/City Lottery Sales Outlet Location Application. JC's Clubhouse Grill, LLC, owned by Justin Cunningham, will be operating the bar and grill at Table Creek Golf Course and would like to continue to operate KENO from the facility. The site is located at 5633 I Road, Nebraska City. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to approve the application to JC's Clubhouse Grill, LLC to operate KENO at the location. Being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Thurman, Sornson, Parsons, Freshman and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sornson opened a public hearing to hear comments regarding the Lessman Subdivision plat, a 5.00+- acre tract located in part of tract 23-B located in the West ½ of the NW ¼ of Section 23, Township 9N, Range 11E as requested by Aaron and Laura Lessman. The site is located at 3226 D Road. David Schmitz, Otoe County Surveyor, stated that the Lessman's are subdividing this plat for a mortgage. The planning commission unanimously approved the request at their meeting. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons, to approve the subdivision plat. There being no further discussion,



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Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Parsons, Freshman, Speth and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sornson opened a public hearing to hear comments regarding the J & A Rohlfs Subdivision plat, a 7.02+- acre tract located in the North  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 25, Township 8N, Range 10E as requested by Jeffrey S. Rohlfs and Amy Sue Vodicka. Site is located at 2268 K Road. David Schmitz, Otoe County Surveyor, stated that the subdivision plat is separating this from the original farm. The lagoon and septic are located on this parcel. Commissioner Speth made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons, to approve the subdivision plat. 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.

Amy Allgood and Pam Frana were present to discuss the formation of the J. Sterling Morton Statue Committee and its efforts to relocate the statue to Nebraska City. The statue is currently located in Washington D.C. The cost of transporting the 10', three-ton statue would be approximately \$5,000 and they currently have \$2,550 and are optimistic that the remaining funds can be raised. There were three possible locations: Lied Lodge, Morton James Public Library and Otoe County Courthouse. JEO submitted a preliminary picture of an option for the East side of the Courthouse. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to approve locating the statue of J. Sterling Morton on the East side of the Otoe County Courthouse. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Speth, Thurman, Sornson and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

The State Auditor's Office has been performing the County's annual financial audit for the past several years. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman to renew the contract with the State Auditor to perform the County's annual audit for an additional three years which includes fiscal years 2020, 2021 and 2022. 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 presented the road/bridge report submitted by and in the absence of Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman: Project (579), located at G & 2 East – contractor has started driving steel and deck panels have been poured. The East Crew repaired abutment 1 at E & 22 W; repaired abutment 2 at H & 14 S; removed debris from culvert at J & 12 W and repaired abutment 1 at I & 12 N. The West Crew replaced crossover culvert at K & 46 W and burned/buried brush piles at N & 60 N. Both crews have been hauling rock for projects only 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 8:56 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held January 14, 2020.

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 23rd day of December, 2019.

Jennifer Bassinger  
Otoe County Clerk