



Otoe County Board Minutes



June 9, 2020

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on June 9, 2020, to audit and sign regular claims and payroll 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 Commissioner Jerad Sornson. Answering present at roll call were Commissioner Sornson, Commissioner Freshman, Commissioner Parsons Commissioner Speth and Commissioner Thurman. None absent.

Commissioner Sornson informed the public in attendance that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the south wall of the meeting room. Additional copies are available upon request.

Commissioner Speth 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, Freshman, Parsons, Speth, and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Freshman 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 Freshman, Parsons, Speth, Thurman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Having reviewed the regular claims in advance of this meeting, Commissioner Thurman 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 Parsons, Speth, Thurman, Sornson and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Freshman 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, Freshman and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

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 \$22,202.50 for the month of May, 2020. Said report will be filed in the County Clerk's Office.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth, to resume regular operations of the Otoe County Courthouse. Due to Covid-19, all doors to the Courthouse had been locked with the exception of the East door and business was conducted by appointments. Beginning June 15, 2020, all exterior Courthouse doors will be unlocked during regular business hours. Offices will be open without appointments, but may limit the number of people in the office at once. Masks and social distancing will be encouraged. Voting aye were Commissioners Thurman, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to adopt resolution 6-9-20-19 approving a cash in lieu option to employees opting out of the County health insurance. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Speth and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Vanessa Sherman and Lisa Chaney were present to discuss the Central Navigator position proposal. The position was originally discussed and tabled at the April 14, 2020 meeting. Ms. Sherman presented a response model of the position, a budget proposal and letters of support. The collaborative position allows Ms. Sherman



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to continue to work with the diversion program and coordinate resources for youth or families. The program would have Ms. Sherman as the full-time employee and part time coaches to work together with families. She stated that she has spoken with the Crime Commission and NCFE, and both support the collaborative position and anticipate continued funding. The full-time position would remain an Otoe County employee and the part time positions would be funded by NCFE and the Crime Commission. There was discussion in regards to case load, part time employees, continued funding, insurance liability, returning to the original position after one year if needed and cost savings for the County. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson, to approve the collaboration of the Juvenile Diversion and Central Navigator position. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Speth and Sornson. Nay – Commissioners Parsons and Thurman. Motion carried.

Commissioner Sornson called the meeting into recess at 8:53 a.m. due to a fire alarm and reconvened at 8:59 a.m.

Commissioner Freshman presented the road report in Jon Brinkman's absence: Project (544) F & 16-Low Water Crossing (LWC) replacement, FEMA – contractor started 6-8-20. Both crews have been working on the following projects: Ditching projects at E & 10 N, M & 18 W, Q & 24 W, M & 8 W, L & 40 W and Van Dorn & 48 W; Repaired/replaced and backfilled culverts at Q & 24 intersection, D & 48 N and Q & 32 intersection; Backfilled and repaired minor washouts. Both crews have also been hauling rock and grading.

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 9:22 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on June 23, 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 9th day of June, 2020.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk