



Otoe County Board Minutes



June 23, 2020

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on June 23, 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 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, Freshman, Parsons, Speth, and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

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

Commissioner Thurman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Resolution #6-23-20-20 authorizing the purchase of two new patrol cars from Larson Motors for the Sheriff's department. The amount of the claim is \$50,000.00. The resolution is necessary as the purchase is being made from the FY19-20 Sheriff budget prior to the cars being ready. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Speth, Thurman, Sornson and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth, to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign Resolution #6-23-20-21 authorizing the purchase of an exterior ballot box from American Security Cabinets in the amount of \$1,926.25. The resolution is necessary as the payment is being authorized from the FY 19-20 prior to the cabinet being completed and delivered. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Thurman, Sornson, Freshman and Parsons. 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 Thurman, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons and Speth. 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 Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Speth and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.



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Commissioner Sornson opened a public hearing to hear comments regarding a subdivision plat of JRCMR subdivision, a 3.00+-acre tract located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 21, Township 8N, Range 10E as requested by Dallas R. Royal and Cheryl A. Royal. The site is located at 438 S 18th Rd. David Schmitz, Zoning Administrator, stated that the subdivision is an existing site where the older house will be torn down and a new home built. The site meets the requirements for acre total and water hookup. The planning commission passed the subdivision plat unanimously. Commissioner Speth made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to approve the subdivision plat. There being no discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Parsons, Speth, Thurman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson to approve an agreement with Region V Systems for Emergency Protective Custody Services. There are no changes from last year's agreement. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Speth, Thurman, Sornson and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Amanda VanAsperan, Southeast Nebraska Adult Drug Court Coordinator, presented the 2020-2021 Interlocal agreement and Budget request. The interlocal agreement includes Otoe, Richardson, Nemaha, Johnson and Pawnee counties. Otoe County has the largest population of the counties included and pays the largest portion of the budget, 69%, equaling \$15,291.66. Commissioner Parsons expressed concern with the additional cost and time from the County for transporting participants to treatment. Ms. VanAsperan indicated that the participants are responsible for their transportation except when court ordered. Jenniffer Panko-Rahe, Otoe Co. Attorney, stated that the short notice, sometimes less than 24 hours, becomes an issue with staffing as the transports can take an employee out for a good portion of the day. Ms. VanAsperan stated that she is hopeful that transports to Omaha or Lincoln will lessen with the opening of a treatment center in Nebraska City. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to approve the interlocal agreement and budget request for the Southeast Nebraska Adult Drug Court. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Thurman, Sornson, Freshman and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

A law enforcement interlocal agreement with the City of Syracuse was tabled for further review and will be on a future agenda.

Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson, to approve the application submitted by Patricia Pierce to become a member of the Otoe County Visitors Committee Board. Voting aye were Commissioners Thurman, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried.

It was reported that four budgets would require a fund transfer to meet their obligations for FY19-20. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to adopt the following resolutions: 1) #6-23-20-22; transferring \$1,378.93 to the County Treasurer; 2) #6-23-20-23; transferring \$2,064.00 to the County Coroner; 3) #6-23-20-24; transferring \$414.16 to Museum; 4) #6-23-20-25; transferring \$2,178.21 to Register of Deeds. The funds will be transferred from the Miscellaneous Budget – all are within the General Fund. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Speth and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

The resolutions proposed for the inheritance tax fund were tabled for the next meeting.

Jon Brinkman, Highway Superintendent, talked about the need for a new dump truck for the road department. He has been looking and all the trucks under \$50,000 seem to be in the same condition



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as the current one. The road department has a truck used for rock hauling that if kept for that need, would need to be replaced in the next year or two. Mr. Brinkman feels that instead of bidding to replace the dump truck, he could move unit #9 to the Syracuse shop, replace the box with a steel box and use it for that purpose. He would then like to bid out for a truck to replace Unit #9. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to approve getting bids for a new rock/dump truck to replace Unit #9. Voting aye were Commissioner Freshman, Parsons, Speth, Thurman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Jon Brinkman presented the Highway Superintendent report: Project (544) F & 16-Low Water Crossing (LWC) replacement, FEMA – contractor started 6-8-20 and has pulled the sheet pile and rip rap. Both crews have been working on the following projects: Ditching projects at Q & 8 W, H & 8 E, E & 10 S & N, G & 2 N, Van Dorn & 48 W. Repaired/replaced and backfilled culverts and washouts at B & 56 e, S & 46 W, E & 10 S and Excel Road. Removed debris and storm damage at N & 32 S, P & 32 E & W, P & 30 E, P & 28, Q & 26, K & 36 E, M & 26, O & 30 E & W, O & 32 E. Both crews have also been hauling rock and grading.

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 9:21 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on July 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 June, 2020.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk