



Otoe County Board Minutes



July 14, 2020

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:36 a.m. on June 14, 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 Thurman 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 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 Freshman, Parsons, 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 Thurman, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, 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.

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 \$24,982.27 for the month of June 2020. 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 second quarter of the year was \$9,716.40.

Chairman Sornson acknowledged receipt of the financial reports for quarter ending June 30, 2020, of the petty cash accounts held by Jenny Bassinger, County Clerk; Gregg Goebel, Emergency Management; Teresa Johnson, Child Support Officer; Ruth Ann Weddle, Register of Deeds; Colin Caudill, Sheriff; Jenniffer 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.



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Chairman Sornson acknowledged the receipt of the Delinquent Personal Property Tax report for the Otoe County Sheriff.

Doug Friedli, Tree City Trails Committee Member, was present to request \$30,000 through an Economic Growth Grant application. The application states that the funds will be used to assist in the design and engineering cost of a nearly one-mile section of a walking/bike trail. This section would extend along Business Hwy 75 to the Softball Complex, cross over to the Ambassador Wellness Center and to the site of the proposed new soccer/baseball complex. The committee has a total of \$300,000 pledged over the next 5 years and the first \$60,000 has been received. Additional requests to local, regional, state and federal grantors will be made. All conditions of the Economic Growth Grant application were met. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson, to approve the request of \$30,000 of KENO funds for Tree City Trails. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Freshman, Parsons and Speth. Nay – none. Commissioner Thurman abstained. Motion carried.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to approve and adopt Resolution #7-14-20-27, authorizing the Board to set a minimum balance of \$2,000,000 in the Inheritance Tax Fund. The \$2,000,000 is set to provided an emergency and disaster fund with requirements of emergency and disaster situations beyond the scope of budgeted funds within the current fiscal year. Authorization to distribute funds below the minimum must be with unanimous vote of the Board. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Speth and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Freshman, to approve and adopt Resolution 7-14-20-26, authorizing the Board to distribute yearly percentage of Inheritance Tax funds to road structures and bridges to help create property tax relief to Otoe County citizens while maintaining a minimum balance in the fund for emergencies and disasters. Twenty-five percent, 25%, of gross receipts to the fund from the previous fiscal year will be set aside for the road and bridge projects beginning with FY 20-21. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Freshman, Speth, Thurman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Vanessa Sherman presented the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative, JDAI, annual report.

Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to approve an agreement with CEDARS Youth Services to provide pre-adjudication alternatives to detention. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Speth, Thurman, Sornson and Freshman.

Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson, to approve an agreement with CEDARS Youth Services to provide truancy tracking to the juvenile diversion program. Voting aye were Commissioners Speth, Thurman, Sornson, Freshman and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Thurman, to approve an agreement with CEDARS Youth Services to provide family support services to the juvenile diversion program. Voting aye were Commissioners Thurman, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried.



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Commissioner Thurman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Parsons, to approve an agreement with People United for Families, dba P4OC, to provide coach support with the contingency of insurance coverage and a County Board member on the P4OC board. The coach positions will aid the Central Navigator and will be reimbursed by the Crime Commission and NCCF. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Speth and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson, to terminate an agreement between Otoe County and P4OC for grant management. Crime Commission funding was used to pay Ms. Sherman for grant management with P4OC; the agreement will no longer be needed as it will become part of the Central Navigator position. Jennifer Panko-Rahe, County Attorney, stated that she would send a letter of termination. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Parsons, Speth, Thurman and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sornson presented the Highway Superintendent report in Jon Brinkman's absence: Project (544) F & 16-Low Water Crossing (LWC) replacement, FEMA – contractor has the majority of sheet pile driven and culverts in place, will be forming collars around culverts. Both crews have been working on the following projects: Ditching projects at G & 2 N, O & 32 E, M & 26, J & 22, D & 22 W, 14 & G S, D & 30 W, E & 26, K & 40 S, P & 50 W. Repaired/replaced and backfilled culverts and washouts at S & 42 W, Van Dorn & 48 W, & Sisters, L & 40 W, L & 48. Removed debris and storm damage at M & 28 W, B & 28 E. Seeding and erosion control at P & 70 E, P & 64 E, Van Dorn & 48 W, 14 & G S. Bridge repair: Bridge #01240 at F & 40 W – replace section of plank. 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 9:40 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on July 28, 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 14th day of July, 2020.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk