



Otoe County Board Minutes



July 28, 2020

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on June 28, 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. Commissioner Thurman was 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 Parsons 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, and Speth. 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, 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 Sornson, Freshman, Parsons and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried.

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

Commissioner Sornson opened a public hearing to hear comments regarding a subdivision plat of R. Anderson Subdivision, 5.00+- acre tract located in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of S 9, T 7N, R 10E as requested by Janice Castleberry, Personal Representative of the estate of Richard W. Anderson. The site is located at 1207 S 16th Road. Gerald Stilmock, Attorney, was present to represent Ms. Castleberry. The parcel was left to the surviving spouse in Mr. Anderson's will. The subdivision plat was approved by the planning commission. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth, to approve the subdivision plat of R. Anderson Subdivision as presented. Being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Freshman, Parsons and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sornson opened a public hearing to hear comments regarding the conditional use permit for indoor and outdoor storage of RV, camper trailers, goosesnecks, pickup trucks and vehicles on Lot 5, Block 1, Evergreen Plaza 2nd Subdivision located in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of S 30, T 9N, R 9E as requested by Michael T. Christopher. Site is in the Evergreen Plaza area off of 190th & Highway 2.



Otoe County Board Minutes



Michael Christopher was present and stated that the property would be used for storage and would not become a salvage yard. The area will be fenced and a building will be added. He said that vehicles that will be stored outside must run, if not, they will be required to be stored inside. David Schmitz, Otoe County Surveyor/Zoning Administrator, stated that the permit was approved by the planning commission and the conditional use permit was required due to the outside storage. Commissioner Parsons made motion, seconded by Commissioner Speth, to approve the conditional use as presented. Being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Freshman, Parsons, Speth and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Andy Forney, D.A. Davidson, joined the meeting through the Zoom platform to speak to the board about the current bonds and interest rates. One the bonds was issued in 2014 and will be paid off in 2024. The current balance is approx. \$850,000 and has an interest rate of 2.7%. Mr. Forney stated that interest rates are at a 60-year low and one of the bonds could be reissued at .85%. The time frame of the bond would not change and would expire in 2024 and the savings would be approximately \$21,000 after costs. The other bond, which was issued in 2016, is not callable until August 2021 and is not eligible to be reissued at this time. No action was taken at this time.

Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson, to approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Otoe Co. and Partners for Otoe County, P4OC. The MOU is in regards to reimbursement of funds to support the Juvenile Diversion Director/Central Navigator position. Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Speth, Sornson and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Vanessa Sherman, Juvenile Diversion/Central Navigator, presented the Crime Commission grant award letter and special conditions documents by the Zoom platform. The grant award letter states the amount being provided for 2020 and the carryover from 2019, totaling \$56,029.00. It is noted that the total on the original award letter was added incorrectly and Ms. Sherman stated that she would request a corrected letter. Commissioner Freshman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson, to approve and sign the corrected grant award letter and special conditions documents. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Speth, Sornson and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Ann Post, Attorney representing Burr Oaks Lodge, LLC, was present via Zoom. A letter was sent to the Commissioners requesting a cost estimate to pave a portion of County Rd C on the western side of Otoe County. The road is paved in Lancaster Co. to the border of Otoe County where the road is rock. The request is for approximately 1.88 miles from the Lancaster border to the entrance of Woodland Hills Subdivision and golf course. Ms. Post stated that traffic has increased in the area and there is support of the neighboring properties. In 2017, the estimated cost of the project was \$1.9 million. A new study would need to be completed as costs and standards have changed since 2017. Jon Brinkman, Highway Superintendent, stated that he couldn't quote a price, but would estimate the study to cost approximately \$500-\$1200. It was stated that the county paid for this study in 2017 and the project did not go through. The commissioners discussed the cost of redoing the study and the concern of future costs of studies for subdivisions. Commissioner Parsons made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Sornson, to approve the cost estimate study with a signed agreement with Burr Oak Lodge, LLC reimbursing Otoe County for costs of the study. Ms. Post will speak with her client and work on an agreement. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Commissioners Sornson, Freshman, Parsons and Speth. Nay – none. Motion carried.



Otoe County Board Minutes



Jon Brinkman, Highway Superintendent, presented the road report: Project (544) F & 16-Low Water Crossing (LWC) replacement, FEMA – contractor has culverts installed and concrete collars poured. Both crews have been working on the following projects: Ditching projects E & 26 E and King & 12. Repaired/replaced and backfilled culverts and washouts at P & 50 W, replaced crossover culvert, ditching and driveway culvert; G & 2 S, replaced crossover culvert and ditching. Seeding and Erosion Control: G & 14 S. Closed bridge C006621020. 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 August 11, 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 28th day of July, 2020.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk