



# Otoe County Board Minutes



September 14, 2021

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 9:00 a.m. on September 14, 2021, 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. The meeting commenced after the completion of the tax request and budget public hearings that were held at 8:30 a.m. and 8:45 a.m. Advance notice of the 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 Jerad Sornson. Answering present at roll call were Commissioner Sornson, Commissioner Freshman, Commissioner Parsons, Commissioner Thurman and Commissioner Crownover.

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.

Parsons made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to accept the agenda as posted. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Thurman, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to accept the minutes from the previous meeting and not have them read as each member was furnished with a copy of same. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Thurman, Crownover, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Having reviewed the regular claims in advance of this meeting, Freshman made a motion, seconded by Thurman, to approve payment of the regular claims. Voting aye were Parsons, Thurman, Crownover, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Parsons made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to audit and sign payroll claims. Voting aye were Commissioners Thurman, Crownover, 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 \$12,221.132 for the month of August 2021. Said report will be filed in the County Clerk's Office.

Parsons made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to adopt Resolution 9-14-21-18 to approve an additional 1% increase of the 2021-2022 restricted funds limit. Voting aye were Crownover, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Thurman, to adopt Resolution 9-14-21-19 to approve the FY21-22 budget. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Thurman, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Parsons made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to adopt Resolution 9-14-21-2 to approve setting the property tax request for 2021-2022. The tax request is \$8,175,666.68 and will cause the tax rate to be .330264 per \$100 of assessed value. Voting aye were Freshman, Parson, Thurman, Crownover, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.



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Freshman made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to approve the annual KENO report. The report is for July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. Voting aye were Parsons, Thurman, Crownover, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Grant Bruggeman, SE District Health District Executive Director, met with the board regarding American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA funds). The health district has proposed requesting 9% or 10% of each county's ARPA allocation. The final rule of allowable expenditures has not been received for the funds and no action was taken.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Thurman, to approve and authorize the County Treasurer to strike personal property taxes as presented. The personal property taxes are remaining are uncollected after distress warrants that were issued in November 2020. Voting aye were Thurman, Crownover, Sornson, Freshman, and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sornson acknowledged the receipt of a report of uncollected personal taxes remaining after distress warrants were issued November 1, 2020, as provided by the County Treasurer. The amount uncollected as of June 30, 2021, is \$2,951.72.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to go into executive session to discuss Covid protocols and procedures. Chairman Sornson stated that Commissioners Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Thurman, and Crownover, County Attorney Jenniffer Panko-Rahe, County Clerk Jenny Bassinger, IT Coordinator Becky Sturm, Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman, EMA Director Gregg Goebel, would be present. Commissioner Sornson also stated that covid protocols/procedures would be the only topic discussed and executive session is necessary for the protection of public interest. Voting aye were Crownover, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried. Executive session was entered at 9:24 a.m. The meeting resumed at 9:48 a.m. Freshman made a motion, seconded by Parsons to resume the meeting in open session. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Thurman, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Crownover made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to authorize Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman to advertise for bids to purchase a motor grader. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Thurman, Crownover, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Highway Superintendent, Jon Brinkman, presented the supervisors' report: Project (507): Nebraska City Southeast: crack sealing should be completed by 9-14-21; Project (431): Palmyra Southwest HRRR-7915 (1): the road is open, the contractor moved in and installed the rip rap and repaired the matting per NDOT. The construction crew replaced drop culverts at SW and NE corners of structure, ditching and driveway culverts at N & 24 Bridge – 2515; worked on bridge and tree removal at G & 28 North, CBMP Project (640); tree removal and replaced rusted out culvert at G & 32 East; installed guard rail on north side of channel where bridge was removed at S & 69 intersection; installed field entrance at F & 48; cleaned out east ditch north of intersection at Q & 56 North. Both crews have been grading and hauling rock.

Chairman Sornson announced that all board members will visit the county jail facility upon adjournment per State Statute 47-109.



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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 9:53 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on September 28, 2021.

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 September 2021.

Jennifer Bassinger  
Otoe County Clerk