



# Otoe County Board Minutes



May 24, 2022

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on May 24, 2022, 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 Crownover, and Commissioner Thurman.

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.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by 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, Crownover, and Thurman. 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 Commissioners Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Thurman, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

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

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Thurman, to approve payroll claims. Voting aye were Commissioners Crownover, Thurman, Sornson, Freshman, and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sornson tabled the public hearing to approve/deny the subdivision plat of Dora Marie Griepenstoh Subdivision. David Schmitz, Otoe County Surveyor/Zoning Administrator, stated that the plat would need to be tabled due to rural water. The subdivision plat will be rescheduled for the June 21, 2022 Commissioners' meeting.

New legislation will be in effect for the upcoming budget year. LB644 will require political subdivisions, County, City, School Districts, and Community Colleges, to participate in a joint budget hearing if the property tax request will increase more than 2% + growth. The political subdivision will attend the meeting in which they are headquartered. Taxpayers will receive a postcard for each parcel. The postcards will include information on the date, time and location of the joint public hearing for each political subdivision participating. Through the assistance of NACO, it is being organized that counties can utilize the state printing service for the postcards. The printing service would include the postcards, printing and postage. Currently, the estimated cost is \$.52/card. This price may increase as the price of paper and postage increase before the mailing in September. The total cost will be shared by all participants in the joint public hearing. Freshman made a motion, seconded by Thurman, to approve NACO and/or State of Nebraska Administrative Services to print budget hearing documents. Voting aye were Thurman, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.



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Elaine Menzel, NACO Legal Counsel, was present to speak to the board about NACO services, events and updates.

Parsons made a motion, seconded by Sornson, to approve the updated KENO applications. The applications were reviewed and rewritten with updated conditions. Some new conditions include excluding entities receiving federal, state or local tax funding; the applicant signing an acceptance letter prior to receiving funds; a person over the age of 18 to accept and be the acting agent for the funding. The new applications will be used for future applications and reviewed after a six-month period. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Thurman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

A spreadsheet of proposed projects to be paid for with ARPA funding was presented for the board's review. Several projects included are up to \$30,000 to each of the eight villages in Otoe County, courthouse office remodeling, repairs to county shops, security upgrades, and NCAEDC housing. A full list is available in the County Clerk's office. Parsons made a motion, seconded by Thurman, to approve the list and to include a lighting project for the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the courthouse. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Thurman, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

In conjunction with the previous approval of ARPA funding, an application was presented for the villages to use to request the ARPA funds. The County Clerk will send an application to the village clerks of Burr, Douglas, Dunbar, Lorton, Otoe, Palmyra, Talmage, and Unadilla. The application will describe the project, why the project is needed (positives/lasting impact), and how the funds are consistent with ARPA and eligible uses. The applications will be due to the clerk by July 31, 2022. The applications will be reviewed by a subcommittee consisting of two commissioners, the county clerk and the county attorney, and presented to the board for approval. Upon completion of the project, copies of invoices and receipts/proof of payment must be provided to the county clerk within 30 days. Parsons made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to approve the application. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Thurman, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Crownover made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to approve Resolution 5-24-22-11. The resolution is the final acceptance and completion of Project HRRR-7915(1). Voting aye were Crownover, Thurman, Sornson, Freshman, and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Jon Brinkman presented the Highway Superintendent Report: Project (665) C Road Paving – Pavers has put the bottom 6" lift on approx. 2200' coming from the East, the road is at grade for the west of the box culvert east to where the 6" lift stopped. Pavers will put a 6" bottom lift from the west of the box going east to where they left off is weather permits. Dynamic Dirt continues to work their way west. The county crews backfilled culverts, installed culverts and are doing dirt work for Project (629) at R & 14 N; installed culvert and completed Project (633) at K & 52 N; driveway at R & 62 S; repaired washouts at R & 60 N, grading and hauling rock.

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 9:21 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on June 7, 2022.



# Otoe County Board Minutes



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 24th day of May 2022.

Jennifer Bassinger  
Otoe County Clerk