



Otoe County Board Minutes



January 3, 2023

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:37 a.m. on January 3, 2023, 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, and Commissioner Crownover. 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.

Parsons made a motion, seconded by Freshman to accept the agenda as posted. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

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

The meeting was turned over to the County Clerk for the election of a Chairman of the Board for year 2023. The Clerk called for nominations from the floor. Commissioner Freshman nominated Commissioner Jerad Sornson as Chairman of the Board. There being no other nominations, Freshman made a motion, seconded by Crownover to appoint Commissioner Jerad Sornson as Chairman of the Board for year 2023. Voting aye were Commissioners Parsons, Crownover, Sornson and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

The Clerk called for nominations from the floor for election of a Vice-Chairman of the Board for year 2023. Commissioner Sornson nominated Commissioner Rick Freshman as Vice-Chairman of the Board. There being no other nominations, Sornson made a motion, seconded by Crownover to appoint Commissioner Rick Freshman to be Vice-Chairman of the Board for year 2023. Voting aye were Commissioners Crownover, Sornson, Freshman and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Chairman Sornson made the following miscellaneous board appointments for year 2023:

SENDD (Southeast Nebraska Development District): The commissioner to be appointed to District 1 will serve as Otoe County representative with Commissioner Sornson named as alternate.

NCAEDC (Nebraska City Area Economic Development Corporation): Commissioner Freshman will serve as the Otoe County representative with Commissioner Sornson named as alternate.

REGION V: Commissioner Crownover will serve as the Otoe County representative with Commissioner Parsons named as alternate.

RC & D (Five Rivers Resource Conservation & Development): Commissioner Parsons will serve as the Otoe County representative with Commissioner Crownover named as alternate.

BRAAA (Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging): Commissioner Crownover will serve as the Otoe County representative with Commissioner Freshman as the alternate.



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Southeast District Health: Commissioner Parsons will serve as the Otoe County representative with the appointed Commissioner for District 1 named as alternate.

Road & Bridge Committee: Commissioner Freshman and Commissioner Sornson will serve as representatives.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to re-appoint Jon Brinkman as Otoe County Highway Superintendent for 2023. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Parsons to designate the Nebraska City News Press as the official means of providing public notices during the year 2023. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Parsons made a motion, seconded by Freshman to designate the Otoe County Website as an official means of providing public notices during the year 2023. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Parsons made a motion, seconded by Crownover to appoint the following financial institutions as depositories for Otoe County in 2023: Arbor Bank, Premier Bank, American National Bank, Commercial State Bank, and First Nebraska Bank, all of Nebraska City; First Bank of Nebraska, Syracuse Branch; Countryside Bank of Unadilla; Farmers & Merchants Bank of Palmyra, Union Bank and Trust, and NPAIT (Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust). There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. 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 Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Parsons made a motion, seconded by Freshman to audit and sign payroll claims. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Sornson, and Freshman. 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 \$30,807.64 for the month of December 2022. 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 fourth quarter of the year was \$9,077.40.

Chairman Sornson acknowledged receipt of the financial reports for quarter ending December 31, 2022, 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 Dana Ritchheart, County Court Magistrate. Said reports will be kept on file in the County Clerk's Office.

Chairman Sornson acknowledged the Treasurer's financial report for Oct., Nov., and Dec. 2022.



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Chris Reece, District 1 Probation, was present regarding an interlocal agreement for Southeast Nebraska Adult Drug Court. Ms. Reece had been previously scheduled for the Nov. 21, 2022, and was unable to attend; however, the interlocal agreement was reviewed and approved at that meeting. Ms. Reece was provided a signed copy of the agreement at today's meeting. No action was taken.

Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman presented the following road/bridge report: Project (587) P & 24 South: starting to backfill. The county crews have unloaded culverts for Project (669) at R & 36 North; removed tree at N & 4 West; worked on minor bridge repairs, preparing for snow events, checking roads, working on plows, sanders, and other maintenance.

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 8:50 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on January 17, 2023.

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 3rd day of January 2023.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk