

October 24, 2023

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

Commissioner Sornson informed the public in attendance that a current copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted to the right of the door of the courtroom.

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

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

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

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to audit and sign payroll claims. Voting aye were Crownover, Cole, Sornson, Freshman, and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

The board acknowledged a Return of County Sale report of county owned properties. The properties were offered at a public sale on October 10, 2023. Five parcels were sold, including: #002208500, #003829500, #004999000, #005151000, and #005419000. Sixteen parcels went unsold due to the lack of bidders. The unsold parcels include: #001619500, #000323000, #001182000, #001453500, #001653500, #001932000, #002713000, #002937000, #004852000, #004954000, #005202500, #005301500, #005328500, #005392500, #005408500, and #005431500.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to sell parcel #001453500 to William and/or Sondra Westerfield for \$50.00. Voting aye were Cole, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Cole, to sell parcel #004954000 to Luke Johnson for \$1,250.00. Voting aye were Cole, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to sell parcel #001182000 to the Village of Talmage, represented by Jeff Bestwick, Village Vice-Chairman, for \$500.00. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Cole. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Jeff Bestwick offered \$100 for parcel #001619500. The board offer was not accepted, and the property was not sold.

Sornson opened a public hearing to hear comments regarding a subdivision plat of Guenther Ranch Subdivision, a 5.36 +- acre tract of land located in part of the South ½ of the SW ¼ of S 27, T 9N, R 12E, as proposed by Jason C. Guenther and Janie M. Guenther. The site is located 933 feet east of North 42nd Road on F Road. David Schmitz, County Surveyor/Planning Administrator, stated that rural water was ran per regulations and the subdivision was approved by the planning board. Cole made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to approve the Guenther Ranch Subdivision. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Cole. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to adopt Resolution #10-26-23-34, directing the County Treasurer to issue county tax sale certificates. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Cole, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Judd Allen, NACO Benefits Services Representative, discussed the county health and dental insurance plan and benefits such as life and long-term disability insurance that may be associated with the plan.

Tom Ross discussed speed and visibility concerns on H & 58 Rd. He stated that there is a family that lives along the road with children and their driveway has poor visibility. He and the residents along the road would like to see the speed limit reduced and caution signs installed for safety. The Highway Superintendent and Commissioner will visit the area to inspect the driveway visibility and to determine what caution signs would need to be installed. A speed limit study will be completed along the road.

Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman presented the road report: bridge removal and replacement – contractor has trees and bridge removed at E & 22 West, Project (678); hauled away concrete from LWC at F & 40 North, Project (684); removed beaver dam at C & 42; repaired road shoulder and washouts around mailbox at 6511 K Rd; removed trees at 2 & B East, CBMP (670); dug up and repaired hole in road at 11 & R. Both crews have been rocking and grading roads.

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 October 2023.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk