

July 16, 2024

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on July 16, 2024, 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.

Chairman Sornson stated that the Board of Equalization meeting that was also on the agenda for July 16, 2024, had been cancelled.

The commissioners' 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 located near the door of the courtroom.

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

Crownover 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 Freshman, 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.

Chairman Sornson acknowledged receipt of the financial reports for quarter ending June 30, 2024, of the petty cash accounts held by Teresa Johnson, Child Support Officer. Said report will be kept on file in the County Clerk's Office.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to approve a contract with Central Plains Appraisal. The contract amount is \$36,000/year and is for commercial re-appraisal services. Voting aye were Cole, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Cole, to approve designating the State Print Shop to facilitate the printing and mailing of the Joint Public Hearing postcards for 2024. The estimated cost for the service is \$.50 per postcard. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Cole. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Commissioner Cole presented an update on the Safety Committee. The committee has reviewed and updated the Policies and Guidelines of the Committee and the Safety Manual. In discussion, it was noted that a date should be added to indicate the most recent versions. Sornson made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to approve the Otoe County Safety Committee Policies and Guidelines. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Cole, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried. Crownover made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to approve the Otoe County Safety Manual. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Cole, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Tom Farrell, Miller Farrell Insurance Co., presented updated information on cyber and deductible buydown insurance coverage. The quotes previously presented did not have the coverage limits that the specifications had requested, and Mr. Farrell was looking for other options. Arch Specialty Insurance provided a quote of \$5,726.51

for a one-million-dollar cyber liability limit. This compared to a previous quote of \$7,085 for \$250,000 limits with sub-limits of \$100,000. There were several options for the deductible buydown. The renewal with Travelers offered a 3% wind and hail deductible per occurrence with a minimum \$250,000 deductible per occurrence. The initial buydown coverage offer was a maximum payout of \$225,000 for a premium of \$24,190. This would not cover the maximum exposure if there was a loss to more of the county buildings. To cover 3% of the total exposure, it would be approximately \$594,464. The premium for this coverage would \$53,086.36. The county could opt to self-insure the difference between the deductible amounts. There was a discussion of options. Cole made a motion, seconded by Sornson, to approve the \$1,000,000 cyber coverage with Arch with the \$5,726.51 premium, and the 3% exposure of \$594,464 deductible buydown coverage with Lloyds with the premium of \$53,086.36. Voting aye were Crownover, Cole, Sornson, Freshman, and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded Crownover, to approve renewing an agreement with Partners for Otoe County to provide Youth Coaches to the Juvenile Diversion Program. Voting aye were Cole, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Cole, to approve an agreement with Partners for Otoe County to provide Family Coaches to the Juvenile Diversion Program. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Cole. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to approve renewing an agreement with CEDARS to provide Community Youth Coaching (CYC) to the Juvenile Diversion Program. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Cole, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Crownover made a motion, seconded by Cole, to approve a FY 24-25 agreement between Otoe County and Region V Systems for Emergency Protective Custody Services. The duration for the agreement is July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025. The minimum charge of \$214 will be assessed for any length of stay, 24 hours or less. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Cole, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Gregg Goebel, Otoe County EMA Director, stated that the communication committee had met to discuss radio and infrastructure options. Commissioner Cole stated that the committee discussed funding options also. The option of a sales tax is not available as a political subdivision could only have one sales tax and several within the district already have one in place. There is an option of obtaining a bond and creating an agreement between the political subdivisions to share the cost. Attending the meeting were representatives from the SENDD organization. They have assisted counties with grants for a couple of similar projects. The grants could provide funding options of a 75/25 split with the political subdivisions' share being a fraction of the full amount. The committee will continue to research the equipment and funding options.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to advertise for bid for the purchase of a dump/plow truck. The bids will be advertised to be taken to and opened on August 9, 2024. The bid will be awarded on August 13, 2024.

Chairman Sornson and Chad Watkins, Road Supervisor, presented a Road Supervisor report.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to enter executive session to review a settlement regarding a workers compensation claim. Voting aye were Cole, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried. Executive session was entered at 9:16 a.m. At 9:40 a.m., Cole made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to reconvene in regular session. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Cole. Nay – none. Motion carried.

At 9:41 a.m. the meeting was adjourned.

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 16th day of July 2024.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk