

March 25, 2025

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on March 25, 2025, 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 is posted near the door 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 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. There being no further discussion, Chairman Sornson called for a vote. 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.

Claims Approved March 25, 2025

ADKINS SIGNS	sup	\$225.00
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	sup	\$273.83
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	sup	\$1,761.14
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	sup	\$725.55
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	sup	\$129.94
AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK	srv	\$41,745.75
ANTES FAMILY HARDWARE	sup	\$194.24
ARBOR MART INC	sup	\$46.09
BLUEALLY	srv	\$2,503.00
BOB BARKER CO INC	sup	\$350.01
C & K SAFETY	srv	\$780.00
CASEYS BUSINESS MASTERCARD	srv	\$582.48
CEDARS YOUTH SERVICES, INC	srv	\$5,106.00
CITIZEN PRINTING CO	srv	\$240.00
CODY'S U-SAVE PHARMACY	srv	\$205.78
COLUMN SOFTWARE PBC	srv	\$14.51
CONNER PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES PC	srv	\$2,850.00
DAS STATE ACCOUNTING	srv	\$690.00
DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF	srv	\$42.57
FIRST CONCORD	srv	\$4,051.00
FIRST STATE INSURANCE AGENCY	cont	\$1,629.00
FIRST WIRELESS INC	srv	\$774.00
MATTHEW FRANKEN	srv	\$400.00

FUTURITY IT,INC	srv	\$1,000.00
GOTTULA PROPANE SERVICE, INC.	srv	\$35,989.46
JERE GRAVATT	srv	\$100.00
GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS	srv	\$240.00
DYLAN L. HANDLEY	srv	\$300.00
HENRY MOTORS SOUTH INC	srv	\$1,399.79
NICKI KREIFELS, OTOE CO TREASURER	trans	\$150,000.00
LANCASTER COUNTY SHERIFF	srv	\$7.46
LANDIS ENGINE CO INC	srv	\$12.43
ROBERT LARSEN DBA ABRAHAMSON LAW	srv	\$2,232.50
MARY MELLAGE	srv	\$200.00
MERZ INK	srv	\$100.00
ANGELA M MINAHAN	srv	\$684.00
MULTICOUNTY INFORMATION PROGRAMMING	srv	\$204.00
MRFIVETONINE	srv	\$440.00
N C UTILITIES	srv	\$7,022.52
N C UTILITIES	srv	\$330.00
NACO	reg	\$120.00
NE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES	srv	\$168.00
NEBRASKA STATE PATROL	srv	\$1,446.00
OTOE COUNTY COURT	srv	\$648.00
PIKE REPORTING COMPANY	srv	\$1,072.10
POLARIS LAW GROUP	srv	\$655.50
PROFESSIONAL TERMITE & PEST CONTROL	srv	\$80.00
JANIS A RIEGE, CLERK OF D.C.	srv	\$146.00
SARPY COUNTY TREASURER	srv	\$1,227.29
SCHMITZ LAND SURVEYING INC	srv	\$2,997.20
SOARIN GROUP LLC	srv	\$767.00
SYRACUSE VETERINARY SERVICE	srv	\$97.50
UKG INC	srv	\$1,376.96
VERIZON	srv	\$358.29
VERIZON WIRELESS	srv	\$1,953.52
VOLITANT TECHNOLOGIES LLC	sup	\$10,684.00
A-1 LOCKSM	srv	\$965.00
BIG RIG TRUCK ACCESSORIES INC	srv	\$175.00
BOLDT TIRE SUPPLY & SERVICE LLC	srv	\$25.00
DOUGLAS TIRE INC	srv	\$385.00
FRONTIER COOPERATIVE	srv	\$120.00
DANIEL GORDON	reim	\$31.00
GRAINGER	sup	\$521.70
J & A TRAFFIC PRODUCTS	sup	\$1,700.00
LANGFELDT OVERHEAD DOOR COMPANY	srv	\$110.00
LANT HARDWARE	sup	\$28.99
MEESKE ACE HARDWARE	sup	\$143.05
MEESKE AUTO PARTS	srv	\$40.64
MIDWEST ENGINEERING INC	srv	\$23,370.00
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES	srv	\$145.00
OREILLY AUTOMOTIVE INC	sup	\$165.31
RURAL WATER DISTRICT #3	srv	\$36.00

SYRACUSE IRON WORKS	srv	\$592.22
SYRACUSE MOTOR SUPPLY	srv	\$250.40
TIFCO INDUSTRIES	sup	\$137.13
VILLAGE OF OTOE	srv	\$22.50
EDEN K-9 CONSULTING & TRAINING CORP	srv	\$348.00
OTOE COUNTY TREASURER	trans	\$179,998.80
WINDSTREAM	srv	\$411.77
MEAD LUMBER DO-IT-BEST INC	sup	\$1,973.24
SOUTHEAST PLUMBING & HEATING	srv	\$9,720.00
Regular Claims Total		\$510,795.16
Payroll Claims Total		\$335,356.77
Grand Total		\$846,151.93

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

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Cole, to approve the tax sale proceedings from the Otoe County Treasurer. The grand total including the cost of certificates was \$162,315.01. Voting aye were Cole, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to appoint Dan Thomson as the Otoe County Surveyor and Planning and Zoning Administrator. David Schmitz, current Otoe County Surveyor and Planning Zoning Administrator, plans to retire June 2, 2025, and Dan Thomson will be his replacement. Mr. Thomson appointment will fulfill the remainder of Mr. Schmitz's elected term through 2026. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Cole. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to approve a Cross-Jurisdictional Memorandum of Understanding by, between, and among the Nebraska counties of Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, and Richardson, and the Missouri county of Atchison regarding alert, warning, and notifications sent through FEMA's Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS). Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Cole, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Aaron Clark, Nextlink, provided information on the plan for network expansion in the Otoe County area and applying for the NBEAD program. Parsons made a motion, seconded by Cole, to approve providing a letter of support to Nextlink for network expansion and growth. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Cole, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Krista Dittman, NACO Medicare Representative, presented information on the service that can be provided to employees and community members regarding Medicare coverage.

Judd Allen, NACO Benefits Services Representative, presented information on the Online Benefits Enrollment System. The enrollment platform is provided through Alliant and is no charge to the county. Cole made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to approve and authorize the County Clerk to transition enrollments to the Online Benefits Enrollment System when available. Voting aye were Crownover, Cole, Sornson, Freshman, and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Cole, to approve the discontinuation of select supplemental group benefits that will not transition to the Online Benefits Enrollment System or allow for employees to transition to self-pay. Voting aye were Cole, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Sornson, to approve closing the County Group Short-Term Disability Insurance with Ft. Dearborn and offer a short-term disability option through National Insurance Services (NIS) to be effective with the 2025 open enrollment period. Ft. Dearborn's short-term disability plan is a group plan

and cannot be converted to a self-pay option and will not transition with the online benefit enrollment system. The maximum weekly benefit is \$175.00 through Ft. Dearborn and NIS offers a 60% weekly wage benefit. The cost is slightly more expensive, but the weekly payout is much greater. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Cole. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to approve offering an employee paid life insurance option through NIS for the next enrollment period. NIS offers a supplemental life insurance product of up to \$500,000 in coverage with a \$100,000 guaranteed issue amount. There is no county cost for this insurance option, and it will be supported through the online benefits enrollment system. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Cole, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to authorize the transfer of all interest, previously accrued and future, during FY25-26 from the ARPA Fund (2580) to the General Fund (0100). The SLFRF allows counties to keep interest in the General Fund. Total interest earned from the ARPA funds will be calculated and transferred during FY25-26. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Cole, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay -none. Motion carried.

The Board acknowledged an update to the Master Treasury Management Agreement with Arbor Bank for the Clerk's office. A fraud protection product was added, and an updated agreement was needed.

There was discussion of the road condition and repair options for approximately 800' of Business Highway 75. This is near the intersection of Business and Highway 75. A few options have been discussed and vary in the amounts of \$350,000 and more. The project will require engineering and bidding. There was a discussion that the One-and-Six Year Plan would need to be amended to include this project.

Brian Briley, Road Lead Supervisor, presented the road report. He stated that Jeff Gray was offered and accepted the Junior Foremen position. He explained that there would now be a Junior and Senior Foremen position for the county and the crews will no longer be divided by East and West.

There was no public comment.

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 9:36 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on April 8, 2025.

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 25th day of March 2025.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk