

April 8, 2025

The Otoe County Board of Commissioners convened in regular session at 8:30 a.m. on April 8, 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 Cole, 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 Freshman, 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 Parsons, to approve payment of the regular claims. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Cole, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Sornson abstained from the Sornson R & C claim. Motion carried.

Claims Approved April 8, 2025

AMAZON	sup	\$323.26
AMERICAN RECYCLING & SANITATION INC	srv	\$467.11
APPLIED CONCEPTS	srv	\$169.95
HOWARD BEBOUT	srv,mileage	\$33.80
PAM BENNETT	srv	\$100.00
CAPITAL BUSINESS SYSTEMS INC	srv	\$176.09
COLIN CAUDILL, SHERIFF	srv	\$659.64
COLIN CAUDILL, SHERIFF	reim	\$31.40
CENTRAL PLAINS VALUATION, LLC	srv	\$5,000.00
CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	srv	\$10.46
CHI HEALTH CLINIC SPECIALTY	srv	\$332.22
SAINT MARY'S COMMUNITY HOSPITAL	srv	\$3,977.61
CITY OF SYRACUSE	srv	\$315.81
DAS	srv	\$844.80
DOUG DELHAY	srv,mileage	\$35.20
DOUGLAS TIRE INC	srv	\$741.95
DRIVERS LICENSE GUIDE COMPANY	sup	\$33.95
EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	sup	\$4,628.08
FANKHAUSER,NELSEN,WERTS,ZISKEY	srv	\$110.00
ALLEN - HARVEY INC	srv	\$300.00
GALLS LLC	sup	\$214.60
GUARDIAN RFID	srv	\$387.80

DANIEL HODGES	srv,mileage,reim	\$567.12
HOMETOWN LEASING	srv	\$284.79
JUNIOR VERNON HUGHES	srv	\$135.00
JONES AUTOMOTIVE INC	srv	\$551.40
LORI E. LAMBRECHT	srv	\$20.00
LANCASTER COUNTY SHERIFF	srv	\$18.73
LANDIS ENGINE CO INC	srv	\$38.50
LANT HARDWARE	sup	\$8.25
DIANE MERWIN DBA FANKHAUSER, NELSEN	srv	\$1,748.00
MULTICOUNTY INFORMATION PROGRAMMING	srv	\$2,277.27
MARK MOORE	srv	\$580.45
NCDAA	reg	\$250.00
NEBRASKA AIR FILTER INC	sup	\$400.55
NEBRASKA CITY CENTER FOR CHILDREN	srv,rent	\$6,361.73
NEBRASKA CITY MEDICAL CLINIC	srv	\$969.22
NEBRASKA CLERK OF DISTR COURT ASS'N	reg	\$75.00
NEMAHA COUNTY TREASURER CHAD NEUBAUER	srv,mileage	\$9,169.68
OREILLY AUTOMOTIVE INC	sup	\$21.20
OTOE COUNTY COURT	srv	\$272.41
PAPER TIGER	srv	\$284.00
PAPILLION SANITATION	srv	\$149.00
PINPOINT COMMUNICATIONS INC	srv	\$135.56
QUADIENT FINANCE USA INC	srv	\$246.75
RADIOLOGY CONSULTANTS	srv	\$4,000.00
REGION V SYSTEMS	srv	\$190.61
JANIS A RIEGE, CLERK OF D.C.	srv	\$4,066.00
SAMS CLUB/SYNCHRONY BANK	srv	\$182.00
SCHMITZ LAND SURVEYING INC	srv,mileage	\$424.40
STEPHANIE SHRADER	srv,mileage	\$3,053.90
SOUTHEAST PLUMBING & HEATING	srv	\$35.20
SYRACUSE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	dues	\$7,012.80
TK ELEVATOR CORPORATION	srv	\$180.00
FIBER PLATFORM LLC	srv	\$342.68
VISA	srv	\$2,459.30
VISA	srv	\$518.00
VISA	srv	\$5,097.26
VISA	srv	\$85.48
RICHARD WARNER	srv,mileage	\$48.50
WESTLAKE ACE HARDWARE INC	sup	\$381.78
B'S ENTERPRISES INC	srv	\$3,310.00
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	srv	\$255.10
BRIAN BRILEY	reim	\$20.00
CONCRETE INDUSTRIES INC	srv	\$3,683.60
CONSOLIDATED RURAL WATER DIST #1	srv	\$92.50
FRONTIER COOPERATIVE	srv	\$85.00

HOTSY EQUIPMENT CO	srv	\$234.00
J & A TRAFFIC PRODUCTS	sup	\$1,275.00
MAINELLI WAGNER & ASSOCIATES INC	srv	\$1,500.00
MARTIN-MARIETTA AGGREGATES	srv,sup	\$109,555.71
MATHESON TRI-GAS, INC	srv	\$371.95
MEESKE AUTO PARTS	sup	\$202.39
MILLER SEED COMPANY	sup	\$900.00
N C UTILITIES	srv	\$164.88
NE ASSOC. OF CO. ENGINEERS, ETC.	dues,reg	\$160.00
NEBRASKA DEPT OF REVENUE	tax	\$1,446.00
OMAHA SLINGS INC	sup	\$2,406.74
OPPD	srv	\$30.49
RDO TRUCK CENTERS LLC	srv	\$1,358.02
THOMSON OIL CO	srv	\$72.63
TIFCO INDUSTRIES	sup	\$143.28
VERIZON	srv	\$866.05
VILLAGE OF PALMYRA	srv	\$26.00
VISA	srv	\$166.73
WHETROCK INC	srv,sup	\$16,987.28
CELLEBRITE INC	srv	\$4,144.04
ARBOR VALLEY ANIMAL CLINIC	srv	\$390.17
LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES INC	srv	\$7.67
WINDSTREAM	srv	\$1,142.68
WINDSTREAM	srv	\$411.31
CENTURY LINK	srv	\$3,599.84
CB PLUMBING SERVICES	srv	\$877.77
SHELTER HOME SERVICE LLC	srv	\$540.00
Regular Claims Total		\$227,963.08
Payroll Claims Total		\$319,817.38
Grand Total		\$547,780.46

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.

Chairman Sornson acknowledged receipt of the monthly report from the Clerk of the District Court certifying fee collections in the amount of \$12,331.90 for the month of March 2025. Said report will be filed in the County Clerk's Office.

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 first quarter of the year was \$11,478.32.

Chairman Sornson acknowledged receipt of the financial reports for quarter ending March 31, 2025, of the petty cash accounts held by Jenny Bassinger, County Clerk; Gregg Goebel, Emergency Management; 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.

Jeff Reese spoke to the board about the concerns of Rural 1 & 2 exceeding capacity for water accessibility. Mr. Reese described the water district as Union south to Julian and to Highway 67. He explained that there are a few outlying customers. The system was originally built in the 1970's with glued pipes. The original system was

built with approximately 400 customers and a margin of growth; currently there are approximately 700 customers. Mr. Reese estimated the slippage/leak rate to be around 40%. This issue is caused by the glue and condition of the pipe. The price to replace the pipes and increase the capacity is very high, possibly millions. He stated that the water district would be presenting and voting on imposing a moratorium on new applications for rural water hookups. This would require new home construction to have the ability to have a well instead of the option of rural water. There was concern that some may be able to have water capacity for a well test, but not quality. This could limit the growth in these areas if water issues continue.

Tom Farrell was present to speak to the board about submitting a response letter to Traveler's Insurance following the safety and risk management visit. The report was provided at a previous meeting. The discussion was to respond that the safety committee would be assigned the responsibility to mark the area 36" from electrical boxes with paint or tape to avoid items being placed in the area, to require a Hot Works form to be submitted by vendors engaging in work that could cause a fire risk, and to state that the county would not be installing a sprinkler system in the county jail. Cole made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to approve submitting a response letter for the risk management evaluation report from Travelers Insurance. Voting aye were Cole, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Sornson opened a public hearing to hear comments regarding the issuance of a conditional use permit to the Nebraska City Utilities to allow the application of bio-solids on various farm sites in Otoe County. There was a discussion of the application sites. Jerry Whitehead, representing N.C. Utilities, spoke about the testing requirements. The public hearing was closed. Freshman made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to approve the conditional use permit to the Nebraska City Utilities to allow the application of bio-solids on various farm sites in Otoe County. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Cole. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Sornson opened a public hearing to hear comments regarding the issuance of a conditional use permit to the City of Omaha (Missouri River Treatment Plant and Papillion Creek Treatment Plant) to allow the application of wastewater sludge on various farm sites in Otoe County. Wayne Beal, representing the City of Omaha, was present and joined the brief discussion of the application process. The public hearing was closed. Cole made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to approve the conditional use permit to the City of Omaha (Missouri River Treatment Plant and Papillion Creek Treatment Plant) to allow the application of wastewater sludge on various farm sites in Otoe County. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Cole, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

KENO fund applications submitted for the 1st Quarter 2025 were:

- City of Nebraska City - Tree City Trails Committee: \$30,000.00 for engineering fees for the trail project;
- Otoe Co Veteran Service Office: \$761.84 to replace broken grave markers for veterans at Wyuka Cemetery
- Village of Talmage: \$7,983.02 for the purchase of an outdoor emergency siren
- Village of Unadilla: \$10,000.00 for updating a basketball and pickleball court.

A representative for each application was present.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Cole, to approve the KENO fund application submitted by City of Nebraska City – Trail City Committee in the amount of \$30,000.00. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Cole, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to approve the KENO fund application submitted by Otoe County Veteran Service Office in the amount of \$761.84. Voting aye were Crownover, Cole, Sornson, Freshman, and Parsons. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to approve the KENO fund application submitted by Village of Talmage in the amount of \$7,983.02. Voting aye were Cole, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Sornson, to approve the KENO fund application submitted by Village of Unadilla in the amount of \$10,000.00. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Cole. Nay – none. Abstained – Crownover. Motion carried.

Cole made a motion, seconded by Freshman, to approve a service agreement between Maximus US Services, Inc. and Otoe County for cost allocation planning. Maximus provides the service of calculating the rate and information needed for IV-D reimbursement for child support services. The agreement is for a term of three years and the cost is \$5,200 annually. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Cole, and Sornson. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Brian Briley, Road Lead Supervisor, presented the road report.

During public comment, Freshman acknowledged an award and letter of gratitude received by the Otoe County Emergency Management department.

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 9:45 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on April 22, 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 8th day of April 2025.

Jennifer Bassinger
Otoe County Clerk