

January 30, 2024

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

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 located near the door of the courtroom.

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

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

Cole 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.

Freshman made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to adopt Resolution #1-30-24-3 authorizing the pre-approval for a purchase from the SE PET Region Fund in the amount of \$5,351.20. Gregg Goebel, Otoe County EMA, explained that a purchase of weather radios for the region was being made. The SE PET Region has a grant for the purchase, but the payment is needed prior to receiving the radios and will need to be paid with county funds first. The resolution authorizes the payment to be made from the Inheritance Tax Fund with the reimbursement to the SE PET Region being receipted back to the Inheritance Tax Fund when received. Voting aye were Cole, Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, and Crownover. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Great Plains Communication requested a letter of support for a broadband deployment project that is proposed for a rural Syracuse area. There was discussion of the project and if the county would have any financial obligation to the project. Cole made a motion, seconded by Parsons, to provide a letter of support for the Great Plains Communication CPF application for Syracuse Rural with the understanding that there are no county funds provided to the project. Voting aye were Sornson, Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, and Cole. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Following a brief review of the road vacation study, Cole made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to adopt Resolution #1-30-24-4 to approve the setting of the date, time, and location of a public hearing regarding the road vacation of a section of county road located in the West ½ of the NE ¼ of Section 3, Township 8N, Range 9E. The public hearing will be held on February 27, 2024, at 8:30 a.m. during the Otoe County Commissioners' meeting. The commissioners meet in the District Courtroom, Room 208, in the Otoe County Courthouse. Voting aye were Freshman, Parsons, Crownover, Cole, and Sornson.

The road department has a motor grader in need of repair and the repairs are estimated at \$41,500.00. This grader was one that was scheduled to be replaced soon. Mr. Brinkman requested proposals for the purchase of a new grader. A purchase of this size is authorized per statute by using a state bid and the board has approved the

bidding process through Sourcewell. Murphy Tractor has a proposal through the state bid and NMC has a proposal through Sourcewell allowing the board to review both. Representatives from both companies were present to present their proposals to the board. Murphy Tractor's had a price of \$412,082.00 for a 2024 772G motor grader. This would include a six-year and 5,000-hour powertrain warranty and a DPF warranty. The proposal did not include a trade in price but was stated that they would look at the trade value. NMC had a price of \$439,000.00 for a 2024 150 model motor grader. This would include a five-year, 5,000-hour bumper to bumper warranty. They offered a \$40,000 trade in value or a \$20,000 parts credit with purchase. There was discussion of the options. Parsons made a motion, seconded by Sornson, to award the proposal to Murphy Tractor contingent on the possibility of a trade option. If a trade option is not available, the motor grader may be sold through Big Iron. Voting aye were Parsons, Crownover, Cole, Sornson, and Freshman. Nay – none. Motion carried.

Highway Superintendent Jon Brinkman presented the road report: Snow removal.

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 8:53 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on February 13, 2024.

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 30th day of January 2024.

Jennifer Bassinger  
Otoe County Clerk