

# Ottawa County Board of Commissioner's Minutes

October 9, 2023

The Board of County Commissioners met in regular session in Suite 201 at the Ottawa County Courthouse.

**Those present were:**

First District Commissioner Dawn Wolf,  
Second District Commissioner Scott Mortimer  
Third District Commissioner D. D. Malmberg

JoDee Copple, County Treasurer/Payroll Clerk  
Heather Maddox, County Clerk  
Michelle Campbell, Human Resources  
Stephanie Watkins, Deputy Clerk

Jerry Ayers, and Cleo Simoneau were present.

Commissioner Mortimer called the meeting to order at 8:00 am and Cleo led the group in opening prayer, followed by the flag salute.

Cleo Simoneau discussed with the commissioners about Pathway Church, renting out the Blue Store for the fall festival.

**Public Comment:**

Ayers discussed with the commissioners about LAVTR, Ayers said that Representatives at the state level are not in favor of LAVTR, but they are in favor of taking it off of the tax rolls.

Commissioner Wolf and Commissioner Malmberg joined Choose Ottawa County at a meeting with North Central Regional Planning Meeting on Wednesday October 4, 2023.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved to rescind resolution 23-15 that authorized the exceeding of the Revenue Neutral Rate.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved to amend the minutes of the September 18, 2023, meeting to add the following to the minutes:

Due to an error in the notice that was sent to taxpayers regarding the hearing to exceed the revenue neutral rate, the Board of County Commissioners on October 9, 2023, rescinded resolution 23-15 that was passed during the September 18, 2023, meeting and authorized the exceeding of the revenue neutral rate. Ottawa County will not exceed the revenue neutral rate for fiscal year 2024. Exceeding the revenue neutral rate will be necessary in fiscal year 2025.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Mortimer, by unanimous vote the Board approved to adopt the minutes of September 18, 2023, as amended.

**County Departments:**

**Sheriff**

Prisoner count Saline County, 31 and Ottawa County 4. Total 35 inmates.

**Clerk**

Heather Maddox gave the commissioners an invoice from A+ Architectural & Construction services to approve in the amount of \$371.25 for the preliminary cost analysis based on preliminary drawings for the Blue Store.

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved the 2024 Ottawa County budget and the 2024 Ottawa County fire district budgets.

On motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved to offset the amount of ARPA funds previously allocated to the election budget for equipment and to be moved to the general fund to cover Jail or any other expenses that arise in 2024 in the amount of \$39,192.

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Shane Donovan, John Shay, came into the meeting.

## Zoning

Truette McQueen discussed the new regulations for the zoning flight plan. Commissioner Wolf called Mason Herman Engineer with Martin Planning.

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Mortimer, by unanimous vote the Board approved an addendum to the comprehensive development plan for Ottawa County Resolution 23-17.

Campbell read the domestic violence proclamation.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved to proclaim October as Domestic Violence Awareness month.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved the October 2, 2023 minutes as presented.

## Claims for Approval: Totaling \$67,482.74

|                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| County General         | \$23,309.40 |
| Bennington TWP         | \$11,200.00 |
| Road & Bridge          | \$14,911.72 |
| Center TWP             | \$408.60    |
| Ottawa Co 911          | \$356.38    |
| Election               | \$983.00    |
| Noxious Weed           | \$30.54     |
| Sheridan TWP           | \$5,384.57  |
| Historical             | \$47.88     |
| County Health          | \$3,191.60  |
| Appraiser              | \$15.95     |
| Deeds Tech Fund        | \$98.00     |
| FD #2 Minneapolis      | \$2,992.95  |
| Law Enforcement Center | \$4,189.99  |
| Attorney Training Fund | \$86.92     |

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved the claims as presented.

## Human Resources

Michelle Campbell discussed with the commission about bi-weekly accruals for sick and vacation time.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved to keep the sick and vacation accrual rates the same when changing to biweekly pay.

Malmberg discussed the credit card policy. Maddox and Campbell will look at the policy further.

Campbell discussed with Malmberg about the server for the Road and Bridge and the Noxious Weed shop. Malmberg said there is money in the computer budget for the server.

On a motion by Commissioner Malmberg, seconded by Commissioner Wolf, by unanimous vote the Board approved a quote from Lock-It for a server to be added to the Road and Bridge shop and the Noxious Weed department in the amount of \$3,296.60 to be taken out the computer fund.

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Julie Yarmer with Freedoms Claims and Eric Brown with Blue Cross Blue Sheild came into the commission meeting. Yarmer discussed with the commission about insurance savings for 2023.

Darren Booth with Freedoms Claims joined the group.

Yarmer proposed new benefits for an FSA plan and a HSA plan for employees. Commission would like to see if employees are interested in either of these plans.

On a motion by Commissioner Wolf, seconded by Commissioner Malmberg, by unanimous vote the Board approved to renew insurance with Blue Cross Blue Sheild and Freedoms Claims with no changes for the 2024 year.

With no further business before the commission the meeting was adjourned at 12:00pm on motion by Wolf and seconded by Malmberg. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

ADOPTED this 16<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF OTTAWA COUNTY, KANSAS

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Dawn Wolf, Vice-Chairman

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D.D. Malmberg, Member

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Scott Mortimer, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Heather Maddox, County Clerk