

**RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
DECEMBER 20, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Richardson County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Caverzagie at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 20, 2023. Roll call was answered by Karas and Caverzagie. Commissioner Sickel was absent. The Invocation was given by Chairman Caverzagie and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Karas. Chairman Caverzagie announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2023, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-absent, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Karas to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-absent, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The agenda is posted at the Richardson County Courthouse in the First Floor Lobby, the Lower-Level Lobby and on the Commissioner's Meeting Room door on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor and on the Richardson County website [www.co.richardson.ne.us](http://www.co.richardson.ne.us).

**BEATRICE INTERIM CITY POLICE CHIEF, JAY MURPHY**

Interim Beatrice City Police Chief, Jay Murphy met with the Board regarding the dispatching services the Southeast Communications 911 Beatrice for the Richardson County Sheriff Department. A verbal proposal was stated that the organization would continue to provide the dispatch services for \$200,000/year to Richardson County. The proposal would also include a 3% increase/year. It was previously reported that Southeast Communications 911 Beatrice wanted \$360,000/year for the service.

With the current contract which will terminate in August of 2024, there were services included in the contract such as dispatching fire and rescue and 911 that have not been done and some conversation was held with the history of the contract and services.

Mr. Murphy reported on the total calls that are serviced by the organization this past year with the City of Crete at 6,900; Gage County at 7,000; City of Beatrice 12,000 and Richardson County at 8,000.

There was no formal action on this matter and more discussion will be held at next week's meeting.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER**

A report was approved for Sheriff Hardesty for fees collected during the month of November, 2023 totaling \$4,881.82.

Sheriff Hardesty also reported that there were 23 inmates currently being held by Richardson County with 1 of those inmates being housed in another facility. The Sheriff also met with HTRS Superintendent, Dr. Griffiths, who indicated that the school district still desires to continue with the a School Resource Officer program. The Sheriff also reported that Samantha Wissman graduated from the Law Enforcement Training academy on Friday.

**AMANDA BARTEK-RAMSEY, COUNTY TREASURER**

Motion was made by Karas to approve the replacement of pledge security receipts with F&M Bank totaling \$4,860,000 as presented by County Treasurer, Amanda Bartek-Ramsey: current receipts 392203736 for \$90,000, 392218119 for \$95,000, 392225598 for \$30,000, 392219905 for \$835,000, 799017340 for \$85,000, 392209226 for \$100,000, 392218118 for \$50,000, 392203735 for \$355,000, 392209032 for \$825,000, 392209225 for \$100,000, 392205404 for \$255,000, 392219904 for \$35,000, 392206926 for \$40,000, 392219906 for \$490,000, 392219091 for \$155,000, 392218535 for \$540,000, 392203736 for \$65,000, 392206926 for \$220,000, 799018178 for \$65,000, 392206926 for \$430,000; to be replaced with the following receipts JC92998D for \$610,000, JC93010C for \$50,000, JC93011C for \$95,000, JC93014B for \$35,000, JC93015B for \$835,000, JC93016 for \$490,000, JC93020C for \$85,000, JC93092B for \$155,000, JC93025A for \$65,000, JC93026C for \$30,000, JC93042 for \$155,000, JC93055B for \$825,000, JC93070 for \$540,000. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. Karas-aye, Sickel-absent, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

The County Treasurer also informed the Board that she has been monitoring the investments and that a penalty will be incurred on a certificate of deposit that she will reinvest with a higher interest rate which will result in a significant amount more to be collected in interest and which will more than offset the penalty.

Plans are also being made for the County Treasurer's Office staff to attend a motor vehicle fraud training in 2024.

### **JOHN STEINMAN**

John Steinman requested to meet with the Board regarding a concern with a county road, 661 Avenue located south of 708 Road. The Board relayed to Mr. Steinman that this is a minimum maintenance road and certain maintenance items are not allowed to be done on it unless the road is brought up to minimum design standards as specified by the Nebraska Dept of Transportation Board of Classifications and Standards. If improvements are done to the road without the road being reclassified, the County could be subject to a loss of funding from the State of Nebraska. Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau will be meeting with Mr. Steinman to review the area.

### **ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.**

Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau updated the Board on the routine business with County roads and bridges this past week. He also reported on a session attended at last week's conference with representatives from Nemaha, Johnson, Otoe and Pawnee Counties regarding the federal bipartisan infrastructure bill that would provide federal funding for county bridge projects. The group will be working with engineers from the engineering firm of Midwest Engineering to proceed with completing the grant application, etc.

### **OTHER**

Motion was made by Karas to approve and enter into a contract with Steve Mercure for public defender services for the years 2024 through 2028. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-absent, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 27, Page 59)

### **CLAIMS**

Motion was made by Caverzagie to deny a portion of a claim held to Amazon for \$119.92 denying the charge of \$49.95 for invoice 16FX-1JMQ-1WH9 and to pay the remainder of that claim and to all the payment of all claims that were submitted today. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-absent, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

*(The claims listed below are available for public inspection  
at the office of the County Clerk during regular business hours.)*

### **GENERAL FUND**

Amazon, supp	69.97
AT&T Mobility, serv	1032.06
Bartek-Ramsey, Amanda, reimb	358.65
Charm-Tex, supp	561.90
Consolidated Mgmt CO., serv	88.00
Culligan of Percival, serv	70.00
DAS State Acctg, fees	485.50
Eickhoff, Mary L, reimb	309.16
F&M Bank, fees	85.00
Family Medicine, serv	332.20
Farm & City Supply, supp	29.98
Futurity IT, Inc., dues	1500.00
Harmon's OK Tire, serv	20.00

December 20, 2023  
CLAIMS (Cont.)

GENERAL FUND (Cont.)

Hy-Vee, supp	33.45
Johnson County Sheriff's Office, serv	780.00
Kennedy, Kaytlyn, reimb	193.88
Kex Rx, serv	1324.22
Merz Ink, supp	243.59
Meyer Home Center, serv	113.20
MIPS, Inc., serv	324.77
Nebraska Sheriffs' Assoc., dues	380.00
Nestor & Mercure, serv	855.00
OPPD, serv	123.73
Quill LLC, supp	341.27
RC Clerk Petty Cash Acct., reimb	7.90
RC EMA Petty Cash Acct., reimb	681.59
Scott, Pam, reimb	307.85
State Bank of Table Rock, fee	690.41
Unifirst, supp	72.55
Weaver & Merz, reimb	22.03
Wolfes Printing, supp	459.31
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$11,897.17</b>

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

Black Hills Energy, serv	132.64
Interstate Billing Services, serv	3095.00
Mainelli Wagner & Associates, serv	795.33
Martin Marietta Materials, rock	27295.83
NPPD, serv	94.74
Rulo, Village of, serv	25.00
Sapp Bros. Petroleum, supp	1938.88
UniFirst, supp	40.41
<b>TOTAL ROAD &amp; BRIDGE FUND</b>	<b>\$33,417.83</b>

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Caverzagie to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 a.m. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-absent, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 27, 2023, in the Commissioner's Meeting Room, Courthouse, Falls City. The agenda is kept current at the County Clerk's Office.

---

John Caverzagie, Chairman

---

Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk