

**RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
FEBRUARY 14, 2024**

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 Wednesday, February 14, 2024. Roll call was answered by Karas, Sickel and Caverzagie. The Invocation was given by Chairman Caverzagie and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Sickel. Chairman Caverzagie announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room.

A motion was made by Sickel to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2024, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the minutes of the Quarterly Safety Committee meeting that was held on Wednesday, February 7, 2024. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Sickel to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, 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 2nd Floor and on the Richardson County website www.co.richardson.ne.us.

ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.

Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau, Jr. updated the Board on the maintenance being done on county roads and bridges this past week. Mr. Darveau also reported that he is working with a company wanting to make significant improvements to a property located southeast of Humboldt and has inquired about making some improvements to the county road providing access to the property.

ONE- & SIX-YEAR ROAD PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Caverzagie presented the proof of publication for the public hearing for the One- & Six-Year Road Plan and declared opened at 9:15 a.m.

Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau, Jr. presented the plan for the One Year improvements and all the plans being planned for the next six years.

No one commented from the public. Chairman Caverzagie declared the public hearing closed at 9:25 a.m.

RESOLUTION 2023-2024-30

A motion was made by Sickel to adopt the One- & Six-Year Road plan as presented at the public hearing. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 27, Page 69)

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Chief Deputy, Jeremiah Franks met with the Board and reported that there are 22 in the jail today. A proposed contract with School District #70 for a school resource officer was presented to the Board which will be considered at a later date. Patrol vehicle maintenance was reviewed.

A motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the quote from Omnigo Software, LLC for software to be used with preparing the Law Enforcement Center to begin doing the department dispatching for the amount of \$24,943.42. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

BRIAN KIRKENDALL, EMA DIRECTOR

EMA Director, Brian Kirkendall presented to the Board an Interlocal Agreement regarding the Southeast Planning Exercise Training (PET) Region. This agreement is to renew the interlocal agreement that has been in place since 2008.

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EMA DIRECTOR (Cont.)

A motion was made by Sickel to approve the interlocal agreement to create the Southeast Planning Exercise Training (PET) Region, a separate legal entity, to provide for cooperative public safety services by and among the counties of Cass, Gage, Fillmore, Jefferson, Johnson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, Saline, Seward, Thayer and York. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 27, Page 70)

MARY L. EICKHOFF, COUNTY CLERK

Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk requested approval from the County Board to allow a payment for Election Poll workers to be set at \$14.00/hour for the 2024 elections. Poll workers will have more added responsibilities with more required training with the new requirement of voters required to show identification before casting a ballot.

A motion was made by Karas to approve the pay of \$14/hour for poll and election workers during the 2024 elections. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

RECESS

A motion was made by Sickel to recess the meeting at 10:05 a.m. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

The Board returned at 1:00 p.m. and Chairman Caverzagie called the meeting back to order.

NAPE/AFSCME LOCAL 61

The Board met with members of the NAPE/AFSCME Local 61, Justin Hubly, Executive Director, and Eddie Schooler and members of the Road Department, Ron Ramer, Wyatt Martin, and Bryan Dettmann to continue negotiations for a collective bargaining agreement.

Jerry Pigsley, special legal counsel presented for the County Board a revised offer from the County including proposed changes to Articles 8 and 18, which were the only changes agreed to by the Union on February 7. The Union requested time to excuse themselves from the meeting room to review this proposal, which included changes made by the County that the Union declared at the February 7 meeting were deal busters. They returned with an offer to keep the same contract language, July 1, 2021, thru June 30, 2023, intact with the exception of the wages that they would accept those the County has offered in their proposal with an effective date of July 1, 2023.

A motion was made by Caverzagie to recess the regular meeting agenda and go into an executive session at 1:26 p.m. with County's legal counsel, Jerry Pigsley and Sarah Carstensen, for a strategy session with respect to collective bargaining negotiations and for the protection of the public interest. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Karas to close the executive session at 1:34 p.m. and return to the regular meeting agenda. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

The County informed the Union it had rejected the Union's proposal. The County then presented a contract proposal to the Union as its FINAL OFFER from the County and asked that it be submitted to the employees for a final vote and to notify the County of the vote results. Mr. Hubly relayed that the County's Final Offer would likely be rejected by the Union members, and he would send the Union's Final Offer by email to Mr. Pigsley sometime next month.

A motion was made by Caverzagie to go into an executive session at 1:37 p.m. with Mr. Pigsley and Sarah Carstensen for a strategy session with respect to collective bargaining negotiations and for the protection of the public interest. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Sickel to close the executive session at 1:48 p.m. and return to the regular meeting agenda. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

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CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

Subdivision Resolution 2023-2024-31

A motion was made by Sickel to approve a subdivision for Kyle and Keri Wilhelm located in Section 20, Township 3, Range 16 and to adopt Resolution 2023-2024-31. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 27, Page 71)

CLAIMS

A motion was made by Karas to allow the payment of all claims that were submitted today. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, 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

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| American Legion Emblem Sales, supp | 110.93 |
| Ankrom, Jami, reimb | 104.52 |
| Charm-Tex, supp | 495.86 |
| City of Beatrice, serv | 47740.50 |
| Clerk of District Court, fee | 216.00 |
| Community Medical Center, serv | 1098.90 |
| Culligan, serv | 212.40 |
| DAS State Accounting, serv | 335.50 |
| Falls City Auto Supply, supp | 11.98 |
| Falls City Journal, sub | 50.00 |
| Falls City Mercantile, supp | 231.97 |
| Falls City Utilities, serv | 8767.80 |
| Farm & City Supply, supp | 8.78 |
| First Concord Benefits, fee | 400.00 |
| Galls, supp | 967.85 |
| Hullman's Ford, serv | 254.68 |
| KexRx, supp | 2198.21 |
| Koch's Auto, serv | 722.30 |
| Lynn Peavey, supp | 103.35 |
| Merz Ink, supp | 149.95 |
| MIPS, supp | 184.51 |
| NE Association of County Clerk, dues | 50.00 |
| NE Weed Control Association, fees | 150.00 |
| Pictometry International Corp., serv | 32162.66 |
| Polaris Law Group, serv | 76.00 |
| JV14-17 | |
| Professional Forms & Supplies, supp | 209.53 |
| Richardson County Court, fees | 1802.87 |
| Richardson County EMA Petty Cash Acct., reimb | 373.27 |
| Richardson County Sheriff Petty Cash, reimb | 195.93 |
| Riggs, Kim, reimb | 141.37 |
| Schendel Pest Control, serv | 69.88 |
| Unifirst, serv | 107.66 |
| Wolfe's Printing, supp | 57.38 |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND | \$99,762.54 |

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Barco Municipal Products, Inc., supp | 1571.09 |
| Black Hills Energy, serv | 408.98 |

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CLAIMS (Cont.)

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND (Cont.)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| CapitalOne Trade Credit, sub | 39.99 |
| Falls City Utilities, serv | 1133.17 |
| Farm & City Supply, supp | 2060.92 |
| Martin Marietta Materials, rock | 5315.89 |
| Mr. Automotive, supp | 17.76 |
| Nebraska Public Power District, serv | 67.95 |
| NMC, INC., supp | 663.99 |
| Powerplan, supp | 571.63 |
| Rueter's, supp | 78.33 |
| Sapp Bros. Petroleum, Inc., fuel | 4438.39 |
| Truck Center Companies, supp | .56 |
| TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND | \$16,368.65 |

STOP PROGRAM DIVERSION FUNDS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Guth Laboratories, Inc., serv | 1325.87 |
| TOTAL STOP PROGRAM DIVERSION | \$1,325.87 |

SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| CPC, serv | 430.05 |
| TOTAL SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND | \$430.05 |

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 1:51p.m. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 21, 2024, 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