

**RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 20, 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 Tuesday, March 20, 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 Vice-Chairman 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 March 13, 2024, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. 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 routine maintenance and business within the County Roads Department this past week.

The Board reviewed a request from Alan Rippe regarding the intersection of 707 Trail and 634 Ave with regards to improvements that should be considered to ensure safe and reliable transportation of agriculture products. The Board will be reviewing this request.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center this past week. He reported that there currently are 20 being held in the jail and that Deputy Novak has completed the training and received certification as a K-9 handler.

He reviewed with the Board the possibility of hiring 2 deputies as part-time and recommended that the County consider selling a vehicle that has been deemed surplus, 2019 Ford Explorer vin#1FM5K8AR9KGA31992. The Board will review these items further at next week's meeting.

COUNTY TREASURER AND ASSESSOR

Amanda Bartek-Ramsey, County Treasurer presented to the Board information on a postage machine available through Pitney Bowes and to request permission to purchase as the current machine being used will no longer be compatible for service. There are two different options to obtain the new machine 1) lease the machine for a term of 5 years at a cost of \$3,730.80 which includes all maintenance; 2) purchase the equipment with maintenance included for 5 years which has been determined to be at a cost of \$3,437.52 with the possibility of maintenance service costs that could increase within the 5 years. The Board will consider this purchase further at next week's meeting.

County Assessor, Kim Riggs was also in attendance for this meeting.

KAYTLYN KENNEDY, EXTENSION EDUCATOR

Kaytlyn Kennedy, Extension Educator met with the Board to further review the salary of the office clerical staff and requested that it be set at the same as other clerical positions within the County which range from \$17.60/hour to approx. \$20.00/hour.

A motion was made by Sickel to approve a salary increase for the clerical staff position in the Cooperative Extension Service Office at \$17.60/hour effective March 18, 2024. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

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BRIAN KIRKENDALL, EMA DIRECTOR

EMA Director, Brian Kirkendall presented to the Board a request to increase the wage for the radiological response team and storm spotters.

A motion was made by Karas to approve the following wage increase for Emergency Management Specialist position 1—storm spotters at \$12/hour and Emergency Management Specialist position 2—radiological team and storm spotters at \$14/hour effective today, March 20, 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 purchase of an outdoor warning siren from Federal Signal Safety & Security Systems in the amount of \$34,898.45 and to make arrangements for installation with the City of Falls City so to ensure that the entire area of the corporate limits of Falls City are covered with the outdoor warning siren signal. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion was made by Sickel to recess the regular meeting agenda and go into an executive session at 10:42 a.m. with special legal counsel, Jerry Pigsley to review 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 11:08 a.m. and return to the regular meeting agenda. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

Courthouse Square Concrete Repairs

The Board reviewed the quotes that were received for some concrete repair work to be done around the Courthouse square which included a quote from Schawang Masonry, LLC for \$15,843.00, a response from Campbell Construction in which it was indicated they could not provide a quote at this time and another contractor was contacted but did not provide a response.

A motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the quote from Schawang Masonry, LLC for \$15,843.00 with the repairs and improvements to be started in the next few weeks. Motion seconded by Sickel. Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

County Insurance Bid Notice

The Board will review this information at next week’s meeting as all the information is not yet readily available.

CLAIMS

A motion was made by Sickel to allow the payment of all claims that were submitted today. Motion seconded by Karas. 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

Amazon, supp	197.10
AT&T, serv	982.53
DAS State Accounting, serv	485.50
ES&S, supp	494.84
Falls City Mercantile, supp	71.50
Ferebee, Elizabeth, serv	10539.00

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CLAIMS (Cont.)

GENERAL FUND (Cont.)

First Concord Benefits, fees	231.00
Lincoln National Insurance Co., life ins	1489.83
Medica, ins	46578.48
Midland Radio Corporation, supp	5350.35
Miller-Monroe, ins	80.00
Nestor & Mercure, serv	9000.00
OPPD, serv	120.13
Ram Exterminators, serv	48.00
Richardson County EMA Petty Cash, reimb	329.23
Richardson County Sheriff Petty Cash, reimb	881.68
Richardson County Vendor, FICA/retire/etc	23307.27
Riggs, Kim, reimb	137.35
Sapp Bros., fuel	9214.66
Scholl Lawn & Landscape, serv	225.00
Sisco, Emily, serv	2000.00
Tichy Land Survey, serv	8700.00
U-Save Pharmacy, supp	20.65
Weaver, Bill, reimb	90.00
Payroll Expense	111057.05
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$231,631.15

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

Black Hills Energy, serv	119.82
Falls City Mercantile, supp	59.83
NPPD, serv	63.30
Norris Quarries, rock	14703.45
Operation & Expense Account, reimb	15.00
Sapp Bros., fuel	18742.37
Unifirst, supp	56.83
159 Lumber & Rentals, supp	48.75
Payroll Expense	33840.75
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$67,650.10

DRUG COURT FUND

Hawkins, Seth, serv/reimb	1517.06
Morrissey, Morrissey & Dalluge, serv	1100.00
TOTAL DRUG COURT FUND	\$2,617.06

ARPA FUNDS

Richardson County Vendor, FICA/retire/etc	3.41
Payroll Expense	23.76
TOTAL ARPA FUNDS	\$27.17

SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND

CPC, serv	1449.21
TOTAL SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND	\$1,449.21

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 11:41 a.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, March 27, 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