

**RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
APRIL 10, 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, April 10, 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 April 3, 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor and on the Richardson County website [www.co.richardson.ne.us](http://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.

He reported that the vacancy of the secretary position has been filled. Research was completed on the possible purchase of a road groom which would cost \$31,025.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER**

Sheriff Hardesty met with the Board this week to update the Board on the routine business at the Law Enforcement Center. He reported there are 18 inmates currently being held in the Jail. Year to date statistics for the department are as follows: 1651 calls for service in which 898 were traffic stops, 181 total arrests, 4 Out-of-County holds, 32 arrests by other agencies and 145 arrests by the Richardson County Sheriff's Department. During April 19-21 Sheriff's deputies will be incurring overtime to perform duties to enforce "drug impaired driving" traffic stops that is funded by a NE Department of Transportation grant. Condition and maintenance on the patrol vehicles was also discussed.

A report was approved for Sheriff Hardesty for fees collected during the month of March, 2024 totaling \$5,145.83. A donation was also made from A&G Steakhouse for the benefit of the Drug Dog program in the amount of \$250.

An update obtaining Managed Call Handling (MECH), Lumen and to be included and part of the Southeast Regional Governing Committee was given. Sheriff Hardesty reported that the Southeast Regional Governing Committee will be holding a formal meeting on Friday, April 12 in Beatrice at which time consideration will be made to allow acceptance of Richardson County into the organization. If accepted, Richardson County would be approved to obtain the Managed Call Handling, LUMEN that is provided through the CenturyLink Master Service Agreement Public Safety Version.

A newly hired deputy, Lucas Geyer will be attending the Law Enforcement Training Academy beginning April 28.

It was reported that some damage was done in the Jail a few weeks ago by an inmate and those repairs have been made. The Sheriff also reported that he is corresponding with the Falls City Volunteer Ambulance Squad to develop an agreeable fee schedule with them for their services when transporting inmates when necessary to medical facilities.

**Quarterly Jail Inspection**

The Board conducted the quarterly jail inspection. Sheriff Hardesty pointed out to the Board repairs that have been made and some improvements that need to be considered to the holding cells. The Board determined the facility was found to be in good order.

**EMA DIRECTOR, BRIAN KIRKENDALL**

Brian Kirkendall, EMA Director presented to the Board a Memorandum of Understanding with N. Humboldt Rural Water District (Richardson County Rural Water District

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EMA DIRECTOR (Cont.)

#1) to install the NRIN equipment on the water tower. Motion was made by Sickel to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with N. Humboldt Rural Water District (Richardson County Rural Water District #1) to install the NRIN equipment. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

He informed the Board that Cooper Nuclear training drills are scheduled for the following dates, Tuesday, April 16 and May 21. There are two vacancies on the Radiological Response Team that need to be filled and the Board approved the request to fill these vacancies.

Mr. Kirkendall also presented the certificates of annual training completion for 2024 as required by NE State Statute 2-954.02 for Nebraska County Weed Control Superintendents.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Sickel to recess the regular meeting agenda and go into an executive session at 10:00 a.m. with Sheriff Hardesty and Brian Kirkendall, EMA Director and County Clerk Eickhoff 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 Caverzagie to close the executive session at 10:37 a.m. and return to the regular meeting agenda. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Caverzagie to recess the regular meeting agenda and go into an executive session at 10:38 a.m. with Jerry Pigsley, special legal counsel to review collective bargaining negotiations and for the protection of the public interest via teleconference. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Sickel to close the executive session at 11:01a.m. and return to the regular meeting agenda. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Sickel to approve the request from the Nebraska Association of Public Employees, AFSCME Local No. 61 representing the Richardson County Department of Roads employees to enter into mediation with the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS). Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (*Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS) is an independent public agency for alternative dispute resolution and conflict management. It provides mediation and conflict resolution services in the private, public, and federal sectors.*)

### **CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER**

#### **Sub-division Resolution 2023-2024-34**

Motion was made by Karas to approve a sub-division for Carin S. Gerdes located in S7, T3, R15 and to adopt Resolution 2023-2024-34. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 27, Page 78)

### **CLAIMS**

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

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 CLAIMS (Cont.)

**GENERAL FUND**

Acton, Megan, reimb	15.83
Apace, serv	3721.50
BuckIT, serv	7103.33
Falls City Journal, ads	226.69
Falls City Utilities, serv	5831.02
Fankhauser, Nelsen, Werts, Ziskey & Merwin, serv	1140.00
CR23-77 A, Rhodd	
Farm & City Supply, supp	79.99
Farm & Home Publishers, supp	1300.00
Handley Law Office, serv	5073.00
CR23-19 S. Bachman; CR23-66 M. Mayes; CR23-102 R. Bost; CR23-112 J. Partlow; CR23-134 S. Vice	
Holiday Inn Kearney, serv	269.90
Humboldt Standard, serv	45.00
Koch's Auto Service, supp	264.56
Midwest Mobile Radio Service, serv	30.00
Nebraska Association of District Court Clerks, fees	75.00
OMNIGO Software LLC, serv	22592.56
Postmaster, supp	1863.00
Pro Serv Business Systems, serv	214.08
Quill, LLC, supp	579.12
R S Office Machines, serv	574.00
Region V Systems, serv	4810.50
Register of Deeds, fee	10.00
Richardson County EMA Petty Cash Acct., reimb	479.78
Scholl Lawn & Landscape, serv	269.00
Sickel, David, reimb	147.40
SumnerOne, serv	363.79
TK Elevator Corporation, serv	402.87
UniFirst, supp	79.11
Weaver & Merz Law Office, reimb	1116.94
Wolfe's Printing, supp	20.50
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$58,698.47</b>

**ROAD & BRIDGE FUND**

Capital One Trade Credit, serv	499.00
Eggers Bros. Inc., supp	785.00
Falls City Auto Supply, supp	176.33
Falls City Utility Dept., serv	677.15
Home Lumber Company, supp	603.58
Inland Truck Parts & Service, serv	83.21
Martin Marietta Materials, rock	6795.58
Mr. Automotive, supp	110.25
Nebraska Public Power District, serv	31.58
NMC, Inc., serv	682.88
Norris Quarries, LLC, rock	6285.50
Operation & Expense Account, reimb	464.62
O'Reilly Automotive, Inc., supp	556.84
Richardson County Verdon, fees	1825.00
Salem, Village of, serv	23.70
Sapp Bros. Petroleum, Inc., serv	4445.82
Truck Center Companies, serv	166.85
Verdon, Village of, serv	31.76
<b>TOTAL ROAD &amp; BRIDGE FUND</b>	<b>\$24,244.65</b>

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**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 11:23 a.m. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 17, 2024, in the Commissioner's Meeting Room, Courthouse, Falls City. The agenda is kept current at the County Clerk's Office.

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John Caverzagie, Chairman

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Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk