

**RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
JANUARY 8, 2025**

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, January 8, 2025. Roll call was answered by Karas, Sickel and Caverzagie. Chairman Caverzagie gave the Invocation and Commissioner Karas led the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Caverzagie announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room.

Motion was made by Sickel to approve the minutes of the December 31, 2024, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-abstain, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Sickel. 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.richardsoncountyne.gov.

ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.

Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau updated the Board on the routine road and bridge maintenance being done this week.

Motion was made by Sickel to adopt Resolution 2024-2025-27 authorizing the Chairman to sign the Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement between Richardson County, Nebraska and Speece-Lewis Engineers, LLC (dba Speece Lewis, A Bowman Company) for project BRO-7074(27) which is located NW of Falls City on 710 Road between 650 and 651 Avenue. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. Karas-ye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 28, Page 28)

Motion was made by Caverzagie to adopt Resolution 2024-2025-28 authorizing the Chairman to sign the Environmental Services Agreement between Richardson County, Nebraska and HDR Engineering, Inc. for project BRO-7074(27) which is located NW of Falls City on 710 Road between 650 and 651 Avenue. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 28, Page 29)

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the business within the Law Enforcement Center this past week. It was reported there were 11 inmates currently being held at the Jail. A review of the incidents that occurred during the past weekend severe snowstorm was held.

A report on the statistics for 2024 was given with total bookings at 527 with 72 of those done by other agencies and 23 holds from other counties and the Sheriff's Office doing 472. Total calls were 7,190 of which 4,281 were traffic stops, 50 search warrants, 25 residential search warrants with 34 persons being arrested (total search warrants being done in Falls City-14, Stella-1, Humboldt-5, Dawson-4).

Sheriff Hardesty also reported that they continue to advertise for jailers and dispatchers to fill vacancies.

COUNTY TREASURER

Amanda Bartek-Ramsey, County Treasurer presented to the Board the semi-annual report for the period ending December 31, 2024. Motion was made by Karas to accept the report as presented. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

PAM SCOTT, VISITOR'S COMMITTEE

Pam Scott, Clerk of District Court and secretary for the County Visitors' Committee reviewed with the Board the current by-laws for the Committee and requested a change be considered to Article VI, Section 1 to provide that "all business records of the Visitors' Committee will be kept located in an office of the Richardson County Courthouse". This requested change will be presented to the Visitors' Committee at their next meeting for

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Visitors' Committee (Cont.)

consideration.

The membership of the Visitors' Committee was also reviewed regarding the fact that at least one member of the Committee shall represent the hotel industry within Richardson County. A letter is being sent to the membership of the Committee for review.

Bill Niedfeldt was also in attendance at this meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

Salary Increase

Motion was made by Karas to document for the record the annual salary increase for 2025 of 2% for staff personnel as per FY2024-2025 budget in the offices of the Assessor, Treasurer, Veterans Service Office, Cooperative Extension Service Office, Courthouse Maintenance, Emergency Management Agency, County Clerk and Clerk of District Court. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Fee Reports

Reports were approved for the following officials for fees collected during the month of December, 2025:

Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk	\$ 167.00
Mary L. Eickhoff, Register of Deeds	\$41,108.50
Pam Scott, Clerk of District Court	\$ 1,080.00

Sub-Division

A sub-division for Robert D and Joyce K Bachman located in S30, T1, R18 will be considered at next week's meeting.

Sub-Division

Motion was made by Sickel to adopt Resolution 2024-2025-25 to approve a sub-division for Eickhoff Living Trust located in S31, T3, R16. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 28, Page 26)

Mileage Reimbursement

Motion was made by Karas to adopt Resolution 2024-2025-26 to approve mileage reimbursement rate for county officials/employees at .70 cents per mile effective January 1, 2025, pursuant to NE §23-1112. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 28, page 27)

Recognition of Commissioner Sickel Service

Chairman Caverzagie made a presentation to Commissioner Sickel for his 16 years of dedicated service as District 2 Commissioner from January 8, 2009, through January 8, 2025.

CLAIMS

A motion was made by Caverzagie 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	139.00
BuckIT, serv	7005.46
Clerk of District Court, fees	290.00
Culligan, serv	50.00
F&M Bank, pmt	46625.31
Falls City Sanitation, serv	40.00
Falls City Utility Dept., serv	5106.79
Farm & City Supply, supp	9.18
Harmon, Leland, serv	15.00
Ligouri, Angelo, serv	1643.50
Medica, ins	59890.83
MIPS, serv	3277.10
NE Assoc. of County Assessors, dues	100.00
Pictometry, serv	39972.20
Pitney Bowes, serv	186.54
Quill, supp	159.96
Richardson County Clerk, reimb	30.00
Richardson County Court, fees	719.50
Richardson County Sheriff Petty Cash, reimb	2.77
Richardson County Vendor, FICA/retire/etc	59161.60
SumnerOne, serv	116.00
TK Elevator, serv	402.87
Vision Edge IT, serv	230.65
Weaver & Merz, reimb	1139.75
Payroll Expense	119523.05
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$345,837.06

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

East Richardson Rural Water #2, serv	46.00
Falls City Sanitation, serv	20.00
Falls City Utility Dept., serv	674.68
Inland Truck Parts, supp	38.38
Martin Marietta Materials, rock	9848.67
NE Dept. of Revenue, tax	617.87
Norris Quarries, rock	2185.41
Operation & Expense Account, reimb	109.84
O'Reilly Automotive, supp	374.82
Richardson County Vendor, tax	1468.00
Unifirst, supp	53.12
Verdon, Village of, serv	30.88
Payroll Expense	33537.03
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$49,004.70

REG OF DEEDS P&M FUND

MIPS, serv	319.05
TOTAL REG OF DEEDS P&M FUND	\$319.05

DRUG COURT FUND

Hawkins, Seth, reimb	281.40
TOTAL DRUG COURT FUND	\$281.40

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ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 10:20 a.m. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again for the Annual Meeting on Wednesday, January 15, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. 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