

**RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JANUARY 29, 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 Wednesday, January 29, 2025. Roll call was answered by Karas, Campbell and Caverzagie. The Invocation was given by Chairman Caverzagie and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Chairman Karas. Chairman Caverzagie announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room.

Motion was made by Karas to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2025, meeting as read. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-abstain. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-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.richardsoncountyne.gov](http://www.richardsoncountyne.gov).

**PLEDGE SECURITY RECEIPTS**

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the pledge security receipt replacements from F&M Bank presented by the County Treasurer, Amanda Bartek-Ramsey, receipt #JC93047 replaced with receipt #JC92998A and County Clerk, Mary L. Eickhoff, receipt #JC93408B replaced with receipt #JC92997D. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried

**ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.**

Steve Darveau, Jr., Highway Superintendent updated the Board on the routine maintenance being done on county roads and bridges this past week. He reported that the engineers will be visiting this week and reviewing projects that might qualify for grant funding. Weather permitting plans are to start getting the motor graders on the roads to begin getting the roads graded and ready for rock where needed. A notice will be sent out to rock suppliers that the Board will be receiving sealed bids for the purchase of rock in 2025.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER**

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the business within the Law Enforcement Center this past week. He reported that there are currently 14 inmates in the Jail. A notice has been sent out and published soliciting bids for a contract to provide food preparation services for the Jail.

The staff will be switching program software services on March 5 as the contract with Omnigo will be terminated and the staff will switch to the Justice Data software program which will be compatible with most other surrounding agencies.

It was reported that there is an opening for the maintenance position at the Law Enforcement Center as that employee has accepted the position as a Jail Supervisor.

Sheriff Hardesty also reported that the pump system in the sewer drain line is not working and is causing the odor to come into the building. He has requested service from a local contractor to correct the problem.

Sheriff Hardesty met with the Village of Stella regarding the enforcement of ordinances on a call-by-call basis. Other villages have reached out to him for this service as well. If the village decides to move forward with this service, an agreement will be drafted to detail the terms for this service.

**BRIAN KIRKENDALL, EMA DIRECTOR**

Brian Kirkendall, EMA Director requested to meet with the Board to relay his concern of the vote regarding his re-appointment as the EMA Director and the Noxious Weed Superintendent for 2025, and if desired, what aspects of his job performance could be improved upon.

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BRIAN KIRKENDALL, EMA (Cont.)

Commissioner Karas stated he would like to see a more aggressive type of service, including meeting with firemen at mutual aid meetings, getting more involved. Mr. Karas reported that there are citizens that are upset about the October 30, 2024, storm that went through without the sirens being sounded.

Mr. Kirkendall replied that he has been requested to attend the County's different fire department meetings and does so when invited, at least once a year. At these meetings he provides updates for the "Page My Cell" and other emergency preparation items.

Commissioner Campbell inquired on the incident command trailer and if it was ready for service if needed. Mr. Kirkendall reported that the Emergency Management incident trailer is ready for service if needed. After the trailer was purchased, there was a period of time that it was not in order for service as the new radio equipment had not yet been received. He reported that all radios have been installed and are working and internet modems and other features included are ready to go.

Discussion was then held regarding the storm of October 30, 2024, and why the sirens were not sounded. Mr. Kirkendall reported that even the National Weather Service did not detect this storm on radar. Mr. Kirkendall will be reviewing the outdoor warning siren policy with the Board in the near future.

## CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

### Resolution 2024-2025-29

Motion was made by Caverzagie to adopt Resolution 2024-2025-29 to cancel a check issued in error. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 28, Page 31)

## CLAIMS

Motion was made by Karas to allow the payment of all claims submitted today. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-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	67.05
BW Plus Mid NE Inn & Suites, lodg	271.92
Campbell, Bob, reimb	334.60
Crowne Plaza, lodg	149.95
Datashield, serv	24.00
East Richardson Rural Water #2, serv	241.27
Falls City Journal, sub	50.00
Falls City Mercantile, supp	286.24
Fankhauser, Nelsen, Werts, Ziskey & Merwin, serv	3610.00
<small>CR24-134 T. Pelletier, CR24-138 J. Waggoner</small>	
Fritz, Jed, serv	750.00
Godemann, Bethany, reimb	11.77
Inheritance Tax Fund, reimb	87985.96
Peterson Reporting, serv	985.45
Quill, supp	97.55
Richardson County EMA Petty Cash, reimb	130.57
Road & Bridge Fund, tax	385110.87
Sapp Bros., fuel	140.91
Scholl Lawn & Landscape, serv	800.00
Stateline Propane, fuel	130.40
SE District Assessor Assn., dues	75.00
SumnerOne, serv	44.32

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CLAIMS (Cont.)

GENERAL FUND (Cont.)

Verizon, serv	215.91
Weaver & Merz, reimb	17.13
Wolfe's Printing, supp	19.93
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$481,550.80</b>

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

Barco Municipal Products, supp	4780.95
CapitalOne Trade Credit, supp	94.94
Farmers Repair, supp	639.80
NPPD, serv	80.62
Operation & Expense Account, reimb	36.94
Quill, supp	151.41
Sapp Bros., fuel	20141.22
Truck Center Companies, supp	1025.03
<b>TOTAL ROAD &amp; BRIDGE FUND</b>	<b>\$26,950.91</b>

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, February 5, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Meeting Room, Courthouse, Falls City, NE. The agenda is kept current at the County Clerk's Office.

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John J. Caverzagie, Chairman

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Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk