

RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

JULY 23, 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, July 23, 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 from the July 16, 2025, meeting as presented. 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 2nd Floor and on the Richardson County website www.richardsoncountyne.gov.

ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.

Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau, Jr. updated the Board on the routine maintenance being done on county roads and bridges the past several weeks. Mr. Darveau reported that he has hired 2 new employees. The Board also discussed the idea of stockpiling rock.

SAMANTHA SCHEITEL, COUNTY ATTORNEY

County Attorney, Samantha Scheitel presented to the Board the renewal agreement with BraveBe Child Advocacy Center for the period of July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026. The City of Falls City also participates in this agreement. The annual cost to the County and the City is \$1,210.00 each.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve and authorize the County Attorney and County Sheriff to enter into the agreement with BraveBe Child Advocacy Center for July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026, at a cost of \$1,210.00/year. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center this week. Currently there are 16 inmates being held at the Jail.

Motion was made by Karas to enter into the agreement with the City of Humboldt for the Richardson County Sheriff's Office to provide law enforcement services to the City of Humboldt at 160 hours per month at a cost of \$94,000/year and a 2% increase each year for the next 4 years at which time the agreement will terminate on August 31, 2030. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 28, Page 61)

Motion was made by Karas to approve the request to upgrade cellular phones for the department and to advertise for sale on social media sites the sale of department cellular phones that have been deemed to be surplus to the highest bidder. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

PROJECT RESPONSE

Shania Vickers, representative for Project Response presented to the Board a quarterly report on the organization. Statistical information on the activity within the organization was given as part of the report.

FALLS CITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & GROWTH ENTERPRISE

Lucas Froeschl, Executive Director of Falls City EDGE presented to the Board the quarterly report and current projects and activity of the organization.

RICHARDSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Leon Wilhelm, President of the Richardson County Historical Society met with the Board to present the annual report of the organization and the request for continued funding in fiscal year 2025-2026. While the County has always provided funding in the amount of \$10,000/year, the Society requested that the Board consider \$12,000/year.

**DISCUSSION ON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE AND
PROPOSED ZONING REGULATIONS**

Discussion was held on proceeding with the Marvin Planning Consultants to update the Comprehensive Plan. More information was received at last week’s meeting from the Southeast Nebraska Development District and what programs and assistance they have to offer to accomplish this update with some cost savings to the County.

The Board will consider the contract with Marvin Planning Consultants at next week’s meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

NE Dept of Health & Human Services

Correspondence from the NE Department of Health & Human Services was reviewed by the Board regarding the entrance and exit from this office in the lower level of the Courthouse. A letter will be sent back to the NE Dept of Health & Human Services addressing their concern and approval for them to proceed to make any corrections they deem necessary at the expense of the State of Nebraska.

Discussion on water leaks inside Courthouse

The Board held a discussion on the water leaks that have appeared inside the Courthouse building after the recent rain and storms. Commissioner Campbell has done some investigating into the areas that have leaks and reported to the Board that some work is needing to be addressed to the exterior of the upper level of the Courthouse which is the old jail area. He will be contacting a contractor that specializes in the restoration of historical buildings to obtain their opinion on the problem.

Commissioner Campbell also updated the Board on the condition of the roof at the Law Enforcement Center after he participated in an inspection with the insurance adjuster from EMC and contractor, Anthony Thiner of Skyline Construction, Inc. The roof had experienced some hail damage from previous storms.

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

ABK Fire & Safety, serv	240.50
Amazon, supp	18.09
AT&T, serv	1061.78
Auburn Family Health Center, serv	323.00
Bennett, Pam, serv	100.00
Consolidated Management Services, serv	9768.50
DAS State Accounting, serv	150.00
Dept. of Correctional Services, serv	3574.23
Falls City Journal, adv	227.98
Falls City Mercantile, supp	111.61
Family Medicine, serv	445.00
Farm & City Supply, supp	48.75

GENERAL FUND (Cont.)

First Concord, fees	228.00
Gravatt, Jere, serv	100.00
Handley, Dylan, serv	400.00
Howe, Caleb, reimb	198.45
Lincoln National Life Ins., life ins	1450.74
Malcolm, Terry, serv	385.00
Medica, ins	54910.14
NE Health & Human Services, serv	90.00
Nestor & Mercure, serv	9166.66
Petersen Reporting, serv	502.45
Richardson County EMA Petty Cash, reimb	615.74
Richardson County Sheriff Petty Cash, reimb	573.66
Richardson County Vendor, FICA/retire/etc	24584.08
SumnerOne, serv	76.00
Tichy, Rob, reimb	2145.83
Payroll Expense	116569.34
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$228,065.53

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

Diversified Drug Testing, serv	370.00
Marking Refrigeration, Inc., serv	474.90
Martin Marietta Materials, rock	32976.23
Midwest Petroleum Equipment, serv	2376.58
Nebraska Public Power District, serv	139.08
Norris Quarries, LLC, rock	22849.75
Operation & Expense Account, reimb	148.49
Quill LLC, supp	58.98
Rulo, Village of, serv	25.00
UniFirst Corporation, supp	55.37
Payroll Expense	35369.68
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$94,844.06

DRUG COURT FUND

Hawkins, Seth, serv	1300.00
Morrissey, Morrissey & Dalluge, serv	1300.00
TOTAL DRUG COURT FUND	\$2,600.00

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 11:49 a.m. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, July 30, 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.

John J. Caverzagie, Chairman

Stacey Bailey, Deputy County Clerk