

RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

OCTOBER 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 Wednesday, October 8, 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.

A motion was made by Karas to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2025, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made 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.

COOPER NUCLEAR

Dakota Schulenberg, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator with the NPPD provided an update to the Board on the activity of the NPPD Cooper Nuclear Plant. He reported that an application has been submitted to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission for a 20-year extension of the plant operation and the decision is expected to be received in 2026. Updates with the emergency preparedness information was also shared with the Board.

ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.

Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau, Jr. updated the Board on the routine road and bridge maintenance being done this week. The roof at the shop was completed yesterday by Lanter SPS Roofing System, LLC of Hiawatha, KS. Mr. Darveau reported that all equipment, rock trucks and motor graders are operating and being utilized. The maintenance on the roads being done this week following the recent significant rainfall this past weekend was also reviewed.

Mr. Darveau presented the information regarding the purchase of a new pickup and will be presenting all the quotes that have been requested from suppliers at next week's meeting.

RON RAMER and JAMES COONCE

Ron Ramer and James Coonce, road department employees and members of the NAPE/AFSCME Local 61/Richardson County Roads Department Union requested to meet with the Board to express their desire and concerns that the employees of the road department have regarding the status of the negotiations involving litigation to make an agreement for a labor contract.

Chairman Caverzagie offered the following statement: "We welcome you to the Richardson County Board meeting this morning at your request to meet with us to talk about the contract. As you are aware, this matter is in litigation, and the Richardson County Board of Commissioners will not be making any comments on the proposed contract at this time. Again, we will take this time to listen to any changes that you propose and/or comments that you would like to make to us. If you have any proposed changes or comments in writing pertaining to this proposed contract we would accept receipt of those as well. Everything that you present to us today will be received, reviewed and considered under advisement. Please proceed with your presentation."

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CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

Fee Reports

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

Pam Scott, Clerk of District Court	\$1,120.00
Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk	\$ 317.25
Mary L. Eickhoff, Register of Deeds	\$8,645.20

Law Enforcement Roof

Quotes have been received for the repair and/or replacement of the roof at the Law Enforcement Center which were reviewed. After the review, the Board strongly considered 2 different contractors, Midwest Homes & Restoration, of Mound City, MO who stated that the project would be completed this fall starting the project within the next 10-14 days and completion within 3-4 days after starting for \$146,749.47 and Skyline Construction of Roca, NE who stated that the project could be completed within 1-3 weeks with completion this fall at a price of \$146,878.00.

Motion was made by Caverzagie that pursuant to NE Revised § 23-3109(2), the county board shall waive the requirements for competitive bidding as they have deemed the leaking roof of the Law Enforcement Center damaged by hail to be an emergency situation which threatens serious loss of life, health, or property in the county and to approve a quote and enter into a contract with Midwest Homes & Restoration of Mound City, MO for \$146,749.47 with the understanding that the project will begin in the next 10-14 days and completion within 3-4 days after starting the project. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Correspondence from Road Dept. Union Attorney

Correspondence was received from Abby Osborn, attorney with Shiffermiller Law Office, P.C., L.L.O. representing the NAPE/AFSCME Local 61 and Richardson County Roads Department Union regarding the settlement offer made by Richardson County which stated that the road department employees have rejected.

Settlement Offer from NAPE/AFSCME Local 61

Included within the correspondence received from Abby Osborn, attorney with Shiffermiller Law Office, P.C., L.L.O. representing the NAPE/AFSCME Local 61 and Richardson County Roads Department Union a counter proposal was included to settle the case that is filed with the Commission of Industrial Relations, Case #1569. The proposal is as follows:

- Term of the contract—July 1, 2023 thru June 30, 2026
- Retain all current contract language in the July1, 2020-June 30, 2023
- Increase wages as follows:
 - July 1, 2023—increase 1 year status rate by \$2 to \$22.67
 - July 1, 2024—increase 1 year status rate by \$2 to \$24.67
 - July 1, 2025—increase 1 year status rate by \$2 to \$26.67

Motion was made by Caverzagie to reject the counter proposal as presented within the correspondence from Abby Osborn, attorney with Shiffermiller Law Office, P.C., L.L.O. representing the NAPE/AFSCME Local 61 and Richardson County Roads Department Union. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-~~n~~ay, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

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CLAIMS

Motion was made by Karas to allow the payment of all claims that were 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

Airstream Heating & Cooling, serv	1034.34
Ameriflex, fee	70.00
BuckIT, serv	7186.14
Charm-Tex, supp	104.90
Clerk of District Court, fees	434.00
Comfort Inn, lodg	220.00
Eforce, supp	6800.00
Eickhoff, Mary L., reimb	440.10
Falls City Journal, adv	139.50
Falls City Mercantile, supp	130.05
Fankhauser, Nelsen, Werts, Ziskey & Merwin, serv	8828.50
CR25-49 T. Beccard, CR25-40 K. Buis, CR25-62 Z. Creamer, CI12-62 J. Ross, CR25-78 R. Paxson, CR25-23 T. Rogers, CR25-60 D. Smith, JF25-26, JV21-20, JV21-19, JV24-18, JV24-17, JV24-19, JV24-4	
Frederick, Keia, reimb	330.40
Handley Law Office, serv	2224.50
CR24-507 J. Feldkamp; CR25-86 D. Werner; CR24-161 M. Foster	
Jean, Rachel, reimb	40.00
KexRx, supp	2627.94
Kirkendall, Brian, reimb	36.82
Koch's Auto Service, serv	405.14
Kollasch Law Office, serv	594.00
CR25-212 C. Ochoa	
Marvin Planning Consultants, serv	1290.00
Merz Ink, serv	94.00
Midwest Mobile Radio Service, serv	30.00
MIS, serv	110.00
NE Dept. of Revenue, fee	75.00
NE Law Enforcement Training Center, serv	500.00
ODP Business Solutions, supp	271.20
Paper Tiger Shredding, serv	80.00
Pitney Bowes, supp	186.54
Richardson County Court, fees	1134.70
Richardson County EMA Petty Cash, reimb	320.89
Richardson County Sheriff, fees	874.18
Richardson, Kristy, reimb	36.28
Quill, supp	24.99
Region V Systems, serv	214.00
SumnerOne, serv	119.00
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$37,007.11

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

City of Falls City, serv	411.43
Culligan, serv	50.00
East Richardson Rural Water Dist. #2, serv	46.00
Haug Communications, serv	900.00
Inland Truck Parts & Service, serv	170.25
Jim Hawk Truck Trailers, supp	1284.82
NPPD, serv	32.63
Northern Safety Co., supp	74.36

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CLAIMS (Cont.)

ROAD & BRIDE FUND (Cont.)

Operation & Expense Acct., reimb	56.52
Powerplan, serv	4707.46
Richardson County Vendor, tax	3361.00
Salem, Village of, serv	23.70
Sapp Bros., serv	9011.61
TreviPay, supp	537.98
Truck Center Companies, serv	6784.36
UniFirst, supp	116.20
Verdon, Village of, serv	35.28
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$27,603.60

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 10:49 a.m. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. for the regular weekly meeting 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