

**RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
DECEMBER 31, 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, December 31, 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 December 24, 2025, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A 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.

FOUR COUNTY JUVENILE SERVICES

Linda Volker, administrator of the 4 County Juvenile Services Grant presented to the Board an annual update and statistics of the program. The grant application will be for the next fiscal year will soon be submitted to the NE Crime Commission with Nemaha County being the lead county on the grant. The program has been in place for approximately 14 years serving juveniles in Pawnee, Johnson, Nemaha and Richardson Counties.

Motion was made by Karas to approve and enter into a memorandum of understanding with Pawnee, Johnson and Nemaha counties to agree to the conditions enumerated within the agreement to provide this County Juvenile Services Program in the counties. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 28, Page 84)

COUNTY TREASURER

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the following pledge security receipts from F&M Bank: County Treasurer accounts--receipt #JC94843J (\$900,000) to replace receipts #JC93015B (\$835,000) and #JC93025A (\$65,000); County Clerk accounts--receipt #JC93031D (\$200,000) replaced with #JC94843H (\$280,000) and receipt #JC93052A (\$100,000) amended to (\$20,000) on receipt #JC93052A. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to adopt Resolution 2025-2026-21 to approve the applications received from the following financial institutions as depositories for Richardson County funds for the year 2026: State Bank of Table Rock, F&M Bank, American National Bank, Nebraska Federal Investment Trust—Union Bank & Trust and Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust—NPAIT. Motion seconded by Karas. 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 road and bridge maintenance being done this week. It was reported that crews are hauling scrap iron to Pawnee City this week to get the yard cleaned up. A listing is also being made of items that will be offered for sale on the next "Big Iron" sale. Mr. Darveau also reported that the County has been awarded a grant through the NE Department of Environmental Quality to hold a tire recycling event in 2026.

The board held a discussion at this time regarding the possibility of letting out for bid specifications for road rock to be delivered to certain stockpile areas within the County. The Board will be working to determine specifications to include within the bid notice.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center this past week. He reported on several different maintenance items that are currently being addressed at the Law Enforcement Center.

The Sheriff explained to the Board a software program that serves as an inventory record to be utilized within the jail facility, Guardian RFID. The cost of this software program is \$5,800.00 and will interface with the Jail program EForce. The company would install the program and allow the use by the department with payment not to be required until July 1, 2026, so that funding could be provided in the new fiscal year budget. Motion was made by Karas to approve the purchase of the software program, Guardian RFID and the quote for the additional service from EForce to interface with this change and to authorize the Sheriff to sign the agreements as presented. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

He also explained the T.A.P. Officer Training Program and the quote received from Complete Tactical Consultants from Omaha. The quote for this training program is \$2,000. The Sheriff and Board will review this matter further.

The Sheriff presented to the Board information on restraint devices available from StunTronics. This equipment would be used to assist with the transport of and appearances of inmates in the courts. Motion was made by Campbell to approve the purchase of StunTronics Bandit System for \$1,900.00. Motion seconded by Karas. Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

BRIAN KIRKENDALL, EMA DIRECTOR

Brian Kirkendall, EMA Director, met with the Board to present information regarding the Radio Interoperability for Richardson County. He participated in a conference call, along with Commissioner Campbell and representatives of SE NE Development District with Senator Fisher's office who is planning to request that funding needed for this project be included in appropriations funding. The cost to the County would be 20% of the total cost of the project. Two different proposals are being considered through Motorola Solutions: 1) Fire/EMS-AES System at \$1,446,959.89 with 20% of county share at \$289,391.98 and 2) Fire/EMS-Statewide at \$1,632,301.15 with 20% of county share at \$326,460.23. The plans for the project need to be decided as the County Board will need to complete and sign the grant application shortly after it is received in early March.

Rachel Jean, Clerk from the Village of Rulo, was requested by the Village Board of Trustees to meet with the County Board to review with them the interlocal agreement between the cities and villages regarding the outdoor warning sirens. The Village of Rulo is requesting that the village be made aware of when and what type of maintenance to the sirens will be done as the County will be responsible for the maintenance. Mr. Kirkendall stated that the County would send the maintenance contract for the outdoor warning sirens to the Village for their record. Mrs. Jean indicated that this would be sufficient for their records.

DISCUSSION ON SALARY RESOLUTION FOR 2027-2031 TERM OF OFFICE

The Board held a discussion to review information to establish the resolution setting the salaries for the term of office, January 2027 through January 2031.

Present for this discussion were Pam Scott, Clerk of District Court; Kim Riggs, County Assessor; Amanda Bartek-Ramsey, County Treasurer; Sheriff Hardesty; Steve Darveau, Jr., Highway Superintendent and Samantha Scheitel, County Attorney.

This discussion will continue further at the January 7 meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

Commissioner Campbell reviewed with the Board the notice of public hearing that is to be held next week, January 7, 2026, regarding a change to the resolution of the zoning overlay district floodplain management ordinance 60.3(d) effective October 7, 2021. The published notice stated Tuesday, January 7, 2026, as the date of the hearing, which Tuesday should have been printed as Wednesday. County Clerk, Mary L. Eickhoff, that she also discovered that an error in the publication was found. The Board will consider this matter at next week's meeting and plan to reschedule the hearing due to this error in the notice of hearing publication.

December 31, 2025

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

Campbell, Bob, reimb	338.10
Caverzagie, John, reimb	329.00
Comfort Inn, lodg	374.85
Farm & City Supply, supp	13.08
Petersen Reporting, serv	1499.55
Postmaster, supp	468.00
Richardson County Sheriff Petty Cash, reimb	516.05
Stateline Propane, fuel	172.13
SumnerOne, serv	49.64
Verizon, serv	239.92
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$4,000.32

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

Candlewood Suites, lodg	374.85
Hotsy Equipment, supp	41.07
Martin Marietta Materials, rock	30951.06
Norris Quarries, rock	5204.29
OPPD, serv	112.73
Operation & Expense Account, reimb	55.00
Rulo, Village of, serv	30.00
Sapp Bros., fuel	1913.55
Unifirst, supp	41.25
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$38,723.80

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Caverzagie to adjourn the meeting at 11:30 a.m. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, January 7, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. for the next 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