

**RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
JANUARY 31, 2024**

**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 31, 2024. Roll call was answered by Karas, Sickel and Caverzagie. The Invocation was given by Chairman Caverzagie and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Sickel. Chairman Caverzagie announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room.

A motion was made by Sickel to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2024, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made Karas to approve the minutes of the January 24, 2024, Board of Equalization meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Sickel to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor and on the Richardson County website [www.co.richardson.ne.us](http://www.co.richardson.ne.us).

**ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.**

Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau, Jr. updated the Board on the maintenance being done on county roads and bridges this past week. Equipment maintenance and the possibility of purchasing a 200 hp snow blower attachment was discussed. The crews are also working on some improvements at the Falls City shop.

Mr. Darveau also reported that he has scheduled interviews with some qualified applicants for job vacancies in the department.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER**

Sheriff Hardesty reported to the Board that currently there are 24 inmates housed in the Jail as of today and that there were 11 arrests made in the last 24 hours. He also reported that the dispatch console equipment has been ordered.

It was also reported that Deputy Wissmann attended the Hostile Action Based Planning meeting in Auburn yesterday representing the Sheriff's Department, that was directed by the Cooper Nuclear Plant to prepare for the upcoming drill later this year.

**BRIAN KIRKENDALL, EMA DIRECTOR**

EMA Director, Brian Kirkendall presented to the Board three different quotes for the purchase of a drone for use with Emergency Management and other county departments. The quotes were from the following: 1) Frontier Precision Brighton, CO for \$11,829.00; 2) Armus Unmanned Solutions, Centerville, UT for \$12,646.31 and 3) Volitant Technologies, LLC of Dunbar, NE for \$11,338.50. Mr. Kirkendall recommended that the quote from Volitant Technologies be approved as it is from a local Nebraska vendor and that technical support and maintenance would be easier to obtain when needed.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the purchase of a drone from Volitant Technologies, LLC of Dunbar, NE for a price of \$11,338.50. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

The Board also discussed with Mr. Kirkendall the importance of meeting the statutory requirement, NE Revised §2-954.02, the required continuing education for the Noxious Weed Control Superintendent. Mr. Kirkendall will be attending the NWCA Conference in Norfolk on February 6-7 and plans to attend the Spring training March 27-28 in Kearney.

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**SAMANTHA SCHEITEL, COUNTY ATTORNEY**

A motion was made by Sickel to approve and enter into a contract with Emily Sisko as a deputy county attorney on a contractual basis effective January 24, 2024, at a cost of \$1,000 per week plus mileage. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 27, Page 68)

**CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER**

**Other**

The Board received a letter from Blue Valley Behavioral Health regarding the County’s funding of \$8,000 to help support the substance abuse program in Richardson County. It was reported that since July 1, 2023, that there have been 63 substance abuse clients served in Richardson County which is an increase from the past years.

A check was also received from the Nebraska Department of Labor for reimbursement of up to 50% of wages for a new employee enrolled in the On-the-Job Training program in the amount of \$884.51.

**CLAIMS**

A motion was made by Caverzagie to allow the payment of all claims that were submitted today. Motion seconded by Sickel. 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**

Clerk of District Court, fees	1162.00
County Treasurer, reimb	9.01
East Richardson Rural Water #2, serv	326.17
Falls City Journal, ads	473.01
Fankhauser, Nelsen, Werts, Ziskey & Merwin, serv	5457.05
CR23-95 S. Ingram, CR23-36, CR23-92 A. Settrini	
Handley Law Office, serv	1292.00
CR23-59 C. Cavaness, JV23-20, JV23-37, JV23-38, JV22-38	
NACO, reg	75.00
National Assoc of County Veteran Service, dues	50.00
NE Association of County Treasurers, dues	50.00
OneNeck IT Solutions, serv	840.36
Pitney Bowes, supp	1008.50
Postmaster, supp	839.00
Quill, supp	70.97
Richardson County Vendor, HSA	121.68
Scholl Lawn & Landscape, serv	1080.00
Wolfe’s Printing, supp	13.20
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>\$12,867.94</b>

**ROAD & BRIDGE FUND**

Bahr Welding LLC, serv	330.00
Cornhusker International Trucks, Inc, supp	239.84
East Richardson Rural Water #2, serv	46.00
Eggers Bros. Inc., supp	67.77
Falls City Auto Supply Inc., supp	590.35
Farm & City Supply, supp	186.28
Farmers Repair & Machine Shop, supp	55.10
Home Lumber Company, supp	100.18
Inland Truck Parts & Service, supp	726.88

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CLAIMS (Cont.)

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND (Cont.)

Mr. Automotive, supp	131.24
NMC, Inc., serv	781.75
OPPD, serv	97.64
O'Reilly Automotive, Inc., supp	1387.51
Powerplan, supp	873.14
Sapp Bros. Petroleum, Inc. fuel	23956.23
Truck Center Companies, supp	1456.41
<b>TOTAL ROAD &amp; BRIDGE FUND</b>	<b>\$31,026.32</b>

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Sickel to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 a.m. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 7, 2024, in the Commissioner's Meeting Room, Courthouse, Falls City. The agenda is kept current at the County Clerk's Office.

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John Caverzagie, Chairman

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Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk