



# Richardson County Board Minutes



## RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 11, 2022

### CALL TO ORDER

The Annual meeting of the Richardson County Board of Commissioners was called to order by Chairman Sickel at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 11, 2022. Roll call was answered by Karas, Caverzagie and Sickel. The Invocation was given and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice-Chairman Caverzagie. Chairman Sickel announced that the open meeting laws have been posted at the entrance to the meeting room.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2022, meeting as read. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sickel to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-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).

### BOARD REORGANIZATION

Motion was made by Caverzagie to reappoint David Sickel as the Chairman of the Board for 2022. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-abstain. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sickel to reappoint Caverzagie as the Vice-Chairman of the Board for 2022. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-abstain, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sickel that the listed duties be designated to the following commissioners:

**Commissioner Karas:** County Roads, Southeast Nebraska Development District (SENDD) and 5 Rivers Economic Development District

**Commissioner Caverzagie:** Courthouse Building and Grounds and Law Enforcement Center, Five Rivers Resource Conservation & Development Committee (RC&D), Region V Systems & Services, member of the Product Development & Public Policy Committee of the Greater Falls City Economic and Development Growth Enterprise (EDGE) and alternate to the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC),

**Commissioner Sickel:** County Roads, Southeast Nebraska Community Action Council (SENCA), alternate to the Five Rivers Resource Conservation & Development Committee (RC&D), The Greater Falls City Economic and Development Growth Enterprise (EDGE), Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), Falls City Airport Road Committee and the Southeast Nebraska Health Board

Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

### ARPA

Austin Duerfeldt, ARPA Funds Administrator met with the Board to review the Coronavirus State &



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Local Fiscal Recovery Funds: Overview of the Final Rule from the U.S. Department of the Treasury. The final ruling provides for more options for allowable expenditures for these funds. Mr. Duerfeldt also reviewed with the Board further the draft grant application form that he developed for non-profit organizations or municipalities to complete to request funding for specific projects.

Motion was made by Sickel to approve the form of ARPA funds as presented by Austin Duerfeldt, ARPA administrator for organizations to apply for the funds the County has received. Motion was seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-

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ARPA (Cont.)

aye. Motion carried. The grant application form and the U.S. Department of the Treasury Final Rule can be viewed on the Richardson County website [www.co.richardson.ne.us](http://www.co.richardson.ne.us).

Members of the Rural Water District #2, Drainage District #7 and Falls City EDGE were also in attendance at the meeting to inquire as to the availability and allowable expenditures for these funds.

## **ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.**

Steve Darveau, Jr., Highway Superintendent updated the Board on the routine maintenance being done on county roads and bridges this week. He reported to the Board that he is developing the Annual 1 & 6 Year Road Plan to be approved after a public hearing to be held in February. Discussion was also held on the condition of several bridges that should be on the plan for consideration of repairs and/or replacement. Crews are also hauling the scrap metal to the recycling.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER**

Sheriff Hardesty and Chief Deputy, Roland Merwin updated the Board on the business within the Law Enforcement Center this past week. Included in the update was a report on the installation of the communications tower and that the breath analyzer equipment, DataMaster has been ordered. The Sheriff also reported the recent and unexpected death of deputy sheriff, Jeremy Goldsberry.

A request was made from the Sheriff for the Board to approve a 6 month extension on an employee's vacation leave due to staff shortages and grant overtime work. Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the extension of vacation leave for Clinton Stonebarger through June 30, 2022. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

## **BRIAN KIRKENDALL, NOXIOUS WEED SUPT.**

Brian Kirkendall, Noxious Weed Supt. presented to the Board the annual report for the noxious weed control in Richardson County. Mr. Kirkendall explained to the Board that he will be sending a letter setting forth the action plan to those few landowners who have not complied with the control of noxious weeds and that if control has not been made by the deadline the County will need to take the necessary action for control and that those costs will be assessed to the landowner accordingly.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the 2021 Annual Report of the Noxious Weed Control Plan within in Richardson County. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

## **MONA GODEMANN, VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER**

A memorandum of understanding with the NE Dept. of Veterans' Affairs was submitted to the Board for consideration by Mona Godemann, Veterans Service Officer. Motion was made by Caverzagie to enter into



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the memorandum of understanding with the NE Dept. of Veterans’ Affairs for the purpose to allow Richardson County to join on NDVA’s license as an authorized user of VetraSpec. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

## **AMANDA BARTEK-YOUNG, COUNTY TREASURER**

Amanda Bartek-Ramsey, County Treasurer presented to the Board the Semi-Annual Treasurer’s Report for the period ending, December 31, 2021.

Motion was made by Sickel to accept the County Treasurer’s Semi-Annual report of December 31, 2021, as submitted by the County Treasurer. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

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## **HUMBOLDT RESCUE SQUAD**

Doug Phillips representing the Humboldt Rescue Squad met with the Board to request funding assistance for the purchase of an ambulance. No action was taken and the Board will review this request

## **SPECIAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS**

Motion was made by Sickel to reappoint the following members to the Richardson County Safety Committee: Commissioners Karas, Caverzagie, Sickel; County Building Maintenance--Tyler Cooper and Cliff Phroper; Sheriff Hardesty; Jail—Kristen Morehead; Road Dept—Steve Darveau, Jr. and Wyatt Martin; EMA—Brian Kirkendall. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sickel to reaffirm the appointment of Dr. Allan W. Tramp to the County Health Board for the year 2022 pursuant to Nebraska State Statute 71-501. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Karas to reappoint Kristy Gerweck, Madeline Keller and Sandra Stalder to the Richardson County Visitor’s Committee for a term of 4 years ending December, 31, 2025. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to reappoint Gayle A. Swisegood and Charles O’Grady to the Richardson County Planning Commission for a term of 3 years which expires December 31, 2024. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

## **APPOINTMENT OF BOARD/COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Motion was made by Karas to reaffirm the appointment of Steven J. Darveau, Jr. as the Richardson County Highway Superintendent, License #S-1660 Class A, with an annual salary for 2022 approved at \$60,214.00 (2% increase plus additional amount of \$4,500/year based on receipt of Class A license status). Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Frank-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sickel to reappoint Mona Godemann as the Richardson County Veterans Service Officer for 2022 with a salary of \$20.90/hour (5% increase to meet required duties of position). Motion



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seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Karas to reappoint Brian Kirkendall as the Richardson County Emergency Manager and the Noxious Weed Control Superintendent with an annual salary for 2022 of \$51,000.00 (2% increase) for the Emergency Manager and an additional salary of \$5,050.00 annually (no change) for the duties of the Noxious Weed Control Superintendent. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

## **RESOLUTION 2021-2022-25 SALARY FOR NEW TERM OF OFFICE**

Motion was made by Caverzagie that pursuant to NE Revised State Statute 23-114 to adopt Resolution 2021-2022-25 to establish the salaries for elected officials for the term of office of 2023-2026. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 25, Page 55)

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## **CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER**

### **Courthouse Retaining Wall**

Motion was made by Sickel to authorize the advertisement for sealed bids to be received by 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, for the restoration of the Courthouse limestone retaining wall on the east, south and west sides of the Courthouse. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

### **Flexible Benefits Plan Adoption Agrmnt**

Motion was made by Caverzagie to authorize the Chairman to sign the documents required by the IRS to amend the 2021 FSA plan year to include the Cares Act Drug Health and COVID-19 allowance options into the plan year ending 2020-2021 and submit to First Concord for the administration of the Flexible Benefits Plan (FSA). Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

### **Mileage Reimbursement**

Motion was made by Sickel to adopt Resolution 2021-2022-27 to set the mileage reimbursement rate for county employees at 58.5 cents per mile pursuant to NE Revised State Statute 23-1112. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 26, Page 56)

### **Cancel Check**

Motion was made by Sickel to adopt Resolution 2021-2022-28 to cancel a check that was issued in error. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion





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carried. (Resolution Book 26, Page 57)

## CLAIMS

Motion was made by Sickel to allow the payment of all claims submitted today. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

### GENERAL FUND

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| Candlewood Suites, lodg  | 1034.55 |
| Consolidated Management Co., serv  | 8779.42 |
| Eakes Office Solutions, supp   | 131.05  |
| Falls City Mercantile, supp  | 157.62  |
| Falls City Sanitation, serv  | 60.00   |
| Farm & City Supply, supp   | 169.73  |
| Franzen, Linda, serv   | 23.08   |
| General Fire & Safety, serv  | 742.90  |
| Government Forms & Supplies, supp  | 480.42  |
| GWorks, serv   | 2825.00 |
| Handley Law Office, serv   | 3114.00 |
| <small>CR21-18, D. Kirkendall, CR21-34 J. Lunsford, CR21-64 J. Lunsford,<br/>CR21-65 J. Lunsford, CR21-66 J. Lunsford, CR21-86 J. Lunsford</small> |         |
| Harring, Barbara, serv   | 37.50   |
| Hillyard, Angie, serv  | 264.00  |
| Humboldt Standard, adv   | 60.00   |
| Jim Hill's, supp   | 18.95   |
| Jones Air Conditioning, serv   | 377.50  |
| Lancaster Co. Sheriff, serv  | 37.18   |
| Lemerond, Deb, serv  | 192.50  |
| Microfilm Imaging Systems, serv  | 110.00  |
| Nemaha County Sheriff, serv  | 6758.43 |
| Norris, Dan, serv  | 156.00  |

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CLAIMS (Cont.)

### GENERAL FUND (Cont.)

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Office Depot, supp                          | 678.35    |
| OneNeck IT Solutions, serv                  | 309.84    |
| Postmaster, supp                            | 470.00    |
| Richardson County EMA Petty Cash, reimb     | 746.72    |
| Richardson County Sheriff, fees             | 512.66    |
| Richardson County Sheriff Petty Cash, reimb | 127.32    |
| Richardson County Vendor, FICA/retire/etc   | 57639.87  |
| Road & Bridge Fund, tax                     | 256848.60 |
| Shafer, Ann, serv                           | 298.00    |
| SNC, serv                                   | 1990.96   |
| Stehlik Law Office, serv                    | 420.00    |
| Stevicks, Billy, serv                       | 208.80    |



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|                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| SumnerOne, serv           | 385.28              |
| Thomas, Frank, serv       | 195.00              |
| True Value, supp          | 25.99               |
| Weaver & Merz, reimb      | 972.01              |
| Wherry Mortuary, serv     | 315.00              |
| Wolfe's Printing, supp    | 45.12               |
| Payroll Expense           | 100114.43           |
| <b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b> | <b>\$447,833.78</b> |

## ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

|                                     |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Agco Finance, supp                  | 1063.99            |
| Cedar Rapids Tire, supp             | 817.34             |
| City of Humboldt, serv              | 89.48              |
| Falls City Auto Supply, supp        | 966.38             |
| Falls City Sanitation, serv         | 20.00              |
| Falls City Utility Dept., serv      | 617.50             |
| Farm & City Supply, supp            | 470.52             |
| Farmers Repair, supp                | 38.77              |
| Home Lumber, supp                   | 195.39             |
| Mr. Automotive, supp                | 290.05             |
| NE Dept. of Revenue, tax            | 896.24             |
| NMC, supp                           | 5204.92            |
| NPPD, serv                          | 31.58              |
| Operation & Expense Account, reimb  | 133.22             |
| O'Reilly Automotive, supp           | 120.11             |
| Richardson County Vendor, tax       | 1846.00            |
| Salem, Village of, serv             | 21.20              |
| Sapp Bros., fuel                    | 5213.85            |
| SNC, serv                           | 159.94             |
| Truck Center Co., supp              | 1632.91            |
| Unifirst, serv                      | 13.11              |
| Verdon, Village of, serv            | 25.73              |
| Payroll Expense                     | 34833.59           |
| <b>TOTAL ROAD &amp; BRIDGE FUND</b> | <b>\$54,701.82</b> |

## DRUG COURT FUND

|                                    |                 |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Glenn's Central Market, incentives | 200.00          |
| <b>TOTAL DRUG COURT FUND</b>       | <b>\$200.00</b> |

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CLAIMS (Cont.)

## ARPA FUNDS



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|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Humboldt Standard, adv                    | 75.90           |
| Richardson County Vendor, FICA/retire/etc | 5.86            |
| Payroll                                   | 40.68           |
| <b>TOTAL ARPA FUNDS</b>                   | <b>\$122.44</b> |

## INHERITANCE TAX FUND

|                                   |                   |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Prochaska & Associates, serv      | 7633.33           |
| Wolfe's Printing, supp            | 131.70            |
| <b>TOTAL INHERITANCE TAX FUND</b> | <b>\$7,765.03</b> |

## SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND

|                                      |                 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| SNC, serv                            | 133.00          |
| <b>TOTAL SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND</b> | <b>\$133.00</b> |

## ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Caverzagie to adjourn the meeting at 11:35 a.m. Motion seconded by Karas.  
 ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 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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David D. Sickel, Chairman

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Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk