



Richardson County Board Minutes



RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ANNUAL MEETING JANUARY 10, 2023

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 10, 2023. Roll call was answered by Karas, Caverzagie and Sickel. The Invocation was given by Chairman Sickel 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 3, 2023, meeting as read. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting from January 3, 2023. 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 2nd Floor and on the Richardson County website www.co.richardson.ne.us.

BOARD REORGANIZATION

Motion was made by Caverzagie to reappoint David Sickel as the Chairman of the Board for 2023. Motion died for a lack of a second.

Motion was made by Karas to appoint John Caverzagie as Chairman of the Board for 2023. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to appoint David Sickel as the Vice-Chairman of the Board for 2023. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-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, Southeast Nebraska Community Action Council (SENCA)

Commissioner Caverzagie: Courthouse Building and Grounds and Law Enforcement Center, 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, alternate to the Fiver 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 Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.



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APPOINTMENT OF BOARD/COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Motion was made by Sickel to reaffirm the appointment of Steve Darveau, Jr. as the Richardson County Highway Superintendent, License #S-1660 Class A with an annual salary for 2023 approved at \$67,500.00 (12.1% increase). Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

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APPOINTMENTS (Cont.)

Motion was made by Sickel to reappoint Mona Godemann as the Richardson County Veterans Service Officer for 2023 with a salary of \$25.08/hour (20% increase). Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to reappoint Brian Kirkendall as the Richardson County Emergency Manager and the Noxious Weed Control Superintendent with an annual total salary for 2023 approved \$62,776 (12.1% increase). Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

SPECIAL BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Motion was made by Sickel to reaffirm the appointment of Dr. Allan W. Tramp to the County Health Board for the year 2023 pursuant to Nebraska State Statute 71-501. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sickel to reappoint Mark Jones, Charles Duryea and Dana Rathje to the Richardson County Planning Commission for a term of 3 years which expires December 31, 2025. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Caverzagie-aye, Sickel-aye. Motion carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the business within the Law Enforcement Center this past week.

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 that specifications will be completed and presented at next week's meeting for the replacement of the County shop in Rulo to advertise for sealed bids. Equipment repairs were reviewed. Repairs are being made to the County shop in Humboldt.

OPEN SEALED BIDS FOR FC NORTHEAST C-74(2022-9)

At 10:00 a.m. Chairman Caverzagie presented the proof publication for the opening of sealed bids for the construction of the FC Northeast C-74(2022-9) project. Bids were received from the following: Vogtscapes, Inc. of Bennett, NE for \$860,831.00 and Gus Construction Co., Inc. of Casey, Iowa for \$645,620.00.

Motion was made by Sickel to accept the bids received only for the purpose of further review by the engineer and the Highway Superintendent. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.



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COUNTY TREASURER

Rachel Jean, Deputy County Treasurer presented to the Board the Semi-Annual Treasurer’s Report for the period ending, December 31, 2022.

Motion was made by Sickel to accept the County Treasurer’s Semi-Annual report of December 31, 2022, as submitted by the County Treasurer. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Omaha Public Power District

Michaela Valentin, JD Government & Community Relations Manager Public Affairs with OPPD introduced to the Board Dustin Marvel who has been recently been hired as the

January 10, 2023
Omaha Public Power District (Cont.)

Government and Community Relations Strategist Public Affairs with OPPD. He will assist Micaela Valentin with the 13-county territory keeping citizens informed of operations with OPPD.

SARAH BANGERT

Sarah Bangert met with the Board to review the possibility of providing medical services to the inmates at the Richardson County Jail. Mrs. Bangert, Sheriff Hardesty and the County Board will continue to review this idea.

Sheriff Hardesty and Kristin Morehead, Jail Administrator were also in attendance at this meeting.

STEVE MERCURE AND LINDY MAHONEY, PUBLIC DEFENDER CONTRACT

Steve Mercure and Lindy Mahoney, contracted public defenders for Richardson County requested to meet with the Board regarding the current contract and the number of cases being filed. While the contract does not expire until the end of 2023, they wanted to inform the Board that they will be submitting a proposal for the new contract period that will reflect an increase in the cost which is primarily due to the significant increase in the number of cases being filed since the inception of the current contract.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

Fee Reports

Reports were approved for the following officials for fees collected during the month of December, 2022:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Pam Scott, Clerk of Dist. Court | \$ 1,276.00 |
| Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk | \$ 149.00 |
| Mary L. Eickhoff, Register of Deeds | \$45,742.25 |
| Sheriff Hardesty | \$ 4,394.59 |



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Mileage Reimbursement

Motion was made by Karas to adopt Resolution 2022-2023-28 to set the mileage reimbursement rate for county employees at 66.5 cents per mile pursuant to NE Revised State Statute 23-1112. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 26, Page 112)

Cancel Check

Motion was made by Karas to adopt Resolution 2022-2023-29 to cancel a check that was issued in error. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 26, Page 113)

CLAIMS

Motion was made by Karas to allow the payment of all claims 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.)

January 10, 2023
CLAIMS (Cont.)

GENERAL FUND

| | |
|--|----------|
| Amazon, supp | 67.86 |
| Buethe, Cassie, reimb | 34.39 |
| Charm-Tex, supp | 139.80 |
| Clerk of District Court, fee | 471.00 |
| CMC, serv | 650.00 |
| Consolidated Mgmt Co, serv | 10532.29 |
| Culligan, serv | 89.60 |
| Datashield Corp., serv | 40.25 |
| Falls City Journal, adv | 3311.99 |
| Falls City Mercantile, supp | 76.26 |
| Falls City Sanitation, serv | 60.00 |
| Falls City Utility Dept., serv | 8044.59 |
| Fankhauser, Nelsen, Werts, Ziskey & Merwin JV22-38, JV22-14, JV22-30, JV21-17, JV21-20, JV21-19 | 1643.00 |
| Farm & City Supply, supp | 108.66 |
| First Concord Benefits, serv | 400.00 |
| Fritz, Kerry, reimb | 45.20 |
| Frontier Bank, supp | 144.18 |
| Galls Inc, supp | 179.58 |
| Garcia Clinical Laboratory, supp | 30.00 |



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| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Handley Law Office, serv CR21-71, CR22-65 | 665.00 |
| Hullman's Ford, serv | 879.40 |
| Humboldt Co. Sheriff, serv | 40.00 |
| Johnson County Hospital, serv | 3509.25 |
| Johnson County Sheriff, serv | 104.54 |
| Koch's Auto Service, supp | 31.00 |
| Lynn Peavey Co., supp | 47.38 |
| Microfilm Imaging Systems, serv | 110.00 |
| Midwest Mobile Radio Service, serv | 30.00 |
| MIPS, serv | 3477.46 |
| NACO, reg | 215.00 |
| NE Assoc of Dist Court Clerk, fees | 125.00 |
| Paper Tiger Shredding, serv | 70.00 |
| Physicians Laboratory, serv | 2050.00 |
| PIP Marketing, supp | 651.59 |
| Postmaster, supp | 175.00 |
| Quill, supp | 21.78 |
| Region V Systems, serv | 6914.00 |
| Richardson County Court, fees | 740.00 |
| Richardson County EMA Petty Cash, reimb | 473.25 |
| Richardson County Sheriff, fees | 1121.60 |
| Richardson County Sheriff Petty Cash, reimb | 1094.94 |
| Richardson County Vendor, FICA/retire/etc | 57994.91 |
| Riverstone Bank, pmt | 16622.28 |
| SE District Assessor Assoc., dues | 50.00 |
| SNC, serv | 2246.57 |
| Spartan Nash, supp | 56.44 |
| St. Joseph Plumbing, serv | 4288.51 |
| SumnerOne, serv | 154.48 |
| Thomas & Thomas Court Reporters, serv | 143.13 |
| Verizon Wireless, serv | 345.88 |
| Weaver & Merz, reimb | 1496.18 |
| Wolfe's Printing, supp | 264.58 |
| Payroll Expense | 111457.58 |
| TOTAL GENERAL FUND | \$243,735.38 |

January 10, 2023
CLAIMS (Cont.)

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Bennett Htg Clg & Refrig, serv | 100.00 |
| Culligan of Percival, serv | 38.00 |
| Falls City Utility Dept, serv | 783.53 |
| Martin Marietta Materials, supp | 14311.13 |
| NE Dept of Revenue, tax | 540.06 |



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|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| NE Public Power District, serv | 31.58 |
| NMC, Inc,supp | 5980.40 |
| Operation & Expense Acct, reimb | 94.40 |
| Powerplan, serv | 666.55 |
| Richardson County Vendor, tax | 1399.00 |
| Salem, Village of, serv | 46.60 |
| SNC, serv | 102.72 |
| Unifirst, supp | 25.84 |
| Verdon, Village of, serv | 25.73 |
| Payroll Expense | 32824.78 |
| TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND | \$56,970.32 |

REG OF DEEDS P&M FUND

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| MIPS, serv | 308.82 |
| TOTAL REG OF DEEDS P&M FUND | \$308.82 |

DRUG COURT FUND

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Wiltse, Sarah, reimb | 278.75 |
| TOTAL DRUG COURT FUND | \$278.75 |

ARPA FUNDS

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Richardson County Vendor, FICA/retire/etc | 4.09 |
| Payroll Expense | 28.44 |
| ***** | |
| Austin Duerfeldt | 28.44 |
| ***** | |
| TOTAL ARPA FUNDS | \$32.53 |

SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| SNC, serv | 141.00 |
| TOTAL SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND | \$141.00 |

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Caverzagie to adjourn the meeting at 12:44 p.m. Motion seconded by Karas.
 ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 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 Caverzagie, Chairman

Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk