

**RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 27, 2023**

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, September 27, 2023. 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.

Motion was made by Sickel to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2023, County Board meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Sickel. 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 2nd Floor and on the Richardson County website www.co.richardson.ne.us.

ROAD DEPARTMENT

Steve Darveau, Jr., Highway Superintendent updated the Board on the routine road and bridge maintenance being done this past week.

Discussion was held regarding a bridge located on 712 Road between 654 and 655 Avenue has been reported to have an area where there is some irregularity on the surface and it was suggested that a "bump" sign be installed to give drivers a warning of it. Mr. Darveau indicated that the problem is being reviewed and a note has been made to correct.

It was reported that a snowplow and sander has been located to be added to a pickup with the Road Department for the price of \$17,998.27 which includes all installation and lighting. After reviewing 3 informal quotes that had been received, motion was made by Sickel to authorize the Highway Superintendent to proceed with the purchase of the snowplow and sander equipment from Nebraska Snow Equipment of Lincoln, NE for a total purchase price of \$17,998.27 which has been priced through a government pricing service, Sourcewell. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center this past week. A review of the current FY2023-2024 adopted budget for the Sheriff's Department was held.

He reported that the State Jail Standards annual inspection of the Jail was held this past week.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve a purchase order for two Eagle 3 Dual Ka-Band w/eFork radar units to be partially funded by a NE Department of Transportation Highway Safety Office Radar Mini-Grant with Richardson County to be responsible for \$2,752.62 of the total cost of \$5,142.62. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

DISCUSS DISPATCH SERVICE FOR COUNTY SHERIFF

The Board reviewed with Sheriff Hardesty the future plans to begin the County Sheriff dispatching at the Law Enforcement Center and future plans to perhaps combine the dispatching with the City of Falls City. Commissioner Karas reported that the City of Falls City Administrator and the Mayor of Falls City would be available to meet with a representative from the County Board on October 9 to review this matter.

DISCUSS IMPLEMENTING A HIRING RESTRICTION

The Board continued the discussion and reviewed with County Attorney, Samantha Scheitel, a draft of a resolution to implement a hiring restriction with-out prior approval from the County Board of Commissioners on all new-hires which would also include a review of that job

description to be filled in all County Departments.

County officials also present and speaking at this session were: Amanda Bartek-Ramsey, County Treasurer; Kim Riggs, County Assessor; Steve Darveau, Highway Superintendent; and Sheriff Hardesty.

At the conclusion of the discussion, it was summarized that the County Board would respectfully request that officials inform the County Board when there is a job vacancy within a department and who the new hire may be.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

Public Defender authorize to advertise for proposals

The Board reviewed the notice to request proposals for a contract to serve as the Public Defender from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2027, with County Attorney, Samantha Scheitel. Mrs. Scheitel suggested that there are a few details with the process that she would like to review further and meet with the Board at next week's meeting to finalize the notice for advertisement.

Courthouse Roof Replacement

Commissioner Caverzagie reported on a meeting that he had with the architect, Bill Huey of Prochaska & Associates on Monday regarding the progress on the roof replacement project on the Courthouse.

Monthly Operating Statement

The Board reviewed the operating statement for the month end of August, 2023.

CLAIMS

Motion was made by Sickel to allow the payment of all claims that were submitted today. Motion seconded by Karas. 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

Consolidated Management Company, serv	88.00
DAS State Acctg, subs	163.18
Donahue & Sisco, PC LLO, serv	237.50
Dorr & Clark Funeral Home, serv	1475.00
Farm & City Supply, supp	117.90
Godemann, Bethany, reimb	5.36
Handley Law Office, CR23-7 & CR22-184	1301.50
Hullman's Ford Lincoln, Inc, vehicle	13000.00
Jake's Paint & Body, serv	665.00
Jones Air Conditioning, serv	106.25
KS HCI Haug Commnications, serv	100.00
Merz Ink, serv	42.98
Miller Farrell Ins. Ag, ins	919.00
Quill LLC, supp	233.98
Register of Deeds, fee	40.00
Richardson County Sheriff Petty Cash, reimb	328.37
Scholl Lawn & Landscape LLC, serv	200.00
Secretary of State Election Division, reg	160.00
Sumner One, supp	79.41
True Value Hardware, supp	44.46

September 27, 2023
CLAIMS (Cont.)

GENERAL FUND (Cont.)

Unifirst, supp	73.22
Weaver & Merz Law Office, reimb	875.18
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$20,256.29

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

A1 Iron Corp, supp	1632.02
Falls City Auto Supply Inc., supp	319.35
Farm & City Supply, supp	91.56
Gus Construction Co., Inc, serv	573916.38
Martin Marietta Materials, rock	20419.22
Midwest Engineering, Inc, serv	612.90
Miller Farrell Ins. Ag, ins	217.00
Nebraska Public Power District, serv	73.28
NMC, Inc, supp	133.87
Norris Quarries LLC, rock	1069.68
O'Reilly Automotive, Inc, supp	231.13
Rulo, Village of, serv	25.00
Sapp Bros Petroleum Inc, serv	2499.05
Truck Center Companies, supp	810.21
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$602,050.65

INHERITANCE TAX

Hullman's Ford Lincoln, Inc, vehicle	31709.00
TOTAL INHERITANCE TAX	\$31,709.00

ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 10:41 a.m. Motion seconded by Sickel. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Sickel-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, October 4, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. 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