

RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 8, 2026

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, April 8, 2026. 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 April 1, 2026, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Karas to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Campbell. 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.richardsoncounty.ne.gov.

ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.

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

He reported that the building has been delivered to replace the county garage at Verdon. This garage/shop will be built to house 2 motor graders. A change in the motor grader districts is being implemented which will include the addition of a district.

Motion was made by Campbell to approve the implementing of the comprehensive GPS and an AI-integrated camera system designed to enhance safety and mitigate liability through Verizon. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. This system will allow the road department to maintain and document accurate grading records, placement of rock on the roads, etc.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center. He reported that currently 16 inmates are being held in the Jail.

A quote from IAO Electric, LLC for the labor and materials to provide power and the ability to add a mini-split in the outdoor storage shed to be used as the evidence storage area for the Sheriff's Department was received. The quote was \$4,792.85.

A review of the plans to update the video camera equipment at the Law Enforcement Center was held.

SOUTHEAST NEBRASKA COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNERS

Representatives from SENCA, Susan Keholm, Development Director and Sherry Huddleston, Falls City Outreach Office presented to the Board the annual report of the organization. It was mentioned that May 2 will mark the 60th Anniversary of the organization and that May is designated a Community Action Month.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to make a proclamation that May, 2026, be designated as Community Action Month in Richardson County, Nebraska. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Debbie Green, SENCA CASA Coordinator, informed the Board of the progress happening with the program. The program provides neglected and abused children in the foster care system the opportunity to have a trusted and caring CASA volunteer advocating for their best interest during one of the most difficult times of their life.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Karas to recess and go into an executive session at 10:59 a.m. with Jerry Pigsley, special legal counsel; County Attorney, Samantha Scheitel and Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau, Jr. to discuss possible litigation and for the protection of the

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EXECUTIVE SESSION (Cont.)

public interest. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to close the executive session at 11:15 a.m. and return to the regular meeting agenda. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

Fee Reports

Reports were approved for the following officials for fees collected during the month of March, 2026:

Pam Scott, Clerk of Dist. Court	\$ 592.00
Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk	\$ 216.67
Mary L. Eickhoff, County Clerk-Reg of Deeds	\$8,297.47

Humboldt Shares, Inc.

Motion was made by Karas to approve an agreement with Humboldt Shares, Inc. for continued funding from Richardson County of \$5,000.00/year from August 1, 2025, through July 31, 2028. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 28, Page 103)

FSA Plan Document

Motion was made by Karas to approve the Richardson County FSA Plan Agreement for 2026 and to adopt Resolution 2025-2026-34. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 28, Page 102)

Approve Extension of Vacation

Motion was made by Karas to approve an extension to use accumulated vacation that has been earned in the past year for Veterans Service Officer, Odis Fields to March 31, 2027. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. This extension was approved due to staffing changes within the office that made it difficult for vacation to be used.

Review of Courthouse and Grounds Maintenance

The Board reviewed several different maintenance items at the Courthouse and grounds. Commissioner Campbell has researched and found a product to use on the deteriorating areas of the sidewalks caused from ice melt products around the Courthouse Square and this will be applied on a trial area to determine if it will take care of the problem.

Commissioner Campbell also reported that he has been in contact with Mid-Continental Restoration Co., Inc. regarding the quote that was approved to make repairs to the masonry on the 4th floor north elevation area of the Courthouse and removing the bars over the windows and seal all joints. They indicated that they would begin this project later this year. He will be contacting them further to request that they make every effort to get this project completed as soon as possible.

The Board also reviewed information received by Commissioner Campbell regarding the intentions of the County Board to have an air quality test and analysis done on the Courthouse building. The firm of Techtron Environmental Solutions of Anoka, MN has been contacted who have technicians located in Omaha and Kansas City that service this area. They estimated the cost at \$1,320 to \$1,760 for the travel, testing and a protocol if necessary for any remediation. The Board plans to contact Techtron Environmental Solutions and have them proceed with this matter.

The Board was also notified that an annual inspection is due on the fire sprinkler system in the 4th floor storage area that was formerly the jail facility and fire line backflow device which will be scheduled for July.

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COURTHOUSE MTC (Cont.)

The City of Falls City notified the County Board that they approved the removal of the bench on the northwest sidewalk of the Courthouse square but that the bench on the southwest side will be kept in place.

The County has also completed the repairs needed to the stack/flue on the boiler systems and has submitted the completion of the repairs to the Nebraska State Fire Marshal Boiler Inspection Division.

Other

A check was received from Big Iron Auctions for surplus equipment that was sold on the March 18, 2026, sale totaling \$131,665.50.

CLAIMS

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

Bartek-Ramsey, Amanda, reimb	162.80
BuckIT, serv	7186.14
Clerk of District Court, fees	296.00
Culligan, serv	11.20
Falls City Sanitation, serv	60.00
Farm & City Supply, supp	11.99
Frederick, Keia, reimb	162.80
Generators for Sale, serv	783.63
Marvin Planning Consultants, serv	1525.00
Midwest Mobile Radio Service, serv	30.00
MIS, serv	110.00
Nemaha County, reimb	5709.14
Nestor & Mercure, reimb	250.00
Postmaster, supp	902.00
Quill, supp	42.28
Richardson County Clerk Petty Cash, reimb	5.00
Richardson County Court, fees	1492.93
Richardson County EMA Petty Cash, reimb	60.33
SNC, serv	1067.84
Summit, serv	780.00
SumnerOne, serv	119.00
US Signal, serv	1016.40
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$21,784.48

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

A1 Iron Corp., supp	298.08
Capital City Concepts, serv	6000.00
Culligan, serv	33.06
Falls City Journal, adv	30.89
Falls City Utility Dept., serv	634.52
Koch's Auto Service, supp	30446.22
M&M Motorsports, supp	700.00
NPPD, serv	36.84
Norris Quarries, rock	11475.85
Operation & Expense Account, reimb	87.34
Richardson County Vendor, tax	2506.00

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CLAIMS (Cont.)

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND (Cont.)	
Salem, Village of, serv	25.00
SNC, serv	105.77
Stateline Propane, serv	262.70
Stella, Village of, serv	105.00
Truck Center Companies, supp	3584.33
Unifirst, supp	39.95
Work Zone, supp	369.90
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$56,741.45

GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND	
SE NE Housing Partnership, rent	25.00
TOTAL GENERAL ASSISTANCE FUND	\$25.00

INHERITANCE TAX FUND	
Humboldt Shares, funding	5000.00
TOTAL INHERITANCE TAX FUND	\$5,000.00

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 11:21 a.m. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, April 15, 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