

**RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 15, 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 15, 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 8, 2026, meeting as presented. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the minutes of the Board of Equalization meeting of April 8, 2026 as presented. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Caverzagie to approve the agenda as posted. Motion seconded by Karas. 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.

Further review is being done on implementing the comprehensive GPS and an AI-integrated camera system designed to enhance safety and mitigate liability on the county owned machinery and motor vehicles.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center. He reported that currently 18 inmates are being held in the Jail. A report was also given on the activity during the month of March which included 611 total calls of which 335 were traffic stops with 26 total arrests (3 other agencies and 23 Sheriff Dept.). Vehicle maintenance was also discussed.

Motion was made by Karas to recess the regular meeting agenda and go into an executive session at 9:31 a.m. with Sheriff Hardesty; Deputy Trainee, Candace Cox and Clerk Eickhoff to discuss a personnel matter and for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual(s). Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Karas to close the executive session at 9:40 a.m. and return to the regular meeting agenda. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

CONGRESSMAN SMITH OFFICE

Jerad Reimers, District Coordinator for Congressional District 3 Representative, Adrian Smith updated the Board on the work being done in Washington.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

Sub-Division

Motion was made by Karas to approve a sub-division for Janet Warrick McMullen, Trustee of the Janet Warrick McMullen Trust located in S17, T3, R15 and to adopt Resolution 2025-2026-35. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 28, Page 104)

County Planning Commission

Motion was made by Caverzagie to issue a statement of background, intent and direction to be submitted to the Richardson County Planning Commission to assist in the development of an updated Comprehensive Plan for Richardson County. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

The following is the statement issued to the Richardson County Planning Commission:

We, the Richardson County Board of Commissioners, present the following as a statement of background, intent and direction to the Planning Commission to move forward with the updating of the Comprehensive Plan for Richardson County, Nebraska.

Changes over time, currently in progress, or anticipated in our county have emerged as important points of discussion for the community. It is smart to conduct a thorough and thoughtful review and planning process. This process can help Richardson County government, private businesses, and citizens plan for the future. It can help our community move forward to both take advantage of opportunities for growth and to protect and preserve the valuable community aspects we enjoy and hold dear.

While we welcome growth and economic development in our county it is important to think ahead about many considerations that will emerge. One example recently getting a lot of attention has been the condition of our countywide critical infrastructure, roads and bridges. While we might welcome new business investment and growth in our county it is entirely possible that such growth might bring huge cost requirements to county government in the maintenance of road and bridge capacity. That may be a great investment for the community, but it may also be helpful to have a handle on where those needs might arise and what the cost considerations may be. There are other examples, too numerous to list here.

Just as importantly, many recognize the need to preserve and protect aspects of our community and quality of life in the face of rapid changes brought about by both changes here and beyond our community. One example is the desire to protect the individual landowner's ability to continue to farm, raising crops and livestock in familiar and new ways. Others might seek to protect the quality and quantity of our drinking water, our beautiful landscape, our healthcare facilities, or our schools. The loss of population, job creation, housing costs and availability, and electricity supply and costs are just a few concerns.

It is worth evaluating our current situation and thinking about what we want our future to look like in Richardson County. There are at least three subjects the Planning Commission should examine: roads, poultry production facilities, and renewable energy facilities. The Planning Commission may identify other relevant subjects. To help our community work through this conversation the County Board Commissioners have asked the Richardson County Planning Commission to conduct a review and planning process and to prepare a Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan document will serve as the basis for further discussion and decision making. It is also the legal foundation for any zoning requirements that may be considered now or in the future. We have engaged Mavin Planning Consultants to assist the Planning Commission in this work.

Inventory Policy

The current policy for reporting inventory was reviewed and no changes will be made.

CLAIMS

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

Airstream Heating & Cooling, serv	105.00
Amazon, supp	99.24
American Legion Emblem Sales, supp	471.85
Ameriflex, fee	70.00
Charm-Tex, supp	179.90
CMC, serv	5000.00
Consolidated Management Co., serv	10423.00
County Treasurer, tax	2651.24

GENERAL FUND (Cont.)

Culligan, serv	70.00
DAS State Accounting, serv	1042.30
Datashield, serv	86.00
Dept. of Correctional Services, serv	2550.67
Falls City Journal, adv	77.50
Falls City Mercantile, supp	220.54
Falls City Sanitation, serv	120.00
Farm & City Supply, supp	33.98
Feniex Industries, supp	2052.26
First Concord, fees	540.00
Galls, supp	315.29
Hullman's, serv	65.43
IAO Electric, serv	16523.00
Jim Hill's, serv	125.00
Jones Air Conditioning, serv	926.55
Kawres, supp	75.00
KexRx, supp	723.39
Kirkendall, Brian, reimb	20.00
Mary's Appliance, supp	2148.00
Merz Ink, supp	314.84
Meyer Laboratory, supp	320.40
NE Law Enforcement Training Center, serv	826.00
Nestor & Mercure, serv	9166.66
Paper Tiger Shredding, serv	86.00
Postmaster, supp	1388.40
ProServ Business Systems, serv	296.95
Quill, supp	878.52
Region 5 Systems, serv	642.00
Richardson County EMA Petty Cash, reimb	310.81
Richardson County Vendor, FICA/retire/etc	25871.45
Richardson, Kristy, reimb	30.45
Riggs, Kim, reimb	52.20
Schendel Pest Control, serv	91.38
Scholl Lawn & Landscape, serv	225.00
SNC, serv	843.09
SumnerOne, serv	517.01
Weaver & Merz, reimb	901.94
Payroll Expense	125045.15
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$214,523.39

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

Cornhusker International Trucks, supp	488.83
Falls City Sanitation, serv	60.00
Falls City Auto Supply, supp	56.33
Farm & City Supply, supp	852.50
Hullman's, supp	108.13
Martin Marietta Materials, rock	28723.74
Mid-South Metal Products, building	34423.00
Operation & Expense Account, reimb	48.50
O'Reilly Automotive, supp	817.75
Tri-State Truck & Tractor Repair, supp	12.50
Verdon, Village of, serv	32.64
W&D's Auto Care, serv	860.00
Whetrock, rock	5785.09
Payroll Expense	36059.61
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$108,328.62

April 15, 2026
CLAIMS (Cont.)

DRUG COURT FUND

Hawkins, Seth, serv	1665.40
Morrissey, Morrissey & Dalluge, serv	1300.00
TOTAL DRUG COURT FUND	\$2,965.40

SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND

SNC, serv	172.00
TOTAL SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND	\$172.00

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Karas to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 a.m. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, April 22, 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