

**RICHARDSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
AUGUST 19, 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, August 19, 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 Commissioner 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 August 12, 2026, meeting 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 minutes from the August 12, 2026, Board of Equalization meeting. 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.

GARY JONES

Gary Jones of Jones Air Conditioning, Inc. met with the Board to review the replacement of the water meter coming into the Courthouse. Mr. Jones informed the Board that a 3" meter would not be needed for the Courthouse and recommended either a 1" or 2" meter. The Board was in agreement to have the water meter replaced with a 2" meter.

LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER

Sheriff Hardesty updated the Board on the routine business within the Law Enforcement Center this past week. He reported that there were 17 being held in the jail with 5 of those being held for other counties.

A quote was presented from First Wireless, Inc. for the replacement of some radio equipment that was damaged during a power surge that happened during the storm event on Saturday evening, August 15. The quote was for \$8,087.00. A claim will also be made to the County's insurance carrier to recover part of these funds. Motion was made by Campbell to approve the quote for the repair and replacement of the equipment in the networking racks at the Law Enforcement Center from First Wireless, Inc.. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

JON CANNON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF NACO

Jon Cannon, Executive Director of NACO requested to meet with the Board to update them on the programs, activity and legislation issues that the organization is currently involved with. He expressed to the Board that the Nebraska Association of County Officials is an organization formed by all 93 counties in Nebraska and is a place where county officials can reach out to for assistance with questions.

ROAD & BRIDGE DEPT.

Highway Superintendent, Steve Darveau, Jr. updated the Board on the routine maintenance being done on county roads and bridges this week.

The Board also reviewed the FY2026-2027 budget for the Road & Bridge Department with Mr. Darveau.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Caverzagie to go into an executive session at 10:48 a.m. with Jerry Pigsley, special legal counsel; Samantha Scheitel, County Attorney and County Clerk, Mary L. Eickhoff to discuss pending litigation and for the protection of the public interest. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Karas to close the executive session at 11:05 a.m. and return to the regular meeting agenda. Motion seconded by Caverzagie. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried.

Notices were received from the Union that after the denial of the grievances by the County Board of Commissioners, the grievant, Road Department employees, Roger Glathar and Bryan Dettmann, are requesting a grievance board hearing. Correspondence from the Union representative, Justin Hubly informed the County's special legal counsel, Jerry Pigsley, of the following: "We understand there is a factual dispute with the grievances. We're happy to continue these cases until after the CIR makes a final decision if that would make the best use of time for all." The grievance board hearing will be tabled until the hearing is held with the Commission of Industrial Relations to make a ruling on case #1592 which was filed by the Union regarding the use of GPS and AI-integrated systems in the county vehicles. The Commission did release a decision on the Union's motion for temporary relief, deciding that the County "may continue to make use of its installed GPS and AI-integrated camera systems for purposes other than bargaining unit employee monitoring".

FY 26-27 BUDGET REVIEW

The Board reviewed the requested budgets for FY2026-2027 with Brian Kirkendall, EMA Director for the EMA, Nuclear Preparedness and Weed Control budgets.

The Board continued reviewing the information provided regarding the requested budget as presented by the departments which would require \$8,911,521.11 in property tax requirement resulting in a tax levy for 2026 at .412452, an increase of 37% from the prior year. After reviewing the budget today and considering certain reductions to be made, an approximate property tax requirement of \$7,915,211.00 was reached with the proposed tax levy decreasing to .366331, an increase of approximately 22% from the prior year.

The Board will continue review and discussions and more considerations for reducing the requested FY2026-2027 budget over the next few weeks before presenting a proposed budget for the FY2026-2027.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER

Cancel Check

Motion was made by Caverzagie to adopt Resolution 2026-2027-5 to cancel a check issued in error. Motion seconded by Campbell. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 29, Page 9)

Levy Allocation

Motion was made by Campbell to adopt Resolution 2026-2027-6 authorizing the levy allocation for the rural fire districts and agriculture society at .02 for tax year 2026. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. (Resolution Book 29, Page 10)

CLAIMS

Motion was made by Caverzagie to approve 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

Amazon, supp	469.50
AT&T. serv	991.88
Benchmark Government Solutions, serv	641.70
Brite, supp	13524.00
CMC, serv	5000.00
Consolidated Management, serv	10738.00
Culligan, serv	127.10
DAS State Accounting, serv	526.50
Falls City Journal, adv	62.00
Falls City Mercantile, supp	392.79
Falls City Sanitation, serv	60.00
Farm & City Supply, supp	30.95
First Concord, fees	562.50
Hullman's, serv	416.63
KexRx, supp	579.90
Koch's Auto, serv	673.00
Lincoln National, life ins	1592.66
Medica, ins	62975.54
Miller-Monroe, ins	40.00
Nestor & Mercure, serv	9333.33
OPPD, serv	33.12
Ram Exterminators, serv	48.00
Richardson County Sheriff, fees	426.58
Richardson County Vendor, FICA/retire/etc	23087.80
Sherman's Station, serv	128.39
Visual IT Edge, serv	241.94
Payroll Expense	114481.70
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$247,185.51

ROAD & BRIDGE FUND

Armbruster Motor Co., supp	120.00
Black Hills Energy, serv	49.80
Falls City Sanitation, serv	60.00
Farm & City Supply, supp	4219.57
Hullman's, supp	24.88
Martin Marietta Materials, rock	21727.54
NPPD, serv	73.68
TreviPay, supp	47.96
Van Dorn Valley Construction, serv	9731.25
Wolfe's Printing, serv	161.25
Payroll Expense	36164.42
TOTAL ROAD & BRIDGE FUND	\$72,380.35

DRUG COURT FUND

Hawkins, Seth, serv	1300.00
Morrissey, Morrissey & Dalluge, serv	1300.00
TOTAL DRUG COURT FUND	\$2,600.00

SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND

CPC, serv	3845.68
TOTAL SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND	\$3,845.68

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ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Campbell to adjourn the meeting at 12:55 p.m. Motion seconded by Karas. ROLL CALL VOTE: Karas-aye, Campbell-aye, Caverzagie-aye. Motion carried. The Board will meet again on Wednesday, August 26, 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