

RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 18, 2026

Meeting Minutes

ATTENDANCE

The Richland County Board of Commissioners met at 8:00 A.M. August 18, 2026 at the Richland County Courthouse with Commissioners Terry Goerger, Nathan Berseth, Rollie Ehlert, Perry Miller, and Tim Campbell. Others included Administration Personnel Fossum and South, State's Attorney Kummer, Sheriff Ruhl, Tracy Hansen, Jesse Sedler, Judge Cruff, Assistant State's Attorney Jessica Rydell, Allie Corey, Heidi Arnhalt, John Manstrom, and Daily News Reporter Manisha Reddy.

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Goerger called the meeting to order at 8:00 A.M. A motion was made by Miller and seconded by Ehlert to approve the agenda. Vote was unanimous (5-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests submitted for public comment.

TRACY HANSEN – SE CRIB APPOINTMENT

Tracy Hansen addressed the Commission to request that she be appointed to SE CRIB to replace Jill Breuer and said Breuer is willing to be the alternate. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Miller to appoint Tracy Hansen to SE CRIB with Jill Breuer as alternate. Vote was unanimous (5-0).

SHERIFF RUHL – QUARTERLY STATISTICS

Sheriff Ruhl distributed a year-to-date Calls for Service report to the Board of Commissioners. Ruhl highlighted the following from this time last year:

- crashes increased 12%
- injury crashes increased 65%
- truck enforcements increased 26%
- domestic assaults increased 20%
- protection orders increased 90%

Sheriff Ruhl asked the Commission if they would consider hiring one new deputy in light of the increases if the Sheriff's Department was to share an already cross trained deputy with Dispatch to alleviate overtime in both departments. Ruhl will continue to work with his portfolio on the proposal.

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RICHLAND COUNTY TREATMENT COURT – OPIOID FUNDING REQUEST

Allie Corey and Heidi Arnhalt from Richland County Treatment Court addressed the Commission regarding opioid funds that the county receives from a federal opioid settlement. As of November of 2023, 85% of the funds received must go to the Health Department; 15% can be held for administrative purposes. Corey said that Treatment Court has several needs for the administrative funding and would like to request use of it. Arnhalt shared improvements they would like to make to the program. Fossum informed the Commission that there is currently \$35,900 available in administrative funding and \$75,174 that has been transferred to the Health Department. A motion was made by Berseth and seconded by Ehlert to approve any administrative fees the county receives from the federal opioid settlement to go to the Richland County Treatment Court. Vote was unanimous (5-0).

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Sedler gave the following updates regarding highway activity:

- CR 1 will be paved on Wednesday and Thursday of this week.
- Flex funding paperwork is ready to be signed for reimbursement.
- Hauling for solar project to resume after Labor Day, will work on roads after hauling is complete.

Sedler informed the Commission that the department has an employee retiring October 15, 2026 and he would like to advertise to fill the position. A motion was made by Ehlert and seconded by Berseth to approve advertising for an open position in the Highway Department. Vote was unanimous (5-0).

Truck traffic was briefly discussed.

MISC/CORRESPONDENCE

Resignations in the Health Department were briefly discussed; Carlson will be attending the next Commission meeting to request approval to advertise for open positions. Upcoming retirements in the Assessing Office and Treasurer's Office were briefly discussed.

Correspondence from Frank Oakgrove with the Red River Basin Commission – A thank you to the Board of Commissioners.

Correspondence from Becky Carow regarding the Helping Hands 4-H Club.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER

RICHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 18, 2026

1 Commission Meeting
15 Commission Meeting

OCTOBER

6 Commission Meeting
20 Commission Meeting

REPORTS FILED

Tax & Property Department – Revenue Voucher for July 2026.
Sheriff's Department – Revenue & Expenses for July 2026.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 A.M.

CERTIFICATION

ATTEST:

Sandy Fossum
Auditor/Administrator

_____ CHAIRPERSON
Terry Goerger
Board of Richland County Commissioners