

**AUDIT REPORT  
OF  
RICHARDSON COUNTY  
JULY 1, 2023, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2024**

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the Auditor of Public Accounts.**

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**Issued on October 23, 2024**

*The **Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts Office** was created by the first territorial Legislature in 1855. The Auditor was the general accountant and revenue officer of the territory. Those duties have expanded and evolved over the decades, as modern accounting theory has been implemented. The office of the Auditor of Public Accounts is one of six offices making up the executive branch of Nebraska State Government. Mike Foley was elected in November 2006 and re-elected in November 2010 and November 2022 as the Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts. He was sworn into office on January 5, 2023, and is Nebraska's 24th State Auditor.*

*The mission of the Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts' office is to provide independent, accurate, and timely audits, reviews, or investigations of the financial operations of Nebraska State and local governments.*

*We will provide this information, as required by statute, to all policymakers and taxpayers through written reports and our Internet-based Budget and Audit databases.*

*We will maintain a professionally prepared staff, utilizing up-to-date technology, and following current Government Auditing Standards.*

### **Audit Staff Working On This Report**

Rachel Wittler, CPA, CFE – Audit Manager

Emily Parker – Audit Manager

Derek Baumfalk – Auditor II

Brady Neal – Auditor I

Kevin Wulf – Auditor I

Our reports can be found electronically at: [auditors.nebraska.gov](https://auditors.nebraska.gov)

Additionally, you may request them by contacting us at:

**Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts**

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RICHARDSON COUNTY

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RICHARDSON COUNTY

1700 Stone Street  
Falls City, NE 68355

**LIST OF COUNTY OFFICIALS**

At June 30, 2024

<u>Title</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Board of Commissioners	John Caverzagie	Jan. 2027
	David Sickel	Jan. 2025
	Rick Karas	Jan. 2025
Assessor	Kimberly Riggs	Jan. 2027
Attorney	Samantha Scheitel	Jan. 2027
Clerk	Mary Eickhoff	Jan. 2027
Election Commissioner		
Register of Deeds		
Clerk of the District Court	Pamela Scott	Jan. 2027
Sheriff	Richard Hardesty, Jr.	Jan. 2027
Treasurer	Amanda Bartek-Ramsey	Jan. 2027
Surveyor	Robert Tichy	Jan. 2027
Veterans' Service Officer	Mona Godemann	Appointed
Highway Superintendent	Steve Darveau, Jr.	Appointed
Emergency Manager	Brian Kirkendall	Appointed
Weed Superintendent		



## NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mike Foley  
State Auditor

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RICHARDSON COUNTY

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Commissioners  
Richardson County, Nebraska

#### Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

##### *Opinions*

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Richardson County, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Richardson County as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 1.

##### *Basis for Opinions*

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the County and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

##### *Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting*

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

##### *Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements*

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 1, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

##### *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements*

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material

misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the County's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

#### ***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements. The combining nonmajor fund financial statement, budgetary comparison information, schedule of office activity, and schedule of taxes certified and collected, pages 18-30, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

#### ***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 9, 2024, on our consideration of Richardson County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Richardson County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Rachel Wittler, CPA, CFE  
Audit Manager  
Lincoln, Nebraska

October 9, 2024

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS**  
June 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities
<hr/>	
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 1.D)	\$ 3,887,298
Investments (Note 1.D)	2,819,114
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<hr/> <b>\$ 6,706,412</b> <hr/>
<b>NET POSITION</b>	
Restricted for:	
Visitor Promotion	\$ 85,998
Drug Education/Enforcement	43,596
Law Enforcement	3,338
Preservation of Records	2,542
Debt Service	334,987
Aid and Assistance	17,397
Miscellaneous Projects	223,081
Road Maintenance	1,923,927
Unrestricted	4,071,546
<b>TOTAL NET POSITION</b>	<hr/> <b>\$ 6,706,412</b> <hr/>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS**  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

<b>Functions:</b>	Cash Disbursements	Program Cash Receipts		Net (Disbursement) Receipts and Changes in Net Position
		Fees, Fines, and Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	
<b>Governmental Activities:</b>				
General Government	\$ (3,461,641)	\$ 365,256	\$ 96,165	\$ (3,000,220)
Public Safety	(3,456,983)	241,978	177,273	(3,037,732)
Public Works	(4,044,058)	4,384	2,602,601	(1,437,073)
Public Assistance	(94,781)	-	-	(94,781)
Culture and Recreation	(38,103)	-	-	(38,103)
Debt Payments	(414,718)	-	-	(414,718)
Capital Projects	(171,521)	-	-	(171,521)
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ (11,681,805)</u>	<u>\$ 611,618</u>	<u>\$ 2,876,039</u>	<u>(8,194,148)</u>
General Receipts:				
Taxes:				
Property				5,787,258
Motor Vehicle				364,231
Inheritance				339,222
Other				145,246
Grants and Contributions Not Restricted to				
Specific Programs				110,030
Investment Income				245,645
Judgements and Settlements				113,302
Miscellaneous				154,696
Total General Receipts				<u>7,259,630</u>
Change in Net Position				(934,518)
Net Position - Beginning of year				7,640,930
Net Position - End of year				<u>\$ 6,706,412</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.



RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**STATEMENT OF CASH BASIS ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
June 30, 2024

	General Fund	Road Fund	Inheritance Fund	Road Buyback Program Fund	Nonmajor Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>ASSETS</b>						
Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 1.D)	\$ 323,557	\$ 618,025	\$ -	\$ 1,923,927	\$ 1,021,789	\$ 3,887,298
Investments (Note 1.D)	441,049	-	2,378,065	-	-	2,819,114
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>\$ 764,606</u>	<u>\$ 618,025</u>	<u>\$ 2,378,065</u>	<u>\$ 1,923,927</u>	<u>\$ 1,021,789</u>	<u>\$ 6,706,412</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES</b>						
Restricted for:						
Visitor Promotion	-	-	-	-	85,998	85,998
Drug Education/Enforcement	-	-	-	-	43,596	43,596
Law Enforcement	-	-	-	-	3,338	3,338
Preservation of Records	-	-	-	-	2,542	2,542
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	334,987	334,987
Aid and Assistance	-	-	-	-	17,397	17,397
Miscellaneous Projects	-	-	-	-	223,081	223,081
Road Maintenance	-	-	-	1,923,927	-	1,923,927
Committed to:						
Law Enforcement	-	-	-	-	291,043	291,043
Road Maintenance	-	618,025	-	-	19,807	637,832
Assigned to:						
Other Purposes	-	-	2,378,065	-	-	2,378,065
Unassigned	764,606	-	-	-	-	764,606
<b>TOTAL CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES</b>	<u>\$ 764,606</u>	<u>\$ 618,025</u>	<u>\$ 2,378,065</u>	<u>\$ 1,923,927</u>	<u>\$ 1,021,789</u>	<u>\$ 6,706,412</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,  
AND CHANGES IN CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES**  
**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	General Fund	Road Fund	Inheritance Fund	Road Buyback Program Fund	Nonmajor Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
Taxes:						
Property	\$5,402,502	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 384,756	\$ 5,787,258
Motor Vehicle	364,231	-	-	-	-	364,231
Inheritance	-	-	339,222	-	-	339,222
Other	107,908	157	-	-	37,181	145,246
Investment Income	245,631	-	-	-	14	245,645
Intergovernmental	292,967	2,006,750	4,000	595,851	86,501	2,986,069
Charges for Services	564,859	4,384	-	-	42,375	611,618
Miscellaneous	124,519	114,542	-	-	28,937	267,998
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<u>7,102,617</u>	<u>2,125,833</u>	<u>343,222</u>	<u>595,851</u>	<u>579,764</u>	<u>10,747,287</u>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>						
General Government	3,312,573	-	110,451	-	38,617	3,461,641
Public Safety	3,093,457	-	285,488	-	78,038	3,456,983
Public Works	35,384	3,984,473	24,201	-	-	4,044,058
Public Assistance	93,781	-	-	-	1,000	94,781
Culture and Recreation	-	-	-	-	38,103	38,103
Debt Service:						
Principal Payments	-	-	-	-	390,000	390,000
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	-	-	-	24,718	24,718
Capital Projects	171,521	-	-	-	-	171,521
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<u>6,706,716</u>	<u>3,984,473</u>	<u>420,140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>570,476</u>	<u>11,681,805</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<u>395,901</u>	<u>(1,858,640)</u>	<u>(76,918)</u>	<u>595,851</u>	<u>9,288</u>	<u>(934,518)</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>						
Transfers in	825,000	1,387,533	-	-	-	2,212,533
Transfers out	(1,387,533)	-	(675,000)	-	(150,000)	(2,212,533)
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>	<u>(562,533)</u>	<u>1,387,533</u>	<u>(675,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(150,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	(166,632)	(471,107)	(751,918)	595,851	(140,712)	(934,518)
<b>CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING</b>	<u>931,238</u>	<u>1,089,132</u>	<u>3,129,983</u>	<u>1,328,076</u>	<u>1,162,501</u>	<u>7,640,930</u>
<b>CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES - ENDING</b>	<u>\$ 764,606</u>	<u>\$ 618,025</u>	<u>\$ 2,378,065</u>	<u>\$ 1,923,927</u>	<u>\$ 1,021,789</u>	<u>\$ 6,706,412</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION - CASH BASIS**  
June 30, 2024

	Custodial Funds
<hr/>	
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 1.D)	\$ 613,331
<hr/>	
NET POSITION	
Restricted for:	
State - Collected by County Treasurer	172,375
State - Collected by Other Offices	4,570
Schools	190,653
Educational Service Units	2,319
Technical College	14,486
Natural Resource Districts	4,633
Fire Districts	1,692
Municipalities	35,386
Agricultural Society	555
Drainage Districts	73
Others - Collected by County Treasurer	81,091
Others - Collected by Other Offices	105,498
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ 613,331
	<hr/> <hr/>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION - CASH BASIS**  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	<u>Custodial Funds</u>
ADDITIONS	
Collections for Other Governments	\$ 19,998,185
Miscellaneous Collections	<u>812,024</u>
TOTAL ADDITIONS	<u>20,810,209</u>
DEDUCTIONS	
Payments to Other Governments	20,192,698
Other Miscellaneous Items Paid To Individuals	<u>842,305</u>
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	<u>21,035,003</u>
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION	(224,794)
NET POSITION - BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>838,125</u>
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	<u><u>\$ 613,331</u></u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2024

**1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies utilized in the accounting system of Richardson County.

**A. Reporting Entity**

Richardson County, Nebraska, (County) is a governmental entity established under and governed by the laws of the State of Nebraska (State). The County is managed by county officials who are elected on a political ballot for four-year terms. As a political subdivision of the State, the County is exempt from State and Federal income taxes. The financial statements include all funds of the County that are not legally separate. The County has also considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable, as well as other organizations that are either fiscally dependent on the County or maintain a significant relationship with the County, such that exclusion would be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and (1) the ability of the County to impose its will on that organization, or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the County. The County is also considered financially accountable if an organization is fiscally dependent on and there is potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the County regardless of whether the organization has (1) a separately elected governing board, (2) a governing board appointed by a higher level of government, or (3) a jointly appointed board. As required by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), these financial statements present the County (the primary government). No component units were identified.

**Joint Organization.**

Behavioral Health Region V – The County has entered into an agreement with surrounding counties and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to provide services to carry out the provisions of the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act (Act). Agreements were established under the authority of the Interlocal Cooperation Act for services to be provided under the Act. Region V (Region) consists of the following counties: Polk, Butler, Saunders, Seward, Lancaster, Otoe, Fillmore, Saline, Thayer, Jefferson, Gage, Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee, York, and Richardson.

The governing board for the Region includes representatives from the participating county boards. Each county contributes to the financial support of the Region activities based on formulas developed by the Region governing board and as required by the Act. Funding is provided by a combination of Federal, State, local, and private funding. The County contributed \$28,662 toward the operation of the Region during fiscal year 2024. In the event of the termination of the agreement, assets would be disposed of in accordance with the terms of the agreement. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services requires the Region to be audited annually in accordance with State statute. Financial information for the Region is available in those audit reports.

Health Department – The County has entered into an agreement with the Southeast District Health Department (Department) to provide public health services. The agreement was established under authority of the Interlocal Cooperation Act for services to be provided per Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-1626 to 71-1636 (Reissue 2018).

The Department's governing board is established by statute and includes representatives from the participating county boards and the health profession. Funding is provided by a combination of Federal, State, local, and private funding. The County did not contribute toward the operation of the Department during fiscal year 2024. In the event of the termination of the agreement, assets would be disposed of in accordance with the terms of the agreement. The Department is audited in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-304(4) (2024 Neb. Laws, L.B. 1143, § 3). Financial information for the Department is available in that report.

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(Continued)

1. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (Continued)

Southeast Nebraska Adult Drug Court (Drug Court) – The County has entered into an agreement with the governing boards of Otoe, Nemaha, Johnson, and Pawnee counties to establish the Southeast Nebraska Adult Drug Court. The intention of the Drug Court is to reduce recidivism and redirect participants out of the court system. The County was named the fiscal agent for the Drug Court. Each participating county contributes to the operation of the Drug Court based on each county's respective population. The fiscal year 2024 budget for the Drug Court was \$41,287. The County's portion of the budget was \$8,369. The financial activity of the Drug Court is reflected as a non-major fund in this report.

**A. Basis of Presentation**

**Government-Wide Financial Statements.** The Statement of Net Position – Cash Basis and Statement of Activities – Cash Basis display information about the activities of the County and are in the format of government-wide statements, as required by GASB Statement Number 34. These statements include all the financial activities of the County, except for fiduciary activities. Internal activities in these statements were considered immaterial and have not been eliminated. Governmental Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) requires internal activity to be eliminated to minimize double counting. The County reports governmental activities only. Governmental activities are generally financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts, and other nonexchange transactions. The Statement of Net Position presents the County's non-fiduciary assets in two categories:

**Restricted.** This category results when constraints are externally imposed on net asset use by creditors, grantors, or contributors, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the County's policy to use restricted resources first, then the unrestricted resources as they are needed.

**Unrestricted.** This category represents resources that do not meet the definition of the preceding category. Unrestricted resources often have constraints on resources that are imposed by management, but those constraints can be removed or modified.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct disbursement of a given function or segment is offset by program receipts. Direct disbursements are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program receipts include the following: 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment; and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program receipts are reported instead as general receipts.

**Fund Financial Statements.** The fund financial statements provide information about the County's funds, including its fiduciary funds. GAAP requires separate statements by fund category – governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. The County uses only the governmental and fiduciary fund categories. The County Board is the highest level of decision-making authority and has the authority, by resolution, to establish, modify, or rescind the commitment or assignment of a fund balance to a specific purpose. When resources for a specific purpose are available in more than one fund balance classification, the County's policy is to use resources in the following order: restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(Continued)

1. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (Continued)

**General Fund.** This is the County's primary operating fund. It accounts for financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**Road Fund.** This fund is used to account for costs associated with the repair and maintenance of roads and bridges and is primarily funded by State tax receipts.

**Inheritance Fund.** This fund is used to account for the receipts generated from inheritance taxes and is used for various projects.

**Road Buyback Program Fund.** This fund is used to account for costs incurred for road projects in the County. It is funded by amounts received from the State of Nebraska through the Federal Funds Purchase Program.

The County reports the following additional non-major governmental fund types:

**Special Revenue Funds.** These funds account for the proceeds from a specific receipt source that is restricted to disbursements for a specified purpose.

**Custodial Funds.** These funds account for assets held by the County as an agent for various local governments.

**Debt Service Funds.** The Highway Allocation Bond Fund and Jail Bond Fund account for the resources for, and the payment of, general long-term debt principal, interest, and related costs.

The County designates fund balances as follows:

**Restricted.** The fund balance is restricted by external impositions, such as creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

**Committed.** The fund balance has been designated by the County Board for a specific purpose.

**Assigned.** The fund balance has not been designated by the County Board for a specific purpose, but it has been separated based on the type of revenue.

**Unassigned.** This portion of the General Fund is not restricted, committed, or assigned for a specific purpose.

**C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting**

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus and basis of accounting. The accounting records of the County are maintained, and the government-wide financial statements were reported on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements. As such, the measurement focus includes only those assets and fund balances arising from cash transactions on the Statement of Net Position - Cash Basis and the Statement of Activities - Cash Basis. Receipts are recognized when received, and disbursements are recognized when paid. This differs from governmental GAAP, which requires the government-wide and fiduciary fund financial statements to be reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under this measurement focus and basis of accounting, receipts are recorded when earned, and disbursements are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
(Continued)

1. **Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (Continued)

The governmental fund financial statements were also reported on the cash receipt and disbursement basis of accounting. As such, the same measurement focus and basis of accounting were used, as described above. This differs from governmental GAAP, which requires governmental fund financial statements to be reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this measurement focus and basis of accounting, receipts are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Receipts are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Disbursements are generally recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, disbursements related to compensated absences, and claims and judgments are recorded only when payment is due.

**D. Assets and Net Position**

**Cash and Cash Equivalents.** The County's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, certificates of deposit, and demand deposits.

**Investments.** The types of investments in which the County is authorized to invest funds are enumerated in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 77-2315, § 77-2340, and § 77-2341 (Reissue 2018, 2024 Neb. Laws, L.B. 1074, § 96) and generally include U.S. Government obligations and securities, which are authorized by the Nebraska Investment Council.

**Capital Assets.** Under the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, capital assets are not capitalized in the funds used to acquire or construct them. Instead, capital acquisitions are reflected as disbursements in governmental funds. GAAP requires capital assets, which would include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items), to be reported in the applicable governmental activities columns in the government-wide financial statements.

Depreciation expenses on capital assets were not recorded on the cash basis financial statements. Under GAAP, depreciation expenses would be recorded in the Statement of Activities. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that does not add to the value of the asset or extend asset life is not capitalized.

**Compensated Absences.** Vested or accumulated vacation leave that is liquidated with expendable available financial resources is reported as a disbursement of the County funds as paid. Upon termination, employees are paid for any unused vacation. Under the receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, the liabilities for compensated absences are not reported since they do not represent liabilities arising from cash transactions. Under GAAP, the compensated absences liability would be reported in the government-wide financial statements and would be recorded in accordance with the County's policy, which is to recognize the expense and accrued liability when vacation and compensatory leave is earned.

**Restricted Net Position.** When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the County's policy to use restricted resources first, then the unrestricted resources, as they are needed. Net position is reported as restricted when constraints placed on its use are either externally imposed or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The government-wide statement of net position reports \$2,634,866 of restricted net position, which is fully restricted by enabling legislation.

**Budgetary Process.** The County adopts an annual budget in accordance with the statutory requirements of the Nebraska Budget Act and County Budget Act of 1937. The budget is prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. The budget contains only those receipts actually received by the County Treasurer. The County does not utilize an encumbrance accounting system. All appropriated spending authority lapses at the end of the fiscal year.



RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(Continued)

**1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies** (Concluded)

On or before August 1, the County budget-making authority prepares and transmits a budget for each County fund to the County Board. The budget includes the requirements, the outstanding warrants, the operating reserves to be maintained, the cash on hand at the close of the preceding fiscal year, the receipts from sources other than taxation, and the amount to be raised by taxation. The County Board must hold at least one public hearing on the proposed budget. On or before September 30, the County Board adopts the budget and appropriates the amounts specified in the budget for the departments, offices, activities, and funds of the County.

The County Board is authorized to transfer budgeted amounts between departments within any fund through resolution; however, if revisions are made that alter the total disbursements of any fund, an additional public hearing must be held. The legal level of budgetary control for the General Fund is at the function level, and the special revenue fund types are at the fund level. The County Board is also authorized to budget for the transfer of money between County funds.

**2. Deposits and Investments**

The County has generally pooled the cash resources of the various funds for investment purposes. Interest earned on pooled funds is credited to the County General Fund in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 77-2315 (Reissue 2018).

At year end, the County's carrying amount of deposits was \$3,887,298 for County funds and \$613,331 for Fiduciary funds. The bank balances for all funds totaled \$4,507,568. For purposes of classifying categories of custodial credit risk, the bank balances of the County's deposits, as of June 30, 2024, were either entirely insured or collateralized with securities held by the County's agent in the County's name.

The County's carrying value of investments is stated at cost, which approximates market. Investments consisted of \$2,819,114 deposited in the Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT). NPAIT is a public entity investment pool operated under the direction of a nine-member Board of Trustees. All net income of the trust is determined as of the close of business on each banking day and is credited thereafter pro rata to each participant's account. Net income that has accrued to each participant is converted as of the close of business of each calendar month into additional units, which thereafter are held in each participant's trust account. Since net income of the fund is allocated among participants each time net income is determined, the net asset value remains at \$1.00 per unit. Securities held by NPAIT are not held in the County's name.

**3. Taxes**

Property taxes are levied by the County Board on or before October 20 of each year for all political subdivisions in the County. Real estate and personal property taxes are due and attach as an enforceable lien on January 1 following the levy date, and they become delinquent in two equal installments on May 1 and September 1. Motor vehicle taxes are due when application is made for registration of a motor vehicle.

Counties are permitted by the State Constitution to levy a tax of up to \$.50/\$100 of assessed valuation for general governmental services other than the payment of principal and interest on bonded debt. Counties may levy taxes in addition to the 50-cent limitation upon a vote of the people.

The levy set in October 2023, for the 2023 taxes, which will be materially collected in May and September 2024, was set at \$.349758/\$100 of assessed valuation. The levy set in October 2022, for the 2022 taxes, which were materially collected in May and September 2023, was set at \$.393977/\$100 of assessed valuation. The amount collected for the motor vehicle tax is outlined in State statute.

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(Continued)

**3. Taxes (Concluded)**

Additionally, there is currently a statutory lid limitation, which limits taxation to the prior year's level, with provisions for growth. The lid may be increased by 1% upon the approval of a three-fourths majority of the County Board.

The tax receipts classification also contains collections from the assessment of inheritance taxes, lodging taxes, and nameplate capacity taxes.

**4. Retirement System**

The Retirement System for Nebraska Counties (Plan) is a multiple-employer plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board in accordance with the provisions of the County Employees Retirement Act. The Plan consists of a defined contribution option and a cash balance benefit. The cash balance benefit is a type of defined benefit plan. The Plan provisions are established under Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 23-2301 through 23-2334 (Reissue 2022, Supp. 2023, 2024 Neb. Laws, L.B. 198, § 4) and may be amended through legislative action.

Participation in the Plan is required of all full-time employees. Part-time (working less than one-half of the regularly scheduled hours) employees may elect voluntary participation upon reaching age 18. Part-time elected officials may exercise the option to join.

County employees and elected officials contribute 4.5% of their total compensation. In addition, the County contributes an amount equal to 150% of the employee's contribution. The contribution rates are established by § 23-2307 and § 23-2308 and may be amended through legislative action. The employee's and employer's contributions are kept in separate accounts. The employee's account is fully vested. The employer's account is fully vested after three years of participation in the system or credit for participation in another governmental plan prior to actual contribution to the Plan. Non-vested County contributions are forfeited upon termination. Forfeitures are used to cover a portion of the pension plan's administrative expenses. Prior service benefits are paid directly by the County to the retired employee. The Plan's financial statements, including pension costs and obligations, are audited annually and can be obtained from the State of Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System.

A supplemental retirement plan was established on January 1, 2003, for the benefit of all present and future commissioned law enforcement personnel employed by the County. Through September 1, 2023, employees contributed 1% of their salary. Starting September 2, 2023, this contribution was increased to 2%. The County contributes an amount equal to 100% of the employee's contribution. In a defined contribution plan, benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the Plan plus investment earnings.

For the year ended June 30, 2024, 97 employees contributed \$188,383, and the County contributed \$275,507. Contributions included \$14,135 in cash contributions towards the supplemental law enforcement plan for 13 law enforcement employees. Lastly, the County paid \$425 directly to four retired employees for prior service benefits.

**5. Risk Management**

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to the following: torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The County has purchased commercial insurance to cover the risk of loss and believes there is adequate coverage for potential exposures. There were no significant reductions of insurance coverage from the prior year, and the County did not incur any expenses that exceeded the coverage amounts for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(Continued)

**6. Interfund Transfers**

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2024, consisted of the following:

<b>Transfers to</b>	<b>Transfers from</b>			<b>Total</b>
	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Inheritance Fund</b>	<b>Nonmajor Funds</b>	
General Fund	\$ -	\$ 675,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 825,000
Road Fund	1,387,533	-	-	1,387,533
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,387,533</b>	<b>\$ 675,000</b>	<b>\$ 150,000</b>	<b>\$ 2,212,533</b>

Transfers are used to move unrestricted receipts collected in the General Fund and Inheritance Fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

In the year ended June 30, 2024, the County made a one-time transfer of \$150,000 from the COVID American Rescue Plan Act Fund to the General Fund to reimburse the fund for a portion of the courthouse roof replacement project costs.

**7. Long-Term Obligations**

**Lease-Purchase Agreements**

Changes to the commitments under a lease agreement for equipment and amounts to provide for annual rental payments are as follows:

	Sheriff Camera Equipment	911 Communication Tower Equipment	Total
Balance July 1, 2023	\$ 32,789	\$ 500,037	\$ 532,826
Purchases	-	-	-
Payments	32,789	89,189	121,978
Balance June 30, 2024	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 410,848</u>	<u>\$ 410,848</u>
Future Payments:			
<b>Year</b>			
2025	\$ -	\$ 93,251	\$ 93,251
2026	-	93,251	93,251
2027	-	93,251	93,251
2028	-	93,250	93,250
2029	-	46,625	46,625
Total Payments	-	419,628	419,628
Less Interest	-	8,780	8,780
Present Value of Future			
Minimum Lease Payments	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 410,848</u>	<u>\$ 410,848</u>
Carrying Value of the Related			
Fixed Asset	<u>\$ 140,374</u>	<u>\$ 620,837</u>	<u>\$ 761,211</u>

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(Concluded)

**7. Long-Term Obligations** (Concluded)

Bonds

**Highway Allocation Bond.** The County issued bonds on May 17, 2011, in the amount of \$2,000,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of certain streets, highways, and roads within the County. The County issued bonds on March 17, 2016, in the amount of \$1,455,000 for the purpose of refunding the Series 2011 bonds of the County. In March 2021, the 2016 bond issue was refinanced for \$715,000. The bond payable balance, as of June 30, 2024, was \$390,000. The County has the ability to levy taxes as necessary to cover the annual required principal and interest payments over the term of these bonds. Future tax resources and highway allocation funds will be used to pay off the bonds.

Future Payments:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total</b>
2025	\$ 115,000	\$ 3,235	\$ 118,235
2026	105,000	2,487	107,487
2027	110,000	1,700	111,700
2028	60,000	600	60,600
Total Payments	<u>\$ 390,000</u>	<u>\$ 8,022</u>	<u>\$ 398,023</u>

**Law Enforcement Center Jail Bond.** The County issued bonds on June 30, 2015, in the amount of \$3,740,000 for the purpose of paying the costs of renovating and improving its existing law enforcement center and constructing an addition thereto, as well as certain costs of issuance related to the bonds. In July 2020, the 2015 bond issue was refinanced for \$2,425,000. The bond payable balance, as of June 30, 2024, was \$1,310,000. The County has the ability to levy taxes as necessary to cover the annual required principal and interest payments over the term of these bonds. Future tax resources will be used to pay off the bonds.

Future Payments:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Principal</b>	<b>Interest</b>	<b>Total</b>
2025	\$ -	\$ 8,639	\$ 8,639
2026	285,000	15,710	300,710
2027	290,000	12,330	302,330
2028	290,000	8,560	298,560
2029	295,000	4,464	299,464
2030	150,000	1,162	151,162
Total Payments	<u>\$ 1,310,000</u>	<u>\$ 50,865</u>	<u>\$ 1,360,865</u>

**8. Contingent Liabilities**

The County is a defendant in various lawsuits. Although the outcome of these lawsuits is not presently determinable, the County Attorney believes the resolution of these matters will not have a materially adverse effect on the financial condition of the County.

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL**  
**GENERAL FUND**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Taxes	\$ 5,914,807	\$ 5,914,807	\$ 5,874,641	\$ (40,166)
Investment Income	275,000	275,000	245,631	(29,369)
Intergovernmental	315,399	315,399	292,967	(22,432)
Charges for Services	523,250	523,250	564,859	41,609
Miscellaneous	26,300	26,300	124,519	98,219
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>7,054,756</u>	<u>7,054,756</u>	<u>7,102,617</u>	<u>47,861</u>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>				
General Government:				
County Board	104,912	104,912	104,912	-
County Clerk	188,932	188,932	187,614	1,318
County Treasurer	217,707	217,707	214,300	3,407
County Assessor	224,024	224,024	217,346	6,678
Election Commissioner	88,195	88,195	82,827	5,368
Clerk of the District Court	122,386	122,386	122,386	-
County Court System	11,000	11,000	8,146	2,854
Building and Grounds	240,850	240,850	213,199	27,651
Agricultural Extension Agent	66,982	66,982	66,051	931
Data Processing Department	194,515	194,515	165,394	29,121
Clk Dist Crt - Child Supp Agrmt	11,245	11,265	11,265	-
Miscellaneous	2,031,686	1,920,535	1,919,133	1,402
Public Safety				
County Sheriff	1,145,302	1,145,302	1,122,922	22,380
County Attorney	151,423	151,423	145,654	5,769
Communication Center	284,713	363,049	363,049	-
County Jail	1,025,832	1,025,832	993,913	31,919
Emergency Management	180,393	180,393	170,632	9,761
Humboldt Sheriff	69,415	94,509	94,509	-
County Atty - Child Supp Argmt	123,704	123,704	109,293	14,411
County Attorney Incentive Match	26,185	26,185	18,185	8,000
Nuclear Accident Emerg Prep	75,300	75,300	75,300	-
Public Works				
County Surveyor	17,965	25,666	25,666	-
Noxious Weed Control	23,400	23,400	9,718	13,682
Highway Department	-	-	-	-
Public Assistance				
Veterans' Service Officer	95,248	95,248	93,781	1,467
Capital Projects	215,000	215,000	171,521	43,479
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	<u>6,936,314</u>	<u>6,936,314</u>	<u>6,706,716</u>	<u>229,598</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	<u>118,442</u>	<u>118,442</u>	<u>395,901</u>	<u>277,459</u>

(Continued)

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL**  
**GENERAL FUND**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
Transfers in	825,000	825,000	825,000	-
Transfers out	(1,474,680)	(1,474,680)	(1,387,533)	87,147
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>	<u>(649,680)</u>	<u>(649,680)</u>	<u>(562,533)</u>	<u>87,147</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	(531,238)	(531,238)	(166,632)	364,606
<b>FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING</b>	<u>931,238</u>	<u>931,238</u>	<u>931,238</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE - ENDING</b>	<u><u>\$ 400,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 400,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 764,606</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 364,606</u></u>
				(Concluded)

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL**  
**MAJOR FUNDS**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<b>ROAD FUND</b>				
RECEIPTS				
Taxes	\$ 157	\$ 157	\$ 157	\$ -
Intergovernmental	2,282,191	2,282,191	2,006,750	(275,441)
Charges for Services	500	500	4,384	3,884
Miscellaneous	13,500	13,500	114,542	101,042
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>2,296,348</u>	<u>2,296,348</u>	<u>2,125,833</u>	<u>(170,515)</u>
DISBURSEMENTS	<u>4,930,160</u>	<u>4,930,160</u>	<u>3,984,473</u>	<u>945,687</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	<u>(2,633,812)</u>	<u>(2,633,812)</u>	<u>(1,858,640)</u>	<u>775,172</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	1,544,680	1,544,680	1,387,533	(157,147)
Transfers out	-	-	-	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	<u>1,544,680</u>	<u>1,544,680</u>	<u>1,387,533</u>	<u>(157,147)</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	(1,089,132)	(1,089,132)	(471,107)	618,025
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	1,089,132	1,089,132	1,089,132	-
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 618,025</u>	<u>\$ 618,025</u>
<b>INHERITANCE FUND</b>				
RECEIPTS				
Taxes	\$ 225,017	\$ 225,017	\$ 339,222	\$ 114,205
Intergovernmental	-	-	4,000	4,000
TOTAL RECEIPTS	<u>225,017</u>	<u>225,017</u>	<u>343,222</u>	<u>118,205</u>
DISBURSEMENTS	<u>2,680,000</u>	<u>2,680,000</u>	<u>420,140</u>	<u>2,259,860</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	<u>(2,454,983)</u>	<u>(2,454,983)</u>	<u>(76,918)</u>	<u>2,378,065</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	(675,000)	(675,000)	(675,000)	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	<u>(675,000)</u>	<u>(675,000)</u>	<u>(675,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	(3,129,983)	(3,129,983)	(751,918)	2,378,065
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	3,129,983	3,129,983	3,129,983	-
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$2,378,065</u>	<u>\$ 2,378,065</u>

(Continued)

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL**  
**MAJOR FUNDS**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<b>ROAD BUYBACK PROGRAM FUND</b>				
RECEIPTS				
Intergovernmental	\$ 595,851	\$ 595,851	\$ 595,851	\$ -
TOTAL RECEIPTS	595,851	595,851	595,851	-
DISBURSEMENTS	1,923,927	1,923,927	-	1,923,927
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	(1,328,076)	(1,328,076)	595,851	1,923,927
Net Change in Fund Balance	(1,328,076)	(1,328,076)	595,851	1,923,927
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	1,328,076	1,328,076	1,328,076	-
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,923,927	\$ 1,923,927
				(Concluded)



RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL**  
**NONMAJOR FUNDS**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<b>FEDERAL MATCHING FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Disbursements	(238,841)	(238,841)	-	238,841
Net Change in Fund Balance	(238,841)	(238,841)	-	238,841
Fund Balance - Beginning	238,841	238,841	238,841	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 238,841</u>	<u>\$ 238,841</u>
<b>ROAD/BRIDGE SINKING FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Disbursements	(19,807)	(19,807)	-	19,807
Net Change in Fund Balance	(19,807)	(19,807)	-	19,807
Fund Balance - Beginning	19,807	19,807	19,807	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 19,807</u>	<u>\$ 19,807</u>
<b>VISITORS PROMOTION FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,870	\$ 870
Disbursements	(54,060)	(54,060)	(9,603)	44,457
Net Change in Fund Balance	(39,060)	(39,060)	6,267	45,327
Fund Balance - Beginning	39,060	39,060	39,060	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 45,327</u>	<u>\$ 45,327</u>
<b>VISITORS IMPROVEMENT FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,871	\$ 871
Disbursements	(68,300)	(68,300)	(28,500)	39,800
Net Change in Fund Balance	(53,300)	(53,300)	(12,629)	40,671
Fund Balance - Beginning	53,300	53,300	53,300	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 40,671</u>	<u>\$ 40,671</u>
<b>REGISTER OF DEEDS PRESERVATION &amp; MODERNIZATION FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 4,598	\$ 4,598	\$ 5,187	\$ 589
Disbursements	(7,000)	(7,000)	(5,047)	1,953
Net Change in Fund Balance	(2,402)	(2,402)	140	2,542
Fund Balance - Beginning	2,402	2,402	2,402	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,542</u>	<u>\$ 2,542</u>

(Continued)

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL**  
**NONMAJOR FUNDS**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<b>MEDICAL RELIEF FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 17	\$ 17	\$ 1	\$ (16)
Disbursements	(14,850)	(14,850)	-	14,850
Net Change in Fund Balance	(14,833)	(14,833)	1	14,834
Fund Balance - Beginning	14,833	14,833	14,833	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 14,834</u>	<u>\$ 14,834</u>
<b>VETERANS' AID FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 2,076	\$ 2,076	\$ 2,139	\$ 63
Disbursements	(3,500)	(3,500)	(1,000)	2,500
Net Change in Fund Balance	(1,424)	(1,424)	1,139	2,563
Fund Balance - Beginning	1,424	1,424	1,424	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,563</u>	<u>\$ 2,563</u>
<b>OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 7,093	\$ 7,093	\$ 27,848	\$ 20,755
Disbursements	(22,192)	(22,192)	-	22,192
Net Change in Fund Balance	(15,099)	(15,099)	27,848	42,947
Fund Balance - Beginning	15,099	15,099	15,099	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 42,947</u>	<u>\$ 42,947</u>
<b>STOP PROGRAM DIVERSION FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 3,811	\$ 3,811	\$ 7,000	\$ 3,189
Disbursements	(18,400)	(18,400)	(8,026)	10,374
Net Change in Fund Balance	(14,589)	(14,589)	(1,026)	13,563
Fund Balance - Beginning	14,589	14,589	14,589	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 13,563</u>	<u>\$ 13,563</u>
<b>COUNTY DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Disbursements	(869)	(869)	(220)	649
Net Change in Fund Balance	(869)	(869)	(220)	649
Fund Balance - Beginning	869	869	869	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 649</u>	<u>\$ 649</u>

(Continued)

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL**  
**NONMAJOR FUNDS**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<b>DRUG COURT FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 34,475	\$ 34,475	\$ 35,474	\$ 999
Disbursements	(41,287)	(41,287)	(33,416)	7,871
Net Change in Fund Balance	(6,812)	(6,812)	2,058	8,870
Fund Balance - Beginning	6,812	6,812	6,812	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 8,870</u>	<u>\$ 8,870</u>
<b>FEDERAL FORFEITURE FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14	\$ 14
Disbursements	(3,444)	(3,444)	(120)	3,324
Net Change in Fund Balance	(3,444)	(3,444)	(106)	3,338
Fund Balance - Beginning	3,444	3,444	3,444	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,338</u>	<u>\$ 3,338</u>
<b>COVID AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 478	\$ 478	\$ 478	\$ -
Disbursements	(98,459)	(98,459)	(154)	98,305
Transfers in	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	(220,000)	(220,000)	(150,000)	70,000
Net Change in Fund Balance	(317,981)	(317,981)	(149,676)	168,305
Fund Balance - Beginning	317,981	317,981	317,981	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 168,305</u>	<u>\$ 168,305</u>
<b>LOCAL ASSISTANCE AND TRIBAL CONSISTENCY FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ -
Disbursements	(100,000)	(100,000)	(45,224)	54,776
Net Change in Fund Balance	(50,000)	(50,000)	4,776	54,776
Fund Balance - Beginning	50,000	50,000	50,000	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 54,776</u>	<u>\$ 54,776</u>
<b>SHERIFF COMMISSARY FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 8,971	\$ 8,971	\$ 30,188	\$ 21,217
Disbursements	(33,000)	(33,000)	(24,448)	8,552
Net Change in Fund Balance	(24,029)	(24,029)	5,740	29,769
Fund Balance - Beginning	24,029	24,029	24,029	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 29,769</u>	<u>\$ 29,769</u>

(Continued)

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL**  
**NONMAJOR FUNDS**

For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
<b>JAIL BOND FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 305,947	\$ 305,947	\$ 305,508	\$ (439)
Disbursements	(500,000)	(500,000)	(300,478)	199,522
Net Change in Fund Balance	(194,053)	(194,053)	5,030	199,083
Fund Balance - Beginning	194,053	194,053	194,053	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 199,083</u>	<u>\$ 199,083</u>
<b>HIGHWAY ALLOCATION BOND FUND</b>				
Receipts	\$ 90,442	\$ 90,442	\$ 84,186	\$ (6,256)
Disbursements	(256,400)	(256,400)	(114,240)	142,160
Net Change in Fund Balance	(165,958)	(165,958)	(30,054)	135,904
Fund Balance - Beginning	165,958	165,958	165,958	-
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 135,904</u>	<u>\$ 135,904</u>
				(Concluded)

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**COMBINING STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,  
AND CHANGES IN CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES**  
**NONMAJOR FUNDS**  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Federal Matching Fund	Road/Bridge Sinking Fund	Visitors Promotion Fund	Visitors Improvement Fund	Register of Deeds Preservation & Modernization Fund	Medical Relief Fund
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
Taxes:						
Property	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other	-	-	15,870	15,871	-	1
Investment Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charges for Services	-	-	-	-	5,187	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,870</u>	<u>15,871</u>	<u>5,187</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>						
General Government	-	-	-	-	5,047	-
Public Safety	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public Assistance	-	-	-	-	-	-
Culture and Recreation	-	-	9,603	28,500	-	-
Debt Service:						
Principal Payments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,603</u>	<u>28,500</u>	<u>5,047</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,267</u>	<u>(12,629)</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>						
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING     SOURCES (USES)</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	-	-	6,267	(12,629)	140	1
<b>FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING</b>	<u>238,841</u>	<u>19,807</u>	<u>39,060</u>	<u>53,300</u>	<u>2,402</u>	<u>14,833</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES - ENDING</b>	<u>\$ 238,841</u>	<u>\$ 19,807</u>	<u>\$ 45,327</u>	<u>\$ 40,671</u>	<u>\$ 2,542</u>	<u>\$ 14,834</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES:</b>						
Restricted for:						
Visitor Promotion	-	-	45,327	40,671	-	-
Drug Education/Enforcement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Law Enforcement	-	-	-	-	-	-
Preservation of Records	-	-	-	-	2,542	-
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aid and Assistance	-	-	-	-	-	14,834
Miscellaneous Projects	-	-	-	-	-	-
Committed to:						
Law Enforcement	238,841	-	-	-	-	-
Road Maintenance	-	19,807	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<u>\$ 238,841</u>	<u>\$ 19,807</u>	<u>\$ 45,327</u>	<u>\$ 40,671</u>	<u>\$ 2,542</u>	<u>\$ 14,834</u>

(Continued)

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**COMBINING STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,  
AND CHANGES IN CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES**  
**NONMAJOR FUNDS**  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Veterans' Aid Fund	Opioid Settlement Fund	STOP Program Diversion Fund	County Drug Law Enforcement Fund	Drug Court Fund	Federal Forfeiture Fund
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
Taxes:						
Property	\$ 1,497	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other	28	-	-	-	-	-
Investment Income	-	-	-	-	-	14
Intergovernmental	3	-	-	-	35,474	-
Charges for Services	-	-	7,000	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	611	27,848	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<u>2,139</u>	<u>27,848</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,474</u>	<u>14</u>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>						
General Government	-	-	-	-	33,416	-
Public Safety	-	-	8,026	220	-	120
Public Assistance	1,000	-	-	-	-	-
Culture and Recreation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service:						
Principal Payments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,026</u>	<u>220</u>	<u>33,416</u>	<u>120</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<u>1,139</u>	<u>27,848</u>	<u>(1,026)</u>	<u>(220)</u>	<u>2,058</u>	<u>(106)</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>						
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING     SOURCES (USES)</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	1,139	27,848	(1,026)	(220)	2,058	(106)
<b>FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING</b>	<u>1,424</u>	<u>15,099</u>	<u>14,589</u>	<u>869</u>	<u>6,812</u>	<u>3,444</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES - ENDING</b>	<u>\$ 2,563</u>	<u>\$ 42,947</u>	<u>\$ 13,563</u>	<u>\$ 649</u>	<u>\$ 8,870</u>	<u>\$ 3,338</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES:</b>						
Restricted for:						
Visitor Promotion	-	-	-	-	-	-
Drug Education/Enforcement	-	42,947	-	649	-	-
Law Enforcement	-	-	-	-	-	3,338
Preservation of Records	-	-	-	-	-	-
Debt Service	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aid and Assistance	2,563	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Projects	-	-	-	-	-	-
Committed to:						
Law Enforcement	-	-	13,563	-	8,870	-
Road Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<u>\$ 2,563</u>	<u>\$ 42,947</u>	<u>\$ 13,563</u>	<u>\$ 649</u>	<u>\$ 8,870</u>	<u>\$ 3,338</u>

(Continued)

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**COMBINING STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS,  
AND CHANGES IN CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES**  
**NONMAJOR FUNDS**  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	COVID American Rescue Plan Act Fund	Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund	Sheriff Commissary Fund	Jail Bond Fund	Highway Allocation Bond Fund	Total Nonmajor Funds
<b>RECEIPTS</b>						
Taxes:						
Property	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 300,479	\$ 82,780	\$ 384,756
Other	-	-	-	4,223	1,188	37,181
Investment Income	-	-	-	-	-	14
Intergovernmental	-	50,000	-	806	218	86,501
Charges for Services	-	-	30,188	-	-	42,375
Miscellaneous	478	-	-	-	-	28,937
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<u>478</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>30,188</u>	<u>305,508</u>	<u>84,186</u>	<u>579,764</u>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>						
General Government	154	-	-	-	-	38,617
Public Safety	-	45,224	24,448	-	-	78,038
Public Assistance	-	-	-	-	-	1,000
Culture and Recreation	-	-	-	-	-	38,103
Debt Service:						
Principal Payments	-	-	-	280,000	110,000	390,000
Interest and Fiscal Charges	-	-	-	20,478	4,240	24,718
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<u>154</u>	<u>45,224</u>	<u>24,448</u>	<u>300,478</u>	<u>114,240</u>	<u>570,476</u>
<b>EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<u>324</u>	<u>4,776</u>	<u>5,740</u>	<u>5,030</u>	<u>(30,054)</u>	<u>9,288</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>						
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	(150,000)	-	-	-	-	(150,000)
<b>TOTAL OTHER FINANCING     SOURCES (USES)</b>	<u>(150,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(150,000)</u>
Net Change in Fund Balances	(149,676)	4,776	5,740	5,030	(30,054)	(140,712)
<b>FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING</b>	<u>317,981</u>	<u>50,000</u>	<u>24,029</u>	<u>194,053</u>	<u>165,958</u>	<u>1,162,501</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES - ENDING</b>	<u>\$ 168,305</u>	<u>\$ 54,776</u>	<u>\$ 29,769</u>	<u>\$ 199,083</u>	<u>\$ 135,904</u>	<u>\$ 1,021,789</u>
<b>FUND BALANCES:</b>						
Restricted for:						
Visitor Promotion	-	-	-	-	-	85,998
Drug Education/Enforcement	-	-	-	-	-	43,596
Law Enforcement	-	-	-	-	-	3,338
Preservation of Records	-	-	-	-	-	2,542
Debt Service	-	-	-	199,083	135,904	334,987
Aid and Assistance	-	-	-	-	-	17,397
Miscellaneous Projects	168,305	54,776	-	-	-	223,081
Committed to:						
Law Enforcement	-	-	29,769	-	-	291,043
Road Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	19,807
<b>TOTAL FUND BALANCES</b>	<u>\$ 168,305</u>	<u>\$ 54,776</u>	<u>\$ 29,769</u>	<u>\$ 199,083</u>	<u>\$ 135,904</u>	<u>\$ 1,021,789</u>

(Concluded)

RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**SCHEDULE OF OFFICE ACTIVITIES**  
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	County Clerk	Clerk of the District Court	County Sheriff	County Attorney	Highway Superintendent	Veterans' Service Officer	Emergency Manager	Total
BALANCES JULY 1, 2023	\$ 13,239	\$ 110,467	\$ 11,122	\$ 27,107	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,069	\$ 1,002	\$ 166,006
RECEIPTS								
Taxes	-	-	74	-	-	-	-	74
Charges for Services	64,757	31,567	69,684	50	2,450	-	-	168,508
Miscellaneous	290	-	2,682	-	57,471	1,000	10,240	71,683
State Fees	96,494	30,286	-	-	414	-	-	127,194
Other Liabilities	159	256,194	402,114	25,123	-	-	-	683,590
TOTAL RECEIPTS	161,700	318,047	474,554	25,173	60,335	1,000	10,240	1,051,049
DISBURSEMENTS								
Payments to County Treasurer	66,157	32,381	74,532	50	55,994	-	-	229,114
Payments to State Treasurer	100,200	31,924	-	-	414	-	-	132,538
Petty Cash & Other Payments	291	-	-	-	3,927	549	10,234	15,001
Other Liabilities	159	262,931	395,716	51,625	-	-	-	710,431
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	166,807	327,236	470,248	51,675	60,335	549	10,234	1,087,084
BALANCES JUNE 30, 2024	\$ 8,132	\$ 101,278	\$ 15,428	\$ 605	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,520	\$ 1,008	\$ 129,971
BALANCES CONSIST OF:								
Due to County Treasurer	\$ 4,310	\$ 2,329	\$ 5,336	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,520	\$ 8	\$ 14,503
Petty Cash	150	-	3,000	250	1,000	-	1,000	5,400
Due to State Treasurer	3,672	898	-	-	-	-	-	4,570
Due to Others	-	98,051	7,092	355	-	-	-	105,498
BALANCES JUNE 30, 2024	\$ 8,132	\$ 101,278	\$ 15,428	\$ 605	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,520	\$ 1,008	\$ 129,971



RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**SCHEDULE OF TAXES CERTIFIED AND COLLECTED**  
**FOR ALL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS IN THE COUNTY**  
June 30, 2024

Item	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Tax Certified by Assessor					
Real Estate	\$ 18,399,609	\$ 17,572,858	\$ 17,576,247	\$ 18,536,261	\$ 17,865,229
Personal and Specials	899,503	1,807,625	1,935,683	2,131,207	1,985,665
Total	<u>19,299,112</u>	<u>19,380,483</u>	<u>19,511,930</u>	<u>20,667,468</u>	<u>19,850,894</u>
Corrections					
Additions	2,509	17,369	4,422	2,082	-
Deductions	<u>(4,078)</u>	<u>(13,592)</u>	<u>(28,045)</u>	<u>(9,098)</u>	<u>(4,907)</u>
Net Additions/ (Deductions)	<u>(1,569)</u>	<u>3,777</u>	<u>(23,623)</u>	<u>(7,016)</u>	<u>(4,907)</u>
Corrected Certified Tax	<u>19,297,543</u>	<u>19,384,260</u>	<u>19,488,307</u>	<u>20,660,452</u>	<u>19,845,987</u>
Net Tax Collected by County Treasurer during Fiscal Year Ending:					
June 30, 2020	12,793,830	-	-	-	-
June 30, 2021	6,497,297	13,240,684	-	-	-
June 30, 2022	3,752	6,131,155	13,599,177	-	-
June 30, 2023	1,047	8,937	5,884,571	14,612,220	-
June 30, 2024	<u>1,394</u>	<u>2,889</u>	<u>2,681</u>	<u>6,043,587</u>	<u>13,724,387</u>
Total Net Collections	<u>19,297,320</u>	<u>19,383,665</u>	<u>19,486,429</u>	<u>20,655,807</u>	<u>13,724,387</u>
Total Uncollected Tax	<u>\$ 223</u>	<u>\$ 595</u>	<u>\$ 1,878</u>	<u>\$ 4,645</u>	<u>\$ 6,121,600</u>
Percentage Uncollected Tax	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>0.00%</u>	<u>0.01%</u>	<u>0.02%</u>	<u>30.85%</u>

Note: Tax refunds are netted against tax collections to determine Net Tax Collected.



## NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

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RICHARDSON COUNTY  
**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL  
REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT  
OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Board of Commissioners  
Richardson County, Nebraska

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Richardson County, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 9, 2024. The report notes the financial statements were prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements.

### **Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control.

*A deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. *A material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the County's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified a certain deficiency in internal control, described below, that we consider to be a material weakness:

- The County offices lacked a segregation of duties, as one person could handle all aspects of processing a transaction from beginning to end. A proper system of internal control includes a plan of organization, procedures, and records designed to safeguard assets and provide reliable financial records. Inadequate segregation of duties could lead to the misappropriation of assets or improper reporting. Due to a limited number of personnel, an adequate segregation of duties may not be possible without additional cost.

*County Board Response: We are aware of this concern and understand that it is at times impossible for proper segregation of duties due to limited staff. It is correct to say that funds are also limited to hire more staffing to separate these duties.*

### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Richardson County's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

### **Additional Items**

We also noted certain matters that we reported to the management of Richardson County in a separate letter dated October 9, 2024.

### **Richardson County's Response to Findings**

*Government Auditing Standards* requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the County's response to the finding identified in our audit and described previously. The County's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the County's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.



Rachel Wittler, CPA, CFE  
Audit Manager  
Lincoln, Nebraska

October 9, 2024



## NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

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October 9, 2024

Board of Commissioners  
Richardson County, Nebraska

Dear Commissioners:

We have audited the basic financial statements of Richardson County (County) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, and have issued our report thereon dated October 9, 2024. In planning and performing our audit of the basic financial statements of the County, we considered internal control in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the basic financial statements. An audit does not include examining the effectiveness of internal control and does not provide assurance on internal control. We also performed tests of the County's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants.

During our audit, we noted certain matters involving internal control over financial reporting and other operational matters that are presented here. These comments and recommendations are intended to improve the internal control over financial reporting or result in operational efficiencies in the following areas:

### **COUNTY BOARD**

#### **Employee Leave Balances**

The County Board did not receive and review vacation, paid time off, and compensatory leave usage and balances for all employees during the fiscal year to ensure that the number of hours earned and carried over each year were in accordance with the County's policies.

Specifically, we noted one part-time employee's vacation, paid time off, and compensatory leave usage and balances were not recorded in the County's payroll records or reported to the County Board. Further, the employee's bi-weekly timesheets submitted to the County Board listed only the total hours worked for the pay period, and failed to include the beginning and ending time worked each day and leave used, if any. As a result, we were unable to determine if the employee's vacation, paid time off, and compensatory leave usage and balances were accurate and in accordance with the Richardson County Employee Handbook (Handbook).

The employee worked 1,970 regular hours during the fiscal year, ranging from 72.5 to 78.5 regular hours each bi-weekly pay period. No vacation, paid time off, holiday, or other leave was recorded on the County's Payroll Registers. However, based on a discussion with the employee, she used 11 days of vacation and 1 day of paid time off during fiscal year 2024.

The Handbook states the following, in relevant part:

*To ensure that accurate records are kept of the hours you actually work (including overtime hours where applicable), all nonexempt hourly employees are required to record their time on timesheets. You must record your time before beginning work, at the beginning of your lunch period, upon returning from lunch, and after finishing work. All time worked must be included. No employee is permitted to work "off the clock," that is, work without recording the hours worked. No supervisor is permitted to ask any employee to work off the clock. . . Discipline, up to and including discharge, may also result if employees make excessive errors in recording their time or repeatedly forget to record their time.*

Further, sound accounting practices and good internal controls require procedures for properly tracking employee leave balances and usage to ensure compliance with the applicable provisions of the Handbook.

We recommend the County Board implement procedures to ensure accurate timekeeping records are kept by all County employees, including leave usage and balances each pay period. Such procedures should also include a timely review of all employee timekeeping records to ensure that leave earned, used, and carried over are in accordance with the Handbook.

*County Board Response: The County Board receives, and reviews employee time sheets every two weeks to approve payroll. These employee time sheets include the types of leave that may have been used or received by an employee during that pay period and provides the accumulated leave balances at the end of that payroll period. All non-exempt employees of Richardson County record their time worked on the time and attendance system except for an employee in the County Attorney's Office. That office records and maintains for that employee the time worked and types of leave that are used or have been received during the pay period. The County Board will request from the County Attorney's Office that the leave used or received each pay period be submitted with the time report and to also document the balance of the accumulated leave.*

## COUNTY SHERIFF

### Accounting Procedures

During the audit, we noted the following issues with the County Sheriff's accounting procedures at June 30, 2024:

- A monthly asset-to-liability reconciliation was not performed for the County Sheriff's General Fund account, resulting in an unknown long of \$1,682 on June 30, 2024. The County Sheriff's office could not identify the proper recipients(s) of the balance. The following table provides details of how this long was calculated:

Office Assets	
Reconciled Bank Balance	\$ 2,751
Accounts Receivable	1,208
<b>Total Office Assets</b>	<b>\$ 3,959</b>
Office Liabilities	
Due to County	\$ 2,277
<b>Total Office Liabilities</b>	<b>2,277</b>
<b>Unknown Long</b>	<b>\$ 1,682</b>

- A monthly asset-to-liability reconciliation was performed for the County Sheriff's Victus Commissary account; however, the account had an unknown short totaling \$505 at June 30, 2024, which has increased from the \$425 short noted in the prior audit and has not been resolved. The following table provides detail on how this long was calculated:

Office Assets	
Reconciled Bank Balance	\$ 9,409
Cash On Hand	237
<b>Total Office Assets</b>	<b>\$ 9,646</b>
Office Liabilities	
Due to County	\$ 3,059
Due to Others	7,092
<b>Total Office Liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 10,151</b>
<b>Unknown Short</b>	<b>\$ (505)</b>

- The June 2024 bank reconciliation for the Victus Commissary account included four outstanding deposits, totaling \$421, that were not true reconciling items, including \$321 of erroneous transactions reported in the prior audit. These outstanding deposits were due to errors made when recording the initial deposit transactions in the accounting system. These erroneous transactions were initially recorded in July 2022, August 2022, and July 2023 and have not been corrected as of June 30, 2024.
- We noted \$169 of receipts and \$90 of disbursements were recorded in the County Sheriff's accounting system for the Victus Commissary account; however, these transactions did not clear the bank during the fiscal year.

Sound accounting practices and a proper system of internal controls require procedures to ensure the following: 1) office assets (cash on hand, reconciled bank balances, accounts receivable, etc.) agree with office liabilities (fees on hand, trust accounts, authorized petty cash, accounts payable, etc.), and any variances noted are resolved timely; and 2) reconciliations and record keeping, including book balances, are complete and accurate.

Without such procedures, there is an increased risk for loss, theft, or misuse of County funds.

A similar comment was included in the prior year reports.

We recommend the County Sheriff implement procedures to ensure the following: 1) office assets (cash on hand, reconciled bank balances, accounts receivable, etc.) agree with office liabilities (fees on hand, trust accounts, authorized petty cash, accounts payable, etc.), and any variances noted are resolved timely; and 2) record keeping and reconciliations, including book balances, are complete and accurate.

## **COUNTY OVERALL**

### **Segregation of Duties**

We noted that the offices of the County each lacked a segregation of duties, as one person could handle all aspects of processing a transaction from beginning to end. A lack of segregation of duties increases the risk of possible errors or irregularities; however, due to a limited number of personnel, an adequate segregation of duties may not be possible without additional cost.

A proper system of internal control includes a plan of organization, procedures, and records designed to safeguard assets and provide reliable financial records. A system of internal control should include a proper segregation of duties, so no one individual is capable of handling all phases of a transaction from beginning to end.

This was also noted in prior audits.

We recommend the County review this situation. As always, the County must weigh the cost of hiring additional personnel versus the benefit of a proper segregation of duties.

*County Board Response: We are aware of this concern and understand that it is at times impossible for proper segregation of duties due to limited staff. It is correct to say that funds are also limited to hire more staffing to separate these duties.*

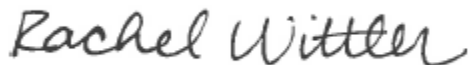
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It should be noted this report is critical in nature, as it contains only our comments and recommendations on the areas noted for improvement and does not include our observations on any strong features of the County.

Draft copies of this report were furnished to the County to provide management with an opportunity to review the report and to respond to the comments and recommendations included in this report. All formal responses received have been incorporated into this report. Where no response has been included, the County declined to respond. Responses that indicate corrective action has been taken were not verified at this time, but they will be verified in the next audit.

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the County's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Rachel Wittler". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Rachel Wittler, CPA, CFE  
Audit Manager