

Minutes of the Richfield Board of Commissioners  
Special Called Meeting  
October 2, 2025  
Richfield Town Hall  
7:00 pm

Board Members present: Commissioners- Barry Byrd, Christy NeCaise, Kevin Almond, Cynthia Heglar, Mike Beaver.

Visitors Present: Terri Byrd, Zina Risley, Michael Harrington, Victoria Greene, Robert Green, C.J. Crisco, Romei Smitherman, Jeff Balfrey, AJ & Leslie Davis, June Almond, John Risley, Gale Kirk, Jim Misenheimer, Tony Misenheimer, Jennifer Lehn, Jacob Lehn, Sharon Blatt, Terri Belcher, Lynn Galloway, Tammy & Jerry Measimer, Wesley Beeker, Brian NeCaise, Mark Butler, Jeff Crisco, Ginger Efird, Linda Law, Leslie Rummage, Jennifer Parker, Brandon and Andrea White, Emery Culp, Gina Misenheimer, Bonnie Smith, Cheri Martin, Ray Everhart, Logan Everhart, Kristina Everhart.

Commissioner Mayor Tem Pro Byrd called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Mayor Pro Tem Byrd recognized Ginger Efird, Stanly County Clerk of Court. Mrs. Efird administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Sharon Blatt. The board appointed Ms. Blatt at the Board meeting held on September 22, 2025. The term will expire in November 2026, the next scheduled Election. Commissioners congratulated Mayor Blatt.

**Motion # 88-25** Commissioner Byrd motioned to hire a different contractor for pipe replacement on Summer Street project. Commissioner NeCaise seconded the motion. The following discussion was held on the motion.

Commissioner NeCaise explained that the contractor Jason Thompson was contacted as to the time frame on doing the pipe addition work on Summer Street, and he stated that he wasn't able to get the work done in the very near future, as discussed when he bid the job. Therefore, Commissioner NeCaise stated that she had contacted Crouse Construction to get a price and find out how soon he might be able to get the work scheduled. She also explained that Crouse proposal was less cost than Jason Thompson quote. Commissioner Byrd explained that the bid that was awarded would require a release from Jason Thompson contract and provide written notice to the Town to that effect.

Commissioner NeCaise stated that he had given a verbal release, but she would obtain the written release before scheduling the proposed work.

**Motion # 89-25** Commissioner Byrd motioned to rescind the previous motion. Commissioner NeCaise seconded the motion. All voted in favor; the motion was approved.

**Motion # 90-25** Commissioner NeCaise motioned to approve Crouse Construction to complete the Summer Street pipe project. Commissioner Almond seconded. All voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioner NeCaise advised that the town had received 12 resumes for Town Manager. A lengthy discussion was held concerning the need for the Manager, Administrator, or Clerk. It was concluded that a change to the Town Manager would require a Charter change. Discussion was held on the Town office workload and hours; Commissioner NeCaise stated the Town needed to consider what the needs were and whether we need two positions 1 fulltime and one parttime. Commissioner Almond asked Administrator Capps if she felt we needed a Town Manager; Capps responded no she did not believe we needed that position. He also asked what she wanted full or part time hours. Her response was that it depends on the workload and the hours of the positions being considered and discussed. He stated he felt the Town needed a full time Administrator.

Capps responded that she wanted to remain as Administrator.

Mayor Blatt recognized Sheriff Jeff Crisco. Sheriff Crisco stated that he was present to speak to the recent letter of terminating the Richfield contract. He wanted to answer questions that surrounded the fact that Mr. Byrd had sent the termination letter without Board approval. Crisco stated that he never agreed to let the Town out of the existing contract. Sheriff Crisco stated he felt his words were twisted on the last two visits he had with Byrd. and that he wanted to clarify and set the record straight. He stated that Byrd came to his office and stated that he was talking to Village of Misenheimer regarding police protection for the Town. Sheriff Crisco stated the conversation he had with Byrd was he advised him he could talk to anyone he wanted too but did not give him approval for ending the contract. Sheriff Crisco stated that he felt Byrd had a personal vendetta against him and his department. He also stated that he hadn't been able to find an officer from within his department because of the turmoil within the Town. He stated it would take time to hire a rookie, train, and get them ready for patrol work. There was also a shortage in finding qualified officers to fill existing vacant positions within his department.

Commissioner Almond stated that he felt the discussion that the Board had at the previous board meeting was to continue talking with Misenheimer, not to terminate the present

Contract with Stanly County Sheriff's Department, the Board was still only looking at further discussions with Misenheimer in regards to providing coverage.

Sheriff Crisco assured the board he was working on getting coverage for the Town. He also stated that he had provided information to Commissioner Byrd regarding the supplemental contract information, basically the same agreement as the Town of New London and Red Cross currently has with his department. The same type of agreement could be done at Richfield; the number of hours would depend on the amount of money budgeted yearly.

Sheriff Crisco also stated that he had checked into the legality of Misenheimer offering police services to another Town. He stated what he learned was that Misenheimer officers would have to be employees of Richfield. He stated that the one-mile jurisdiction ETJ was used under zoning and mutual aid agreements only.

Commissioner Byrd responded that he didn't recall the same conversations, but that he did not have animosity against him or his department.

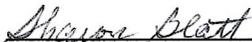
Commissioner NeCaise asked if Danny Belcher would come back to work in the Northern District. Sheriff Crisco stated that the answer would be no but stated this would be Belcher's decision. Commissioner NeCaise asked the reason for not returning, Sheriff Crisco said she would need to talk to Belcher about that.

Board Members agreed that perhaps there would be an additional meeting with the Sheriff to look at county options and the contract.

Commissioner Byrd stated that he needed to let Misenheimer know something about a possible contract. Commissioner Almond asked that this decision needed to be put on hold, until the Town Board decided the best option.

Mayor Blatt called for the adjournment motion.

**Motion # 91-25** Commissioner Almond Motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Heglar seconded the motion. Motion passed by a unanimous vote.

  
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Sharon Blatt/Mayor

  
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