

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 1, 2021 Eighteenth day of the April term

Now at this the 1st day of June 2021 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 8050:

Local resident Ray Schweikhardt, Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley and Assessor Bill Stoltz were present. One or more low water crossings on this road were described. Sheeley left at 0910.

IN THE MATTER OF
DISHONESTY BOND:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp called Dan Cavender with MoPERM regarding the potential duplication of coverage between MoPERM and the dishonesty bond. Cavender explained that there was no duplication; an exclusion on page 129 of the MoPERM coverage document stated that employee theft was not a trigger for coverage, thus the dishonesty bond which extends to include all county employees and is limited to \$20,000 per incident is not duplicated.

IN THE MATTER OF
FLOOD INSURANCE:

Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 0920 and participated in a discussion of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

IN THE MATTER OF
CARES ACT FUND APPLICATION:

Doolittle Fire Protection District had submitted a CARES Act request for pre-approval but left a second power supply on the documents; this was removed and the request was pre-approved.

IN THE MATTER OF
ZONING INQUIRY:

Commissioner Hicks reported that the inquiry from Krista Rice, Associate Scientist for Environmental Works, Inc. about a property at 17417 S. Highway 63 in Rolla pertained to zoning matters; she was informed that the County has no zoning.

IN THE MATTER OF
BRO-B081(13) ROAD 7100:

Commissioner Hicks conversed by speaker phone about the bridge construction with Doolittle Mayor Doug Smith; Doolittle sewer lines are very near to the construction of the bridge.

IN THE MATTER OF
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN
ACT (ARPA) FUNDS:

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 1, 2021 Eighteenth day of the April term

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS, Continued:

Commissioner Hicks presented the potential of use of ARPA funds for correction of design deficiencies in the course of the Doolittle sewer line with Mayor Smith. This would necessitate the city applying for a grant for improvements to its sewer system. Smith said he believed there was a significant amount of rainwater infiltration of the lines during heavy rainfalls and that "smoking" the sewer lines to address this problem might be needed.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROADS:

Michelle Bock of the Road Department entered at 1140 and spoke to the Commission about the recent damage done to the curb edges of the bridge on Road 7050 when a truck recently ran over the edge. The insurance company is now involved.

IN THE MATTER OF
EMPLOYEE DISHONESTY BOND:

Dan Cavender called into the Commission, was placed on speaker phone by Presiding Commissioner Verkamp and the dishonesty bond was described as additional coverage outside the MoPERM policy. Cavender is unsure where the \$20,000 coverage limit originated.

IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commission reviewed and approved payment of June invoices for contract pay in the amount of \$18,919.01 and a Cares Act reimbursement to the county for equipment purchased by the Coroner in the amount of \$45,663.53.

READ AND APPROVED:



Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner



Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1



Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
June 3, 2021 Nineteenth day of the April term

Now at this the 3rd day of June 2021 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
MISSOURI BICENTENNIAL:

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 0900. Local resident Ray Schweikhardt and Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley were also present. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp asked if Barnes would be willing to serve as contact person for Phelps County's participation in the state bicentennial parade to be held in Jefferson City on Saturday, September 18, 2021. Barnes will have some publication help from Sheeley and she can be contacted through her county email.

IN THE MATTER OF
COLLECTOR:

Barnes said she was thinking of investing in a check scanner so that massive stacks of checks will not require two tellers 3-4 hours to process her deposits. This might alter the depository institution bids, which were last awarded July 2019 and could, if the county desires, be bid again this July. Barnes left at 0925.

IN THE MATTER OF
LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM (LTAP):

Gidget Koestner with LTAP, which offers Local Public Agencies (LPA's) technical assistance in identifying and managing traffic safety issues; Commissioner Hicks serves as the county's LPA. A training from Koestner is being offered and Presiding Commissioner Verkamp will have her name a time.

IN THE MATTER OF
BRO-B081(13) ROAD 7100:

Hydroseeding and mulching is being done along the road and barricades may be removed for an unofficial opening, with an official opening perhaps the morning of June 8. Commissioner Hicks said that there has to be a sign "No Trucks" immediately west of the Royal Canin Plant on Road 7000; he believes serious consideration should be given to a weight limit on Road 7000. The chip and seal has held up well under the diverted traffic during the bridge closure, and is a testimony to proper road preparation; a small stretch of Road 7100 now has some potholes. Michelle Bock of the Road Department entered at 0935. There was a discussion of a barricade being moved by private individuals and the MoDOT requirement to leave the "Road Closed" signs up until their judgement is made that they can be removed; the barricades and even a large log placed across the road have been removed by one or more individuals under their own initiative. Sheeley left at 0945.

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
June 3, 2021 Nineteenth day of the April term

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD DEPARTMENT UTILITY BILL:

The recent larger electric bill for the Road and Bridge shed on Road 1050 was reviewed; Bock said that the septic grinder for an apartment building behind it is wired to the Road building pursuant to a pre-existing informal agreement. This allows the shed to use the water from the apartment supply. Numerous other road issues were discussed.

IN THE MATTER OF
CENTURYLINK:

More utility work than originally expected has been done with additional roads but CenturyLink has apparently been diligent thusfar in restoring the roads to their prior condition.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT:

Local resident Don Green came to report on the condition of Road 8280. The sides are crumbling and there are significant potholes. The Road and Bridge Department was contacted and Green left at 1040.

IN THE MATTER OF
SALE OF HOSPITAL PROPERTY:

Local resident and realtor Shelley Klossner arrived at 1045 and presented an amendment to the sale contract for the hospital's property at 105 North Lawrence, Cuba, MO such that the closing will occur at the office of Crawford County Title Company at 600 W. Washington Street, Cuba, MO. Purchaser is Spencer Mehl.

IN THE MATTER OF
ARPA:

Carol Green entered at 1100 to discuss the latest transmittal of information from attorney Travis Elliott, MAC prepaid legal services, with an update of FAQ's. Green left at 1110.

IN THE MATTER OF
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT GRANT:

Detective Shawn Hedge entered at 1110 to inform the Commission that his application is underway for a larger grant under the State Cybercrime against Children Grant (SCCG); the grant period began June 1, 2021. He is applying for over \$100,000 this time to cover some additional equipment and supplies; he expects the final version will not include this full amount—his salary and fringe are included as before—but he wanted to notify the Commission that he is applying. Hedge then left.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD FINANCING:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp initiated a discussion of alternative funding for hard-surface treatments for the long term of the county's roads. Rough calculations had suggested

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
June 3, 2021 Nineteenth day of the April term

ROAD FINANCING, Continued:

that should the governor sign into law an increase of 12.5% sales tax on gasoline, enacted as 2.5% increments over five years (SB 262), CART gas tax revenues might increase \$100,000 the first year. Should this revenue be combined with the roughly \$400,000 spent on gravel to maintain the aggregate roads, a considerable amount of bond payments might be financed, to Presiding Commissioner Verkamp's way of thinking. Using figures of 325 miles of gravel, 205 miles of chip and seal, and 57 miles of hot deck roads, numerous rough calculations of the possibilities were explored. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp said that \$10,000,000 of bonded indebtedness, at what he believes to be favorable interest rates, just might finance chip and sealing all the gravel roads. Another third-class county commission might be consulted to hear of their experience. There was lengthy discussion of the matter but no actions taken.

IN THE MATTER OF
WEIGHT LIMIT ON ROAD 7000:

Commissioner Hicks said pursuant to RSMo 49.650 the Commission may adopt a weight limit on Road 7000 to prevent trucks being northbound on 7000 at its intersection with 7100 and being unable to negotiate the turn without striking and damaging the guardrails on the new bridge. A 5th wheel with a 32' gooseneck trailer can barely negotiate it, and 18 wheelers absolutely cannot. Advocating for an ordinance, Commissioner Hicks stated that former Sheriff Rick Lisenbe notified the Road and Bridge Department of at least 4 incidents in which tractor-trailers were trapped on Road 7000 when the 7100 bridge was under construction. They were very nearly unable to extricate themselves.


IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commission reviewed and approved the payment of 36 and 54 invoices in the amounts of \$16,561.07 and \$39,614.04, respectively.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
June 8, 2021 Twentieth day of the April term

Now at this the 8th day of June 2021 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
DOOLITTLE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
(DRFPD) AND CARES ACT FUNDS:

Assistant Chief Brian Stevenson of the Doolittle Rural Fire Protection District entered at 0900 to report that DRFPD has cash flow problems and the cost of the equipment is nearly one third of their budget. He inquired about up-front payment for the expense. After contacting the treasurer, the clerk will reply.

IN THE MATTER OF
LEGISLATION:

The Commissioners discussed Senate Bill 53 which would increase the salary of the sheriff to 60% of an associate circuit judge salary, should Governor Parson sign it into law. This would put the Phelps County sheriff at \$87,200 ($145,334 \times 0.60$). Other third class counties might have severe difficulty with such a pay rate.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROADS:

The list of roads slated for treatments this year will be obtained from the road department.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT (CHESTER KOJRO):

Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 0925 to say that the jury notification line did not work on two consecutive Fridays and he was unable to retrieve any jury assignment he might have had. He said the outgoing message was 2 weeks old and the website [phelpscountydircuit.org] was 2 weeks old. Collector Faith Barnes entered at 0930.

IN THE MATTER OF
MISSOURI BICENTENNIAL:

Barnes reported that the former county surveyor was planning to produce a laminated large map for the float which is planned as Phelps County's parade entry.

IN THE MATTER OF
COLLECTOR'S RECORDS:

Barnes is in the process of digitizing and microfilming the tax books which are old, leather-bound and seeming lacking in "rhyme or reason"; they are broken up into districts. Barnes and Commissioner Hicks spoke about search capability of images, or

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
June 8, 2021 Twentieth day of the April term

COLLECTOR'S RECORDS, Continued:

the lack thereof. Barnes said that she loved the old books and plans to physically give them to the historical society but has to look in the attic of the CH to see how large the job of microfilming will be. Records retention schedules were discussed.

IN THE MATTER OF
PERSONAL PROPERTY COURT ORDERS:

Personal property court orders numbered 2059 through 2063 were reviewed and approved. These represent 2017 through 2020 add-on's for May 2021 and increase the total tax by \$32.16; \$758.78; \$5,396.97 and \$17,362.08, respectively.

IN THE MATTER OF
BRO-B081(13) ROAD 7100:

Progress Invoice #19 in the amount of \$68,920.00 was approved as moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Auxier.

IN THE MATTER OF
SENATE BILL 53 AND JUVENILE JUSTICE:

Treasurer Carol Green entered at 1010 and related her understanding of the legislation's changes with respect to juvenile courts; additionally, a fund may be created that may be managed by Phelps County for all four of the counties in the 25th Circuit.

IN THE MATTER OF
SALES TAXES:

Green presented the June sales taxes report showing a 29.98% increase in the month-to-month and a more than 9% increase in the rolling twelve-month comparisons. Local resident Lowell Davis entered at 1020. Green then spoke about the difficulty that county treasurers and commissioners are having with certification for ARPA. Coroner Ernie Coverdell entered at 1022.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT (LOWELL DAVIS):

Davis spoke about his subdivision on Road 8080. Chester Crider entered at 1025. Davis said he is on the SE corner of the the intersection of 8080 and 8110; a tree on the NE corner was lightning struck and is to be removed. He plans to remove his pin tree also but as it is 80 feet tall he believes it may briefly block the in- and egress of Road 8080. He told the Commission that local residents would be allowed to detour around through his drive.

IN THE MATTER OF
CORONER WORKLOAD:

Coverdell said three recent deaths are suspected to be attributable to the same supplier; the individual's residence and camper have been searched but the dealer may have disposed

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
June 8, 2021 Twentieth day of the April term

CORONER'S WORKLOAD, Continued:

of evidence already. "The eighteen-year-old who is being buried today had a brother only a few months ago" who was also an overdose fatality, according to Coverdell. His records suggest that there have been 17 illicit drug overdose fatalities as of January 1, 2021; a total of 138 overdoses have been dealt with through county dispatch...at least 2 doses of Narcan typically with each one. Without Narcan he said that he would never sleep. The Commission intends to speak with the prepaid legal services on Thursday the 10th regarding statutory authority to increase the coroner's pay.

IN THE MATTER OF
BRO-B081(13) ROAD 7100:

The Commission adjourned at 1050 to meet with MoDOT, Great Rivers Engineering and Gene Haile Excavating, Inc. at the bridge site for a walk-through inspection. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp and Commissioner Auxier returned at 1150.


IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD FINANCING:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp and Commissioner Auxier spoke by phone with Jeffrey Tamkin from [] about alternative strategies for road financing.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 10, 2021 Twenty-first day of the April term

Now at this the 10th day of June 2021 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
CARES ACT FUND APPLICATIONS:

As moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Auxier the CARES Act Application from Support Services for \$1,215.57 and the application from PCSD for \$57,666.95 were approved. Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley was also present.

IN THE MATTER OF
OPIOID ABUSE AND
CORONER'S SALARY:

Collector Faith Barnes visited with the Commissioners about the recent surge in tragic deaths due to opioid overuse. Sheeley was notified that there would be a call placed to the prepaid legal services attorney regarding coroner's salary; the coroner is mid-term. Missouri Constitution Article VII, Section 13 specifies the "...compensation of state, county and municipal officers shall not be increased during the term of office; nor shall the term of any officer be extended." Sheeley then left.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 7610:

The Commission discussed the agreement from April, 2019 for in-kind contributions from the Road Department for the resurfacing of Road 7610 which would be completed under a CDBG grant.

IN THE MATTER OF
CARES ACT APPLICATION:

As moved by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Auxier, the CARES Act application for the Public Administrator for \$2200 was approved.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD FUNDING:

The Commissioners discussed road improvements funded by bond issuance. A prioritization of the roads would be required. The firm which has been in contact with Presiding Commissioner Verkamp would bid all the projects and manage the entire process. Cape Girardeau County employed a similar strategy. They paved all the roads with a tax and the pre-agreement that the county would get the right-of-way from the landowner; their policy was to let the road sit for a year once it was prepared

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 10, 2021 Twenty-first day of the April term

ROAD FUNDING, Continued:

for paving. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp thinks a huge cost would be getting roads ready in terms of the drainage. This company will even bid out the base preparation. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp said they "have done it all over the country". Michelle Bock of the Road Department entered at 0945.

IN THE MATTER OF
PHELPS HEALTH CARES ACT
APPLICATION [P-24]:

Treasurer Carol Green entered at 0950, responding to a query from Presiding Commissioner Verkamp that one of five approved CRF requests from the hospital was as yet outstanding. The four already paid totaled \$2,312,001.21 or 44% of the total CARES Act monies bestowed on the county; the fifth request is considered "encumbered" according to the clerk and is in the amount of \$73,884.64. As moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Auxier this request was held until June 24th.

IN THE MATTER OF
ASSESSMENT INCREASES:

Assessor Bill Stoltz entered at 0955 to report that for compliance with State Tax Commission (STC) guidelines, residential property assessments in the Rolla 31 and the St. James R-1 school districts will likely go up by as much as 15% and 10%, respectively. In his latest comparisons, the STC rated his values at 70% of market values.

IN THE MATTER OF
MAC PREPAID LEGAL SERVICES:

MAC Prepaid Legal Services Attorney Travis Elliott called and fielded questions on several topics. He began answering the question of timing of CARES Act disbursements by explaining that the federal government, in its guidance, said that a cost is incurred when the goods or services are delivered or performed; he recommends that that June 30, 2021 be used as a deadline. Regarding the issue of Coroner pay, RSMo 58.095 (5) was referenced. Elliott said that subsection 5 seemed to give movement to allow increase in salary mid-term due to extenuating circumstances or workload, but that this would go against the state's constitutional provision prohibiting mid-term increases in salaries. He said an argument could be made for increasing the salary effective at the beginning of the next elected term. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp asked if it would be a fair statement that the Coroner might have to repay the increase and Elliott said yes. Commissioner Hicks asked if drug overdoses from whatever source could be considered the same incident. Commissioner Hicks then asked about retroactively paying; Elliott said that would be very problematic. Elliott said the absolutely best method is with the next term and second best would be concurrent (not retroactive). Commissioner Hicks then asked if third class counties have statutory authority to pass

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 10, 2021 Twenty-first day of the April term

MAC PREPAID LEGAL SERVICES, Continued:

weight limits on roads and bridges and Elliott said they could; subsequently several aspects of this were discussed. Carol Green asked about his opinion of elected officials being paid 1099's and Elliott said, "I think it's a bad idea." He said an elected official is not a "capital E" employee of the county. The salary schedules and pay statutes for elected officials say, basically, "this is what elected officials should be paid."

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD UTILITY BILL:

Bock reported that there was a steady increase in the KWH usage at the St. James Shed since last fall and she is having it investigated by Intercounty Electric. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp called the property's neighbor, Ron Copeland, who expressed an interest in purchasing the property if the county were to sell it. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp said adequate posting to permit competition for the parcel would be needed. Alternative parking for the grader and potential power supply in cold weather for same was mentioned; the grader badly needed the power supply this past winter with the bitter cold.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 2250:

There is a creek crossing where individuals have been driving into the creek bed, parking and using illicit substances and Commissioner Auxier said that a local resident found someone passed out in their car actually in the creek bed. Commissioner Hicks searched and displayed the property on the GIS; the area to the NW of this "surface crossing" is the issue. Driving steel T-posts to prevent this was debated; it might effectively bar people from driving their cars onto the creek bed but additionally might snare water-borne debris.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT (TOM COX):

Local resident Tom Cox came in to visit with the Commission.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROADS 7240, 1000 and 7520:

Paving roads 7240, 1000 and 7520 was addressed by Commissioner Hicks. With total mileage of 9.05 miles, surfacing all of them would be cost roughly \$770,000. Bock said that of the three, only Road 1000 was ready to be paved; she will refigure costs at current prices. Road 7520 (Gately Road) and Road 7240 (Git-n-Go Road) need to be dug out. The 2021 chip & seal budget is \$350,000; after discussion of methods to address crumbling surfaces, Bock deferred to Superintendent of Roads Walter Snelson.

IN THE MATTER OF
GROUP BENEFIT SERVICES:

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 10, 2021 Twenty-first day of the April term

GROUP BENEFIT SERVICES, Continued:

The Commission received and reviewed the benefit management report through May 2021 which showed \$681,108.88 in the claims reserve account.

IN THE MATTER OF
PCESB:

The Commission received and reviewed the PCESB March 11, 2021 meeting minutes.

IN THE MATTER OF
PAYROLL:

The Commission reviewed and approved payroll for 6/15/21, representing work dates 5/16-31/21, in the amount of \$219,217.74 in net salaries. Federal and state withholdings were \$69,781.26 and \$9,689.50, respectively.

IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:


The Commissioners reviewed and approved 101 and 45 invoices in the amounts of \$97,720.19 and \$38,321.23, respectively; also the \$68,920.00 payment for progress invoice #19 to Gene Haile Construction, Inc. for the BRO-B081(13) was approved.

IN THE MATTER OF
CARES ACT FUNDS:

The clerk reported \$107,609.17 remained, unencumbered, in the CARES Act funds in Fund 995. She has balanced MRPC's spreadsheet to the county's financial software. Roughly \$43,000 in building and grounds UV sanitizing equipment for the HVAC system as well as two Phelps/Maries Health Department payrolls (at approximately \$32,000 each) remained, leaving less than \$1,000 in the fund.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 15, 2021 Twenty-second day of the April term

Now at this the 15th day of June 2021 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
DEPARTMENT HEADS:

The Commission deliberated briefly on position descriptions for department heads. Local resident Ray Schweikhardt and Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley were also present.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT (RAY SCHWEIKHARDT):

Schweikhardt entered and shared his childhood experiences with hard road surfacing and what seemed, at times, to be frequent need for repair.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD AND BRIDGE PROPERTY
ON ROAD 1050:

The parcel currently used for equipment parking was acquired as two portions: one in 1949 from the widow Matlock, living in Texas. This conveyance of property document expressed the restriction that if the property was not used for its original purpose (equipment storage), it would revert back the landowner. This parcel is 0.13 acre and is the site of the storage building. The second portion was acquired in 1968 from local residents Mr. and Mrs. William W. Copeland; this is unrestricted and approximates 0.14 acre. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp called local survey and engineer Richard Elgin on his personal phone and consulted him on the matter. The possibility of an advertised quiet title suit might provide the County sufficient notice to any heirs. Then Prosecuting Attorney Brendon Fox was called and given a description of the issue; he will render his opinion. Deputy Clerk Peter Cook will supply both Elgin and Fox the electronic copies of the deeds.

IN THE MATTER OF
WEIGHT LIMIT ON ROAD 7000:

Commissioner Hicks had reviewed the process used by Mo DOT to establish weight limits on roads; based on their information he proposed a limit of 44,000 lbs. GVW. Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 0928. A limit of 50,000 lbs. GVW would still exclude 18-wheelers but perhaps not refuse haulers. Providing the Commission with his draft, he said he would look into weights of other service vehicles like refuse haulers and LP trucks.

IN THE MATTER OF
NOVEL CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 AND
THE PHELPS COUNTY JAIL:

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 15, 2021 Twenty-second day of the April term

COVID-19 AND THE PHELPS COUNTY JAIL, Continued:

Sheriff Mike Kirn entered at 0950; Schweikhardt left at 1000. Kirn reported that a federal inmate, in the jail for 400 days, has a positive COVID test but he does not plan to shut down the jail as he did several months ago. The test was prompted by mild symptoms in the inmate. Kirn said that if, on an initial questionnaire, and inmate has symptoms, testing is done and the inmate is placed in an isolation cell. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp expressed some surprise at the length of incarceration; Kirn said federal inmates can be in the jail for up to 5 years. Kirn also said that the primary reason he is not using the 1972 jail yet is the unavailability of computer chips to operate mail and phone kiosk equipment; without this equipment functioning the federal inmate contract would be voided. Kirn believes he should uphold those standards for state and local prisoners as well. Coroner Ernie Coverdell entered at 1010.

IN THE MATTER OF
OPIOID ABUSE AND
CORONER'S SALARY:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp suggested that Coverdell submit a request for pay augmentation if he remained convinced that three or more deaths in a month were related to the same illegal drug dealer. Subsequently Kirn, Coverdell, and the Commission engaged in a conversation about obtaining cell phone records or even transcripts, though Kirn said the latter was nearly impossible, during the course of investigating this terrible situation. Phelps/Maries Health Department Director Ashley Campbell entered at 1020. The complications of multi-drug abuse, designing an effective community response and the difficulty in referral from the Sheriff's Department to the hospital for treatment were all discussed at some length. Detective Shawn Hedge entered at 1023 and Kojro left at 1030. Coverdell received a call at 1035 and left.

IN THE MATTER OF
MOU BETWEEN PCSD AND ICE:

Hedge presented paperwork establishing a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the PCSD and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) for reimbursement of costs incurred by the PCSD in providing resources to joint operation/task forces. Funds will be paid as available in the Treasury Forfeiture Fund. As moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Auxier, this was approved.

IN THE MATTER OF
COVID-19 AND THE
PHELPS COUNTY JAIL:

Campbell said that the Missouri State Health Department had already been on the phone with her regarding the presumptive COVID-19 case in the jail and the course being taken by PCSD.

IN THE MATTER OF
PCSD IMPOUNDED VEHICLES:

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 15, 2021 Twenty-second day of the April term

PCSD IMPOUNDED VEHICLES, Continued:

Kirn reported good progress with a satisfactory agreement with a local towing vendor for secure storage at reasonable cost for vehicles and heavy equipment recovered by his department.

IN THE MATTER OF
SENIOR COMPANIONS:

Senior Companions Director Yvonne Leuthauser asked the Commission to come to the courthouse at 1100 Saturday, June 19, for the drive-through recognition ceremony. Dan Cavender of BPJ Insurance entered at 1100 and Leuthauser left moments later.

IN THE MATTER OF
HEALTH DEPARTMENT:

Campbell had new contracts for approval. An amendment to the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) to increase the amount by \$11,744 to not more than \$58,021 (100% federal) was approved as moved by Commissioner Auxier and seconded by Commissioner Hicks. Next the agreement for Local Public Health Services (LPH) was approved as moved by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Auxier. This funding was 100% state. Lastly, she presented a three-year program services contract, 100% federal funding, in the amount of \$197,913 named "COVID-19 AND ADULT VACCINATION SUPPLEMENTAL" whose project was described "To support local efforts to plan develop and maintain a public health workforce to increase COVID-19 and adult vaccination capacity across jurisdictions." This was approved as moved by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Auxier.

IN THE MATTER OF
DISHONESTY BOND:

Cavender said the bond, with annual premium just over \$480, covered "internal" crime-theft by employees. MoPERM coverage is for "external" crime-theft by others. It is not duplicative.

IN THE MATTER OF
OZARK RIVERS SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT (ORSWMD) BOARD:

Commissioner Hicks moved and Commissioner Auxier seconded the appointment of Scott Volner to the board.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROCK ISLAND TRAIL:

A request having been received for the support of the Commission for the Rock Island Trail, this was approved as moved by Commissioner Auxier, seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 3200:

Commissioner Auxier provided a report from his recent travel on this road.

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
June 15, 2021 Twenty-second day of the April term


IN THE MATTER OF
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (TAC):

Commissioner Auxier reported on the recent TAC meeting.

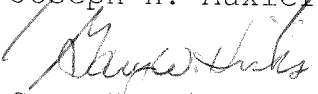
IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD FINANCING:

Alternative strategies for financing roads were discussed.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 17, 2021 Twenty-third day of the April term

Now at this the 17th day of June 2021 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

Commissioner Auxier was absent.

IN THE MATTER OF
REASSESSMENT:

Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley engaged in discourse with the Commission about individuals from other states surging into rural Missouri and buying homes with cash. The volatile housing market was discussed. Sheeley then left at 0920.

IN THE MATTER OF
BRO-B081(13) ROAD 7100:

Progress Invoice #20 on the project was reviewed. It is unclear if the permanent signage has been installed; Commissioner Hicks felt it should be held pending confirmation of completion.

IN THE MATTER OF
CENTRAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD (CWIB):

Commissioner Verkamp reported that he had been to a recent meeting where CWIB was reported upon.

IN THE MATTER OF
CARES ACT APPLICATION:

As moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Presiding Commissioner Verkamp, the application from Phelps/Maries County Health Department [P-56] for \$31,373.59 was approved.

IN THE MATTER OF
REASSMENT:

Assessor Bill Stoltz entered at 0945 and reviewed the process underway for reassessment of residential properties within the Rolla Public and St. James Public Schools. Stoltz has been pressured to bring his valuations into compliance with the State Tax Commission's opinion of market values.

IN THE MATTER OF
MODOT LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LTAP):

Gidget Koestner arrived at 1000 as Stoltz was leaving. Her LTAP contract is through the University. This program is a prerequisite for state highways to receive federal highway safety funds; the program is relatively new (~2 years). The Safety Circuit Rider program typically attempts low-cost remediation measures based on analysis of crash data; some entities have obtained training and do their own analyses. The

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 17, 2021 Twenty-third day of the April term

MODOT LOCAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (LTAP), Continued:

goal is reduction of fatalities and serious injuries. Her data comes from the MoDOT "Crash Dashboard" which the Commissioners can acquire access to. This crash database is managed by the Missouri SHP. Phelps County's maps and the filtering of data dwelt upon at some length. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp said that a county map with fatalities and/or disabling injuries would be extremely helpful. Commissioner Hicks asked if what is hoped for isn't some sort of safety program based on this data; Koestner said, "If you want the [federal] funds, you clearly have to have a safety plan." She will proceed with providing some data and maps with imbedded tools to the Commission.

IN THE MATTER OF
CABLE FRANCHISE FEE:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp called a City of Creve Coeur lawyer who wanted to get information about cable franchise fees but had to leave a message.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROADS:

Commissioner Hicks opened the subject of scheduling the road work going into the budget process. In his opinion the budget should reflect a plan to pave certain roads, set out with the beginning of every year.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD PROPERTY ON ROAD 1050:

Anna Bray, an heir of the widow Matlock, contacted RV and said she had an Attorney from Cuba (Catherine Lange) who delineated that she was the sole living heir of the widow Matlock.


IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commission reviewed and approved payment of 51 and 38 invoices in the amounts of \$59,898.66 and \$66,952.87, respectively; payment of Rolla West TIF Economic Activity Taxes (EATS) in the amount of \$42,434.84; CARES Act payments to Doolittle Rural Fire Protection District for \$18,600.80; Edgar Springs Rural Fire Protection District for \$15,867.20; Phelps County Support Services for \$1,215.57; Phelps County Sheriff's Department for \$57,666.95; Phelps/Maries Health Department for \$31,373.59.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner

Absent
Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 22, 2021 Twenty-fourth day of the April term

Now at this the 22nd day of June 2021 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 8270:

The inability of Road and Bridge equipment to turn around at the northern extremity of this road was discussed. Local resident Ray Schweikhardt, Phelps County Focus Reporter Kaitlyn Brothers and Collector Faith Barnes were also present.

IN THE MATTER OF
BRO-B081(13) ROAD 7100:

Progress Invoice #20 and Change Order #2 was taken up but the permanent signage has not been installed, according to Commissioner Hicks. The feeling is that this, possibly being a final invoice for construction, should be held. Clarification from Great Rivers Engineering will be sought.

IN THE MATTER OF
MISSOURI BICENTENNIAL
TIME CAPSULE:

Communication received from the Missouri Bicentennial Projects Coordinator at the State Historical Society of Missouri was reviewed. Three items are requested for inclusion in a time capsule, one representing the past, the present, and a note to future Missourians. Brothers left at 0920.

IN THE MATTER OF
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR FEES:

Public Administrator Dana Sooter came in at 0920 to report that her office had started collecting fees from the ISL's that had not been collected in the past. Sooter said her office could only bill as far back as 2015, and she will not bill impoverished clients but will bill the accounts they have from various state and federal funds. Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 0925.

IN THE MATTER OF
NOVEL CORONAVIRUS COVID-19:

Kojro observed that this morning's news reported that there was "the biggest jump in the nation" for Missouri but says the numbers provided don't seem to support anything that is being claimed. He said that even the article refers to the fact that the methodologies have been changed multiple times.

IN THE MATTER OF
THE GREAT RACE:

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 22, 2021 Twenty-fourth day of the April term

GREAT RACE, Continued:

Kojro said the Great Race would be stopping in Rolla at roughly noon today. The last time they passed through Rolla was six years ago.

IN THE MATTER OF
WALMART DISTRIBUTION CENTER:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp mentioned that rather than the present 160+ trucks the distribution center wants to have 250 trucks domiciled there; increased hires are a possibility.

IN THE MATTER OF
BIDDING LP GAS.

As moved and seconded by Commissioner Auxier and Commissioner Hicks soliciting bids for LP gas effective August 1, 2021 was approved.

IN THE MATTER OF
ADULT ABUSE BOARD
APPOINTMENTS:

As moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Hicks the requested appointments were approved; Caroline Bradford, Shawn Steen and Emma Lou Brent will serve 3 years.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD AND BRIDGE PROPERTY
ON ROAD 1050:

This property was discussed in reference to the existing heir of part of the property. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp called adjacent landowner Ron Copeland to inform him that there may not be sale of the entire lot owned by the county. Schweikhardt left at 1020.

IN THE MATTER OF
LTAP REPORTING:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp briefed Commissioner Auxier on the data that had been provided on fatalities. Commissioner Hicks mentioned Gidget Koestner's emphasis on obstacles such as trees; those in the county's right-of-way may be amenable to clearing in the process of mitigation.

IN THE MATTER OF
VIDEO SERVICE PROVIDER FEE:

Communication was received from counsel for the city of Creve Coeur and Treasurer Carol Green entered at 1115. At issue is the wireless video service providers not paying a franchise fee to the county or the city of their customers. A discussion of the definitions used in the statutes, found in RSMo Chapter 67, ensued. No action was taken.

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGETING:

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
June 22, 2021 Twenty-fourth day of the April term

BUDGETING, Continued:

Excess funds, or the absence thereof, in the county's funds were discussed. The option to increase sales tax percentage to the Road and Bridge Department was considered in light of the increased compensatory roll-back of Road and Bridge levy that would follow.

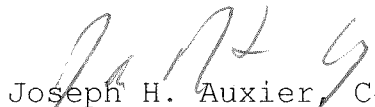
IN THE MATTER OF
ROCK ISLAND TRAIL:

The Commissioners sent a letter of support to U.S. Senator Roy Blunt regarding this initiative.

READ AND APPROVED:



Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner



Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1



Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 24, 2021 Twenty-fifth day of the April term

Now at this the 24th day of June 2021 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT (SHERRY RICHARDSON):

Local resident Sherry Richardson, who lives on County Road 8420 near its intersection with A Highway came with concerns for the road. She stated that since being paved in 2002 the surface of 8420 has deteriorated and now is "...worse than a gravel road." Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Kaitlin Brothers entered at 0900. Richardson said the surface is extremely broken up; recently grader work was performed on it. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp said that it's likely that it is being prepared for treatment this summer. Treasurer Carol Green entered at 0905. After some further discussion including about dump trucks from the quarry cutting through on the road, Richardson left at 0910.

IN THE MATTER OF
CART FUNDS:

Green presented the CART funds report which showed an almost inexplicably high increase of 46.40% in the MTM comparison. The YTD is an increase of 3.04%. Michelle Bock of the Road and Bridge Department entered at 0912.

IN THE MATTER OF
CD BIDS:

Green presented information about the Certificates of Deposit. MHHA monies may or may not be encumbered and restricted to HD purposes. Green thinks this should be put back out on the bid letter. For liquidity purposes, the clerk suggested keeping only 50K of the Unemployment Fund in CD; it had been decreased by \$25K the prior year, to \$75K, to allow for anticipated increased claims for unemployment. Green mused that perhaps some of CARES Funds could reimburse the county for unemployment costs, also. Fund 420, the sheriff's building fund, has a balance of about \$336K with a \$25K annual transfer annually from Fund 410. This is to generate a capital reserve for the potential of a major renovation to the jail, like an entirely new roof. Assessor Bill Stoltz entered at 0925. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp believed the sheriff's input would naturally be crucial. Fund 900, the residual courthouse sales tax known as Public Facilities Fund, has \$665K total with \$500K in CD. The decision was made to continue "as-is". Fund 906, the Jay White Fund, has \$213K total with \$200K in CD; no changes will be made. Fund 410, Law Enforcement Sales Tax (LEST) has about \$7.2 million...there is \$3 million in CD; this also will be left to the sheriff. Currently there is \$1.4 million in Fund 405 which is the sheriff's Asset Forfeiture Fund, and Green will

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 24, 2021 Twenty-fifth day of the April term

CD BIDS, Continued:

approach the sheriff about putting some of it into CD. Bids mature on 7/8 so they will be opened at 1000 that day.

IN THE MATTER OF
ASSESSOR:

Stoltz said they had some community input about the assessment letters that recently were sent, but mostly people were asking questions about the process and overall didn't seem too worried about the change in assessments. Phone calls were pretty heavy last week but have declined. Selection of a public member for BOE was discussed; Stoltz left at 0940.

IN THE MATTER
OF ROADS:

Road issues were reviewed with Bock. Included was discussion of the roughly 1 mile of 8420 which is "pretty well broken up" according to Commissioner Hicks. He wondered if it could be re-chipped and perhaps there will be a trial of a different approach not to include grader patching but chipping over the broken spots after priming and rolling, a/k/a "Plan A", or lay-down machine patching, a/k/a "Plan B".

IN THE MATTER OF
CABLE FRANCHISE FEES:

Devin Dippold, attorney with the Korein Tillery firm which is representing the City of Creve Coeur, called in to the Commission. Because of the Video Services Providers Act the city is attempting to recoup franchise fees from wireless providers such as the satellite companies (DIRECTV and Dish) and live-stream providers (Hulu and Netflix) and has undertaken determination of a class for a class-action suit. An attestation from the Commission is sought by Dippold's firm. Commissioner Hicks interrupted to express the opinion that this was a fee paid by the consumer when collected from the provider. Dippold said that the decision to allow a class-action suit would be made in St. Louis County Court; though one provider is involved in litigation in Federal court (Direct TV), his firm believes it is more of a state fee and should be heard in state court. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp asked if, in the event this was resolved in favor of the political subdivisions, customers would see a Phelps County delineation of the additional fee; this would attribute the fee to the County. When asked, Dippold said that it was RSMo 67.2689 that authorized a county to have the fee. Commissioner Hicks asked whether the County would be able to retroactively collect the fee; Dippold felt it would. Further, when asked what the legal counsel's share of the proceeds might be, Dippold said he was unable to estimate that for Commissioner Hicks. Once it becomes a class action suit the percentage for legal fees would be made public. As moved by Commissioner Auxier and seconded by Commissioner Hicks the attestation sought by Dippold, laying out the circumstances of the fee as currently collected by the County, was approved.

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 24, 2021 Twenty-fifth day of the April term

IN THE MATTER OF
JUNETEENTH:

Collector Faith Barnes entered to speak about recent leave time being granted to some offices. Pursuant to President Joe Biden at 3:00 p.m. EST on June 17th signing a bill establishing Juneteenth, or June 19th, as a federal holiday, state offices were to be closed on Friday, June 18th, 2021 in observance of this new federal holiday. Because of this all-day closing on short notice of the Circuit Clerk's, Public Administrator's, Juvenile and Prosecuting Attorney's office for that day, Barnes felt it would be more equitable if all the county employees had an opportunity for a day of vacation. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp suggested that a solution might be to permit employees who had not already received a vacation day to have a day off, at a time mutually agreeable to them and their supervisor. Barnes then left.

IN THE MATTER OF
ARPA ADMINISTRATION:

As moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Auxier, the technical assistance contract between Phelps County and Meramec Regional Planning Commissioner (MRPC) was approved. Green stayed to review some of the FAQ releases for ARPA Funds.

IN THE MATTER OF
CLOSED SESSION:

Commissioner Hicks moved and Commissioner Auxier seconded entering closed session at 1120, pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (1) - Communication between a Public Governmental Body and its Attorneys. A unanimous vote to approve the recommended approval vote of the master ballot for the multidistrict litigation concerning opioids having been obtained, the meeting returned to open session at 1123 as moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Auxier.

IN THE MATTER OF
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION:

Commissioner Hicks called local resident Ron Calhoun to inquire if he would care to be a public member of the BOE and he declined. Commissioner Auxier contacted Jeff Davis of St. James and he accepted.

IN THE MATTER OF
CARES ACT APPLICATION:

The Commissioners reviewed and approved the CRF application of Support Services in the amount of \$43,032.09 as moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Auxier.

IN THE MATTER OF
BRO-B081(13) ROAD 7100:

Progress Invoice #20 was signed and approved as moved by Commissioner Hicks seconded by Commissioner Auxier. This does not include the \$1000 for the additional signs required, which comprises change order #2.

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 24, 2021 Twenty-fifth day of the April term


IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commission reviewed and approved payment of 35 and 33 invoices in the amounts of \$18,435.98 and \$15,800.02, respectively, as well as the July GBS Employee Health Insurance Premium including COBRA and retirees for \$126,840.03 and Surplus Tax to the Phippses in the amount of \$12,260.18 on their purchase August 2020 of parcel #71-09-7.0-2.0-000-000-070.000.

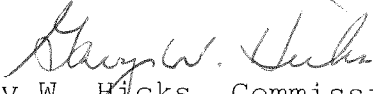
READ AND APPROVED:



Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner



Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1



Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 29, 2021 Twenty-sixth day of the April term

Now at this the 29th day of June 2021 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
PAYROLL:

The Commissioners reviewed and approved payroll in the amount of \$199,837.89 net salaries with \$61,177.47 and \$8,094.50 in federal and state withholdings, respectively. Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Kaitlin Brothers was present. Additionally, an augmented payroll for Senior Companions in the amount of \$2,422.98 net salaries accompanied by \$640.42 and \$80.50 in federal and state withholdings, respectively, was reviewed and approved. This was because the federal grant cycle spans two county budget years, and the grant had been increased.

IN THE MATTER OF
BROADBAND AND AMERICAN RESCUE
PLAN ACT (ARPA):

Inquiry had been made by Intercounty Electric regarding efforts under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to expand broadband; they plan a meeting with the Commission on July 13. Not traditionally a broadband provider, they are considering whether use of their extensive network of poles for overhead lines might be utilized. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp said a map or maps, indicative of the location of pupils lacking internet access in the seven school districts in the county, would be helpful; he plans to contact the superintendents about this. Commissioner Hicks said that he had spoken with Kelly Sink at a recent MCEC meeting as to whether the approach to ARPA fund disbursement shouldn't be strictly for water, sewer (governmental only) and broadband. Sink apparently had no other categories to add to the list; she said that she, Bonnie Prigge and Eva Voss were familiar with all 150 pages of the Interim Final Rules. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp shared a "fiber map" which detailed proposed new coverage by a provider serving areas in Phelps and Maries Counties.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT (KENNY MCCARTY) AND
ROAD 5440:

The Commissioners were informed that Kenny McCarty had come in to report on property at 10050 Co Rd 5440 which was neglected and had dumping of tires and household trash in addition to the ruins of a burned-out home. Collector Faith Barnes entered at 0940 and stated it will have been offered three times at the Collector's Delinquent tax sale as of the end of August 2021; 30 days after that date it can be offered by the Collector as a post-third offering property. Taxes dropped considerably in 2018 after the burning of the home. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp asked if Countryside Estates, the subdivision including

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 29, 2021 Twenty-sixth day of the April term

CITIZEN INPUT (KENNY MCCARTY) AND ROAD 5440, Continued:

the property, had deed restrictions; Barnes was unsure. The fear is that any deed restrictions might lead to litigation.

IN THE MATTER OF
JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY:

The Commissioners reviewed a proposed memorandum to be sent to department heads regarding observation of Juneteenth; as moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Auxier this was approved. The memo read as follows:

"In recognition of the very late notice of the whole-day holiday declared by the Missouri Supreme Court on June 18, 2021 in observation of Juneteenth, office holders whose employees did not receive a day off on that day have the prerogative to award those employees a day off at a mutually agreed-upon time."

IN THE MATTER OF
SUPPORT SERVICES:

Director of IT and Support Services Sissy Korich notified the Commissioners of her upcoming vacation.

IN THE MATTER OF
FUTURE BRO PROGRAM PROJECTS:

Methods of paying for bridge construction through this grant program were explored.

IN THE MATTER OF
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S SALARY:

The notice of mid-year increase in the prosecutor's salary was received and reviewed. Pursuant to section RSMo 56.265, the compensation for full-time elected prosecutors is tied to the salary of associate circuit judges, whose salaries are indexed to 73% of the salary of a federal magistrate. This statutory formula being in place prior to the prosecutor's term, full-time prosecutors receive pay raises mid-term and mid-budget year when associate circuit judges also receive pay raises.

IN THE MATTER OF
CARES ACT FUNDS:

Because the State of Missouri had refunded fifty percent of the unemployment benefits paid during 2020 which were considered to be attributed to COVID-19-related unemployment, the clerk was notified that the Commissioners wished to apply for the other half of this money, which had been paid from the Unemployment Fund.

IN THE MATTER OF
CORONER'S SALARY:

Pursuant to RSMo 58.093, the compensation of the coroner can be augmented when three or more deaths, attributable to a common

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

June 29, 2021 Twenty-sixth day of the April term

CORONER'S SALARY, Continued:

incident, require his evaluation and investigation during a month. Coroner Ernie Coverdell is working currently on a statement he can provide to the Commission.

IN THE MATTER OF
REAL ESTATE COURT ORDERS:

The following court orders were reviewed and signed: No. 2020000056 for Parcel 2020-6863; No. 2020000057 for Parcel 2020-6380; No. 2020000058, Parcel 2020-6423. Nuisance fees of \$228.00, \$308.00 and \$408.00, respectively, were added.

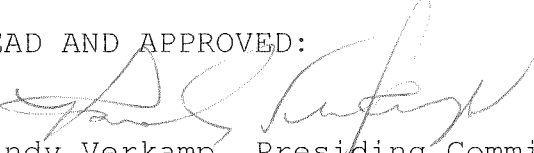
IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

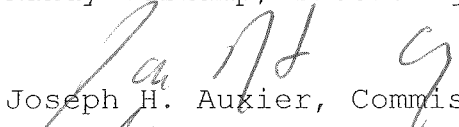
The Commissioners reviewed and approved payment of Progress Invoice #20 for the BRO-B081(13) Road 7100 bridge in the amount of \$85,296.00, for contractor Gene Haile, Inc.

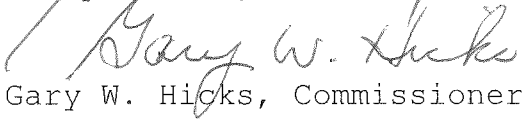
IN THE MATTER OF
BOARD OF EQUALIZATION:

Commissioner Auxier contacted Brandon Biele with respect to possible service on the 2021 Board of Equalization; Biele agreed so he was appointed as moved by Commissioner Auxier and seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joseph H. Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2