

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 4, 2022 First day of January term

Now at this the 4th day of January 2022 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

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

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD VACATION ROAD 3340:

Local resident Paul Meyers appeared at 0900 for the hearing at the start of the term for the proposed vacation of a segment of County Road 3340. Accommodations for a turnaround at some point west of the driveway for the residence addressed as 15870 were emphasized; just west of the driveway there may be slightly less slope than otherwise, compared to the low spot is quite a bit farther west. The Commission favored the construction of a "hammerhead" terminus as it is more easily constructed and maintained than a round cul-de-sac. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp said that after consensus with the acting Road Superintendent Mark Case regarding the specifications and location of the turnaround area, and following posting pursuant to RSMo 228.110, this would be read again on the first day of the next term, being Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. Acting Road Superintendent Mark Case and Michelle Bock of the Road Department entered at 0940 and joined in the discussion of the creation of a turnaround area. Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 0950. The eastern terminus of Road 3330 was then discussed; the remaining limb of the road had not only been gated but there had been no turnaround constructed, which was clearly described in road vacation documents. One of the petitioners was believed to barely live in Meramec Township and Myers was advised to secure another signatory. Myers left at 1005 and Case followed soon after but then returned.

IN THE MATTER OF
EXTENSION BUDGET HEARING:

Rachel Buenemann, County Engagement Specialist; Maretta Diestelkamp, Extension Council Chairperson and Jean Day, Nutrition Program Associate of the University Extension entered at 1000 for their budget hearing. Diestelkamp supplied the Commission with a letter outlining community participation with Extension programs such as Tai Chi for Arthritis and Cooking Matters, reaching 600 participants and 4-H. The Extension is asking for an increase in county funding to bring their assistant up to par with other county employees. Diestelkamp informed the Commission that the annual banquet will be Thursday, February 17. Buenemann then provided information on a beginning tree syruping program offered by Sarah Havens, the forester. She also plans classes on timber foresting as well as a continuation of her Women Owning Woodlands programs. Collector Faith Barnes entered at 1020 right before the Extension employees left.

IN THE MATTER OF
COLLECTOR:

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

January 4, 2022 First day of January term

COLLECTOR, Continued:

Barnes provided a report of the tax collections during the final days of December, 2021 with her office being open on the legal holiday of Friday, December 31. No bailiff coverage was available as had been originally expected.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD DEPARTMENT BUDGET:

Case said he hoped for a work plan for the Road Department that would lay out a project list for asphalt and chip & seal, perhaps for multiple years. He said this plan might not be finalized before his budget was completed. Case said using the asphalt lay-down machine for patching supplied more uniform and satisfactory results than patching with the road grader. Case provided an example of the 1.98 miles of County Road 7160, starting at 0" increasing to 1.75" and then tapering to 0" again, with about 600 tons of asphalt at \$35,000.00. Bock supplied a chip & seal list of targeted county rods in the 1,000's and some in the 3,000's including 3610 and 3620 in the Boy's Time area. Additionally, the balance of the 7,000's and 8,000's which were not addressed this past year totaled about 40 miles, comparable to what was done in 2021. With an earlier start, there could be asphalt patching followed by a week of break for the workers from the very hot work with the lay-down machine; during this time the patch could cure prior to returning for chip & seal. There was a mention of the Use Tax and its potential dedication only to roads. Bock detailed the effect of COLA's of various percentages, targeted at 8%. After discussion, a 5% COLA across the board with 3% variable merit increase was recommended. Overlay roads were discussed; Commissioner Hicks pointed out that Road 4160 is gravel but is the primary shortcut between Highways F and 68, thus the appeal of hot-deck. Road 4270 is actually private property beyond a described cul-de-sac. Several other roads were then discussed.

IN THE MATTER OF
ADULT ABUSE BOARD:

As moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Auxier the appointment of Paul Lambert to the Adult Abuse Board was approved.

IN THE MATTER OF
UNEMPLOYMENT CLAIM:

Contesting an unemployment claim by an employee who voluntarily separated from the county employment in July, 2020 was approved as moved by Commissioner Auxier and seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

IN THE MATTER OF
USGS:

The memorandum of understanding was approved as moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Auxier. This codifies the storage of USGS Data in the Courthouse basement and use of the facility there as an alternate site in the case of natural disaster impacting the USGS Facility.

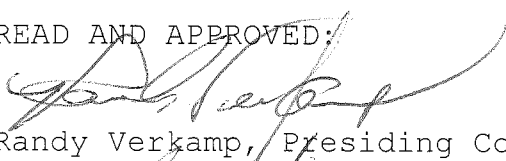
PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD


January 4, 2022 First day of January term

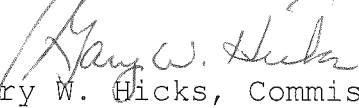
IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commission reviewed and approved payment of 11 invoices for contract pay and employee benefits and deductions in the amount of \$20,653.10, as laid out in RSMo 50.740 (2).

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 6, 2022 Second day of January term

Now at this the 6th day of January 2022 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

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

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING, CIRCUIT CLERK:

Circuit Clerk Sonja Childers was present as was Grant Wilson, Field Representative for U.S. Representative Jason Smith (MO-8). Childers' emphasis was the wide fluctuation in court activity due to communicable disease restrictions because of COVID-19, and the training opportunities needed by both her new and established employees, which have been severely curtailed. These circumstances make budget predictions nearly impossible. Childers left at 0920.

IN THE MATTER OF
CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING:

Wilson said that he thought redistricting for Missouri's 8th Congressional District would add Pulaski, Laclede and a good share of Taney Counties and remove southern Jefferson County.

IN THE MATTER OF
REAL ESTATE COURT ORDER:

The Commission reviewed Real Estate Court Order Certificate 2021000031 for parcel number 2021-9627 abating a nuisance fee of \$9,590.87 as requested by the City of Rolla. The city was satisfied that this issue had been resolved; it was approved as moved by Commissioner Auxier and seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING:

As moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Auxier, the budget hearing for the 2022 Phelps County Budget will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. The following notice was approved:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to County Budget Law, Revised Statutes of Missouri 50.525-50.745, a Public Hearing on the proposed 2022 Phelps County Budget will be held on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in the Phelps County Commission Hearing Room, 200 N. Main Street Suite 105, Rolla, Missouri. The public is welcome to attend. Draft budget documents may be inspected at the office of the Phelps County Clerk, 200 N. Main Street Suite 102, Rolla, MO.

PUBLISH: Phelps County Focus - Thursday, January 20, 2022

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 6, 2022 Second day of January term

IN THE MATTER OF
COUNTY ROAD 3330:

This matter was discussed again briefly.

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

Kelly Sink from MRPC entered at 1000 and provided a proposal for ARPA funds from Phelps Connections for Seniors (PCS) which will, in part, permit consolidation of Aging Best a/k/a CMAAA and PCS as a new physical facility is established. There is need for site control before granting agencies will be agreeable to funding. Sink said that the project is over \$1,000,000 all told. The contract on the building is "for \$450,000." Sink thought there would have to be a more formal process of two appraisals; PCS would then take title to the building. Furthermore, Sink provided one copy of each of the 9 water & sewer requests and had a spreadsheet of their recommendations. Sink's expectation is that Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will have additional funds available for funding which may be detailed at the time of the governor's state of the state address. Sink thought there would be grants, loans, and grant/loans. City of St. James supplied four projects prioritized by them. #1 is third lift station; #2 is the clarifier (state revolving fund is approved; the amount was 2.4 million) #4 was line replacement eliminating cast iron pipe from their water tower. As ARPA is federal funds, the entities have to go through RFP process for engineering. Sink said there were cities around the state which did not accept ARPA funds and when these funds are redistributed the award amounts may increase for, say, Edgar Springs which in total received \$39,000 or Newburg which in total received \$92,500. Michelle Bock of the Road and Bridge Department entered at 1020. As the water/sewer projects would consume all of the total county ARPA award, fully funding them precluded funding the senior center. St. James is said to have received \$700 K which they are using on the police department and possibly on the visitor's center. Responding to a question from Presiding Commissioner Verkamp, Sink said that the city of Edgar Springs provides the sewer for the town and all lift stations; the "sludge truck" needs to be replaced as does their collection system. Engineering for a project for the city of Newburg at \$75,000 was deemed important. Smoke testing of Doolittle's line along Martin Springs is what that city wants funded. PWS#2 is asking for \$2 M but Sink thinks they might be given funding at a later date. The following tentative breakdown for the sewer/water projects funded by the first half of the County's ARPA funding was as follows:

City of Newburg	\$ 75,000	Engineering Study
City of St. James (1)	\$ 65,000	
City of St. James (2)	\$ 650,000	SRF Loan approved
City of Doolittle	\$ 150,000	Smoke Testing
Lakeside Estates	\$ 167,000	
City of Edgar Springs	\$1,566,000	

Including the amount for PCS, the total amount would be \$3,173,000. Requests for support of broadband were discussed: Gascoage, Intercounty, and Aptitude Internet. As moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Auxier the

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 6, 2022 Second day of January term

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA), Continued:

request from Phelps Connections for Seniors for \$450,000 for the acquisition of property was approved. This will enable them to proceed with other applications for revenue. Sink left at 1050.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 3330:

Bock said that Mr. Scott Dickerhoff had never vacated the portion of 3330 which is currently east of, and made inaccessible by, a gate across the road. Director of Support Services, Building and Grounds Sissy Korich entered at 1050.

IN THE MATTER OF
HVAC CONTROLS:

Korich said that she will be generating an RFP for HVAC Controls to submit for bid to be published Thursday January 13. She believed problems getting parts are a certainty.

IN THE MATTER OF
2022 BUDGETS AND SALARIES:

The Commissioners deliberated over COLA's and believed that budgets should reflect a 10% increase in the salary lines approved the prior year with 5% of this an across-the-board COLA and 5% discretionary for the office holder/department head based on merit. Elected Officials, statutorily, may only receive a COLA and only if given county-wide. The clerk will notify elected officials of this.

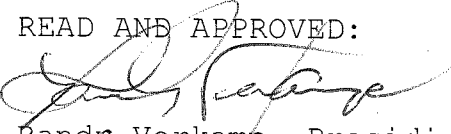
IN THE MATTER OF
TREASURER:

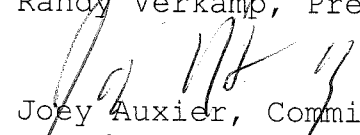
Treasurer Carol Green, board member of Phelps Connections for Seniors, entered to express her appreciation for the funding support through ARPA for the senior center supplied by the County.


IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commission reviewed and approved payment of 7 invoices in the amount of \$23,604.89 for contract pay and \$533.18 for Senior Companions which is their employee reimbursement and bills, funded 100% by their federal grant.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 11, 2022 Third day of January term

Now at this the 11th day of January 2022 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

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

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATOR:

Public Administrator Dana Sooter presented her budget at 0900. Collector Faith Barnes briefly entered at 0910 and left. The very significant increase in her fee revenue was noted.

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

The Commission reviewed the initial plans to allocate \$450,000 of ARPA funds to the Phelps Connections for Seniors for the reporter present. Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 0930.

IN THE MATTER OF
COURTHOUSE SECURITY FUNDING:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp called Sheriff Kirn to inquire about how much County Revenue (Fund 200) would be needed to fund the wages and benefits of Courthouse Security; \$200,000 was believed to be an acceptable figure and Sheriff Kirn informed all that he would absorb any COLA's.

IN THE MATTER OF
PASSPORT ASSESSMENT:

The clerk reported that the recent assessment of the Passport Acceptance Facility had concluded "...that the facility is organized and continues to demonstrate a solid commitment to a quality passport acceptance program. The facility is compliant with passport acceptance guidelines," and there were "...no facility action items recommended."

IN THE MATTER OF
COUNTY CLERK TURNOVER:

The clerk reported her fee turnover of \$406.00 and passport fees of \$1,855.00 for December, 2021 pursuant to RSMo 50.370.

IN THE MATTER OF
CYBERSECURITY COVERAGE:

The Commission suggested that the Sissy Korich, Director of Support Services, Building and Grounds, provide guidance on apportioning this approximately \$16,000 premium.

IN THE MATTER OF
LIQUOR LICENSES:

Subsequent to changes in the law, the Commission expressed their intent to follow statutes with respect to types of licenses.

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 11, 2022 Third day of January term

IN THE MATTER OF
VINEYARD OUTER ROAD:

The Commissioners discussed a gate desired near the terminus of this road west of County Road 1110; this was determined to be a matter for the city of St. James.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT (BILLY HARRIS):

Billy Harris of Edgar Springs, County Road 6210, entered to inquire about dust control for his road. He asked about application of chemical dust control for the road and was told the county did not utilize such products; rather, the approach was to chip & seal gravel roads. Harris also has difficulty with water runoff of the road toward his rather long driveway apron on the south side of a curve with north-facing concavity. Commissioner Hicks obtained his contact information and let him know he planned to visit the area.

IN THE MATTER OF
COUNTY RECORDER BUDGET HEARINGS:

County Recorder of Deeds Robin Kordes presented her budget requests for Fund 200-2010 and Fund 510. Her office is among the only Recorder's offices in the state which are fully digitized.

IN THE MATTER OF
COUNTY TREASURER BUDGET HEARINGS:

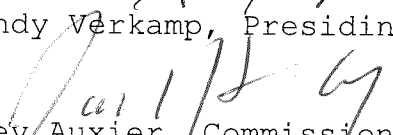
County Treasurer Carol Green presented her budget requests for Fund 200-2005.

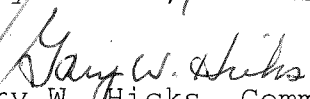
IN THE MATTER OF
EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE:

The Commission received and reviewed the Benefit Management Report (BMR) for CY 2021 from Group Benefit Services in Springfield. The loss ratio was 75%; Reserve Account Balance end of year was \$643,022.61. In terms of percentage of the plan cost to the county, medical, dental, and vision claims were 53%, 2% and 1%, respectively. Pharmacy Claims were 11%; reinsurance premiums were 27%. The balance of the cost was 2% for utilization review/LCM fees and 3% for TPA fees.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 12, 2022 Fourth day of January term

Now at this the 12th day of January 2022 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

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

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING, ROAD DEPARTMENT:

Acting Superintendent of Roads Mark Case and Michelle Bock of the Road Department entered at 0900 for the budget hearings for Funds 100 and 102. The number of employees constituting full staffing, part-time seasonal employees and the fact that no one in the department was given the full 10% (5% COLA plus 5% discretionary merit) raise were reviewed. Needed equipment and scheduled maintenance projects were enumerated. Case said one thing he was interested in procuring was a vibratory roller; such equipment is low-maintenance and has been rented for a good share of most recent years. Transfer of \$550,000 from County Revenue to Road and Bridge to support more extensive work was favored; County Revenue balance has crept upward for the last 7 years and at the end of 2021 was over \$2.1 million. Case and Bock left at 1015.

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING, SUPPORT SERVICES BUILDING AND GROUNDS:

Sissy Korich, Director of Support Services, Building and Grounds, entered at 1015. Sufficient funding for the upcoming completion of the courthouse HVAC project will be taken from either Public Facilities Fund 900 or from the Jay White Estate Fund, Fund 906. Korich reviewed her 200-2003 budget line by line, and left at 1100.

IN THE MATTER OF
PAYROLL:


The Commissioners reviewed and approved payroll for 1/14/21. Net wages were \$210,542.60; federal and state withholdings were \$65,791.70 and \$8,710.50, respectively.

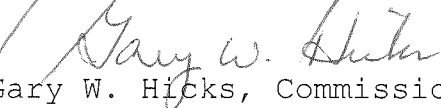
IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commissioners reviewed payment of 10 invoices for employee reimbursements and approved the \$910.29 expenditure.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 13, 2022 Fifth day of January term

Now at this the 13th day of January 2022 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

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

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING, PROSECUTING ATTORNEY:

Local resident Ray Schweikhardt entered at 0900 as did Prosecuting Attorney Brendon Fox, who said he hopes to hire a part-time retired attorney for traffic matters. He also is short one child support clerk; he thinks that he might be able to use some of the funds provided in the 10% increase in wages, recommended for clerical, to fill a vacancy. Regarding Fund 440, Fox said that the asset forfeiture funds have "...nearly dried up..." and the forecast is not entirely favorable. Funds 450, 460 and 480 were then discussed. Fox left at 0945.

IN THE MATTER OF
COURTHOUSE HVAC PROJECT:

Director of Support Services, Building and Grounds Sissy Korich came in to briefly discuss the HVAC project with pending RFP.

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING, COLLECTOR:

Collector Barnes entered at 1000 to present her Fund 200-2006 budget. She believes her revenues will go up slightly; expenses were reviewed. Fund 850, with a revenue source of 2% fees on delinquent taxes, will contain an equipment purchase for a JagWire which will read 200 documents/minute, and will be used in processing check payments.

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING, SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:

Sheriff Mike Kirn with Theresa Lasher of the Phelps County Sheriff's Department arrived at 1025 to present his budgets for Department 200-2018 and Funds 400, 405, 407, 409, 410, 415 and 420; these were reviewed in detail. The meeting then recessed for the noon hour.

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING, SURVEYOR:

Terris Cates entered at 1300 to present his plans to remonument 16 corners, with \$300 of the total \$650 cost to be supplied by the state.

IN THE MATTER OF
RECORDER'S FEE TURNOVER:

The Commissioners received and reviewed recorder fees in the amount of \$23,342.66 for December 2021.

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 13, 2022 Fifth day of January term

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING, SENIOR COMPANIONS:

Director of Senior Companions Yvonne Leuthauser presented her Fund 550 budget which is 100% funded by her federal grant. With the grant cycle offset 6 months from the County fiscal year. Last year an increase in her funds in the middle of the year was at odds with the County budget document. She does not plan to apply for additional funds this year.

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING, PHELPS/MARIES HEALTH DEPARTMENT:


Ashley Wann entered at 1400 to review her budgeted anticipated revenues and expenses for 2022.

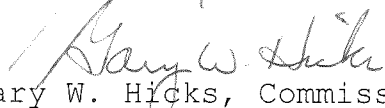
IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING, CORONER:

Coroner Ernie Coverdell entered at 1445 and reviewed his budget. The office has seen a marked increase in non-accidental and violent death investigations. Coverdell feels he may be caught up enough to complete paperwork for the Violent and Overdose Death Surveillance grant.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 14, 2022 Sixth day of January term

Now at this the 14th day of January 2022 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

Presiding Commissioner Randy Verkamp was absent.

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET HEARING, ASSESSOR:

The budget submitted electronically by Assessor Stoltz, out on sick leave, was reviewed. Deputy Assessor Paul Long entered at 0900. Acting Presiding Commissioner Hicks contacted Stoltz by phone, and put him on speaker. Stoltz reviewed his requests, line by line. It was brought to Stoltz' attention that because a budget amendment was not reflected on his estimate papers provided by the clerk, his salary line was low and should actually be increased to reflect the 3% COLA given county-wide in January 2021. Thus Stoltz' base salary would be the same as the 5% COLA-increased 2022 salary for other elected officials. This would not include his E911 Salary, set by the E911 Board. It was further detailed that his deputy and clerical salaries needed to be increased to reflect a 10% increase above approved salaries from 2021. Commissioner Hicks said that the fringes would need to be adjusted as a result, and the new numbers were reviewed. Commissioner Hicks informed Stoltz that the County did not intend to provide \$75,000 of county share support as in previous years, due to more-than-sufficient funds for one year's operation of his office remaining in Fund 800; Stoltz argued that the requirement was statutory, with which the Commissioners disagreed. Commissioner Hicks said that the Assessor's Fund would not be budgeted to receive \$75,000 in support from the General Fund for 2022.

READ AND APPROVED:

Absent
Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner

Joey Auxier
Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1

Gary W. Hicks
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 18, 2022 Seventh day of January term

Now at this the 18th day of January 2022 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

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

IN THE MATTER OF
ASSESSOR'S QUARTERLY:

The Commissioners received and reviewed and October 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 Assessors Quarterly; full reimbursement of \$71,385.30 having been made, there would be no further stipend provided by the state. Local resident Ray Schweikhardt entered at 0910. As moved by Commissioner Auxier and seconded by Commissioner Hicks, this was approved.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROADS:

Michelle Bock of the Road Department entered at 0930 as did local resident Chester Kojro. Bock wondered if the Assistant Superintendent of Roads Mark Case would be permitted to accrue compensatory time; at this point the Commissioners were agreeable. Bock also mentioned a free paving seminar occurring on February 15 in Fenton, MO which Commissioner Auxier agreed to attend. Case and several of his employees may attend as well. Local resident Chester Crider entered at 0940. Schweikhardt left at 1000.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 8450 AND CITIZEN INPUT (BILL DOBKINS):

Local resident Bill Dobkins entered at 1040 to inquire about work on this road. Where Road 8450 intersects State Route E from the west, there is a steep hill with a fall of about 100 feet over the first 1100 feet of roadway. Provisions for storm water conveyance were discussed; a Commissioner will inspect the area.

IN THE MATTER OF
GRANT WRITING HOURS:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp reported that the County has 12.5 grant-writing hours remaining with MRPC, after having given several for the purpose of helping Phelps Connections for Seniors (PCS) in a grant application.

IN THE MATTER OF
MRPC:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp supplied information about the recent meeting of MRPC and the state representatives who spoke.

IN THE MATTER OF
COLLECTOR:

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 1130 to report on the status

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 18, 2022 Seventh day of January term

COLLECTOR, Continued:

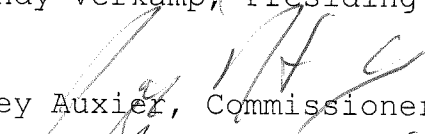
of 2021 tax collections. Notices of delinquencies need to be sent out [Masters Touch] but postage and expenses for this service cannot be paid until budget approval.

IN THE MATTER OF
PERSONAL PROPERTY COURT ORDERS:

Court Orders 2082 through 2086, representing add-on's of personal property valuation for the years 2017 through 2021 (respectively) for November 2021 were approved. Court Orders 2087 through 2090, representing add-on's of personal property valuation for the years 2018 through 2021 (respectively) for December 2021 were also approved.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 20, 2022 Eighth day of January term

Now at this the 20th day of January 2022 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

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

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT (RAY SCHWEIKHARDT):

Schweikhardt shared some observations about the cold weather and its hardships for livestock operators.

IN THE MATTER OF
NEWBURG PROPERTIES:

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 0915 and was engaged by the Commission in a discussion about the 10 properties recently purchased in the city of Newburg from the County; however, the deeds are not recorded yet so the ownership technically defaults back to the County, as this reflects the last deeded ownership.

IN THE MATTER OF
PWSD #4:

There is a pending suit brought by a resident of PWSD #4 against the district, over delinquent sewer fees. The assertion made is that a fee being added to the tax bill is an increase in taxes without a vote of the people; however, Barnes pointed out that this is pursuant to statute and that other fees, such as nuisance fees and neighborhood improvement district fees, are handled similarly. Schweikhardt left at 0950.

IN THE MATTER OF
WORKER SAFETY TRAINING:

Assistant Superintendent of Roads Mark Case and Michelle Bock of the Road Department entered at 0955. Several roads were discussed and upon Treasurer Carol Green entering at 1000 a discussion of MAC University workplace safety training ensued. Green then left about 1010, and Case and Bock left at 1025.

IN THE MATTER OF
LEGISLATIVE SESSION:

Green returned at 1030 to report on the activity at the capitol the previous day, during which she attended the Missouri Association of Counties (MAC) meeting. She emphasized the changes to ARPA funds use, the \$10 million threshold and funds that are likely to trickle down from the printing press for infrastructure, broadband and cybersecurity. Apparently Travis Elliott, attorney with MAC, spoke about ARPA funds being used to leverage matching for additional funds. Commissioner Hicks suggested that FHWA funds may be available to improve low water crossings.

IN THE MATTER OF
ASSESSMENT MAINTENANCE PLAN:

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 20, 2022 Eighth day of January term

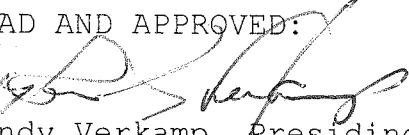
ASSESSMENT MAINTENANCE PLAN, Continued:


The Commission prepared an alternative to the 2022-2023 Assessment Maintenance Plan which had been submitted to them, and this will be sent certified mail to the State Tax Commission. Pursuant to RSMo 137.115, the governing body of the County is to submit the alternative by February 1. This will be sent today via certified mail, return receipt requested.

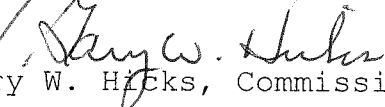
IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commission reviewed and approved payment of 9 invoices in the amount of \$7,510.02 for employee reimbursements, payroll benefits and deductions.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 25, 2022 Ninth day of January term

Now at this the 25th day of January 2022 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

In the absence of the clerk, minutes were taken by Deputy Clerk Peter Cook.

IN THE MATTER OF
2022 BUDGET HEARING:

Local resident Chester Koro, Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley, and County Collector Faith Barnes were present. As moved by Commissioner Auxier and seconded by Commissioner Hicks the 2022 budget was approved in its entirety. Barnes and Sheeley then left.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT (CHESTER KOJRO):

Koro gave a suggestion that the Commissioners write a column for the paper about what is going on in the county. Koro then left.

IN THE MATTER OF
REAL ESTATE COURT ORDERS:

As moved by Commissioner Auxier and seconded by Commissioner Hicks, Real Estate Court Orders 2021000032 - 2021000037 for The Curators of the University of Missouri property were approved. The first four were for tax years 2020, due to taxes left on the tax book after acquisition of the property by the University in 2019. The latter two were for apartment buildings acquired by the University in 2021.

IN THE MATTER OF
CART FUNDS:

Treasurer Carol Green entered and presented CART revenues for the month of January. Gas Tax was \$59,953.31, up 21.63% from one year ago. Motor Vehicles Sales Tax for January was at \$15,965.43 up 4.48% from last year. Motor Vehicles Fees for January was at \$8,282.75 down 6.6% from last year.

IN THE MATTER OF
JAIL LITIGATION:


Litigation regarding the jail was presented to the Commission.

IN THE MATTER OF
ASSESSMENT MAINTENANCE PLAN:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp reported that he had received a call from Jeff Schmitt and Larry Hicks from the State Tax Commission (STC) regarding the County Commission Alternative Assessment Maintenance Plan. The STC asked to be sent the county budget when complete.

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 25, 2022 Ninth day of January term

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hacks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 27, 2022 Tenth day of January term

Now at this the 27th day of January 2022 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

In the absence of the clerk, minutes were taken by Deputy Clerk Peter Cook.

IN THE MATTER OF
SICK TIME:

Tom Pasley from the Road Department attended to ask about use of sick time.

IN THE MATTER OF
BID SOLICITATIONS, ROAD AND BRIDGE DEPARTMENT:

Michelle Bock of the Road Department presented bid requests for rock and gravel; grader blades; chip & seal rock and sand; culverts; and asphalt products. Commissioner Hicks moved and Commissioner Auxier seconded bids being solicited as follows:

Phelps County is currently seeking bids on rock and gravel for use by the Phelps County Highway Department. For questions, contact Mark Case, Interim Road Superintendent, at 573-426-3864. Bid specifications are available in the Phelps County Clerk's Office, 200 N. Main St. Ste 102, Rolla, MO 65401. Bids for all items will be accepted in the Phelps County Clerk's Office until 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at which time they will be opened. Phelps County reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Done by the order of the Phelps County Commission, this 27th day of January, 2022.

s/s Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

PUBLISH: Phelps County Focus - Thursday, February 3, 2022
St. James Press - Thursday, February 3, 2022

Phelps County is currently seeking bids on grader blades and snow plow blades for the year 2022 for use by the Phelps County Highway Department. Bid specifications are available in the Phelps County Clerk's Office, 200 N. Main St. Ste 102, Rolla, MO 65401. For questions, contact Mark Case, Interim Road Superintendent, at 573-426-3864. Bids will be accepted in the Phelps County Clerk's Office, until 9:15 a.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at which time they will be opened. Phelps County reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Done by the order of the Phelps County Commission, this 27th day of January, 2022.

s/s Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

PUBLISH: Phelps County Focus - Thursday, February 3, 2022
St. James Press - Thursday, February 3, 2022

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 27, 2022 Tenth day of January term

BID SOLICITATION, ROAD AND BRIDGE DEPARTMENT, Continued:

Phelps County is currently seeking bids on chip and seal rock and manufactured sand for use by the Phelps County Highway Department. For questions, contact Mark Case, Interim Road Superintendent, at 573-426-3864. Bid specifications are available in the Phelps County Clerk's Office, 200 N. Main St. Ste 102, Rolla, MO 65401. Bids for all items will be accepted in the Phelps County Clerk's Office until 9:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at which time they will be opened. Phelps County reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Done by the order of the Phelps County Commission, this 27th day of January, 2022.

s/s Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

PUBLISH: Phelps County Focus - Thursday, February 3, 2022
St. James Press - Thursday, February 3, 2022

Phelps County is currently seeking bids on culverts to be purchased at various lengths and quantities as specified for Phelps County Highway Department for the 2022 year. For questions, contact Mark Case, Interim Road Superintendent at 573-426-3864. Bid specifications are available in the Phelps County Clerk's Office, 200 N. Main St. Ste. 102, Rolla, MO 65401. Bids will be accepted in the Phelps County Clerk's Office until 9:45 a.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at which time they will be opened. Phelps County reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Done by the order of the Phelps County Commission, this 27th day of January, 2022.

s/s Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

PUBLISH: Phelps County Focus - Thursday, February 3, 2022
St. James Press - Thursday, February 3, 2022

Phelps County is currently seeking bids on asphalt products. For questions, contact Mark Case, Interim Road Superintendent at 573-426-3864. Bid specifications are available in the Phelps County Clerk's Office, 200 N. Main St. Ste 102, Rolla, MO 65401. All material must meet specifications as described in section 401 through 402 of the 2011 Missouri Standard Specifications for Highway Construction and any revisions thereto. Bids will be accepted in the Phelps County Clerk's Office, until 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 17, 2022 at which time they will be opened. Phelps County reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Done by the order of the Phelps County Commission, this 27th day of January, 2022.

s/s Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

PUBLISH: Phelps County Focus - Thursday, February 3, 2022
St. James Press - Thursday, February 3, 2022

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
January 27, 2022 Tenth day of January term

IN THE MATTER OF
CPI (CONSUMER PRICE INDEX):

A letter from State Tax Commission of Missouri was presented to the Commission which certified a Consumer Price Index (CPI) on the latest twelve-month basis available February 1, 2022 of 7.0% for the December 2020 to December 2021 period.

IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commissioners reviewed and approved payment of 7 invoices in the amount of \$3,350.45 for employee reimbursements and 2 invoices for employee health coverage for February, 2022 in the amount of \$127,383.62.

IN THE MATTER OF
COUNTY LAND:

Doctors Joe and Cathy Bond come to inquire about county land.

IN THE MATTER OF
HVAC RFP BID OPENING:

Present was Director of Support Services, Building and Grounds Sissy Korich and Chris Ruth from Integrated Facility Services (IFS). One proposal was received from IFS for \$274,950. The Commission took this under advisement.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT (Philip Lohmann):

Local resident Philip Lohmann came in to suggest that the Commissioners consider elimination of real estate property tax, and then left.

IN THE MATTER OF
PAYROLL:

The Commissioners reviewed and approved payroll for 1/31/22. Net wages were \$212,919.93; federal and state withholdings were \$65,825.86 and \$8,859.00, respectively.

IN THE MATTER OF
COUNTY OFFICES:

Observing that some offices had closed during regular business hours due to weather, Commissioner Hicks told them they should categorize this as administrative leave on the time sheets.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Joey Auxier, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2