

Phelps County Commission Record
January 2, 2024 the First Day of the January Term

Now at this 2nd day of January, Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner
Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner
Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner
Laura Johnson, County Clerk

In the matter of
Previous Commission minutes:

Commission reviewed and approved commission minutes for December 26th and 28th.

Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:26 am.

In the matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved payments in the amount of \$20,408.68 for January Contract pay and \$5,301.60 for Employee reimb, investment and crisis intervention.

In the matter of
Commission funds for budget:

Commission reviewed year end budget performance reports for the following funds: Crisis Intervention, County Commission, ARPA, Jay White, and Courthouse Security. Commission worked to set new figures for 2024 budgets on the above accounts.

Deputy Clerk Peter Cook and Collector Faith Barnes entered at 10:21 am. And left at 10:23 am.

Mr. Kojro left at 10:27 am.

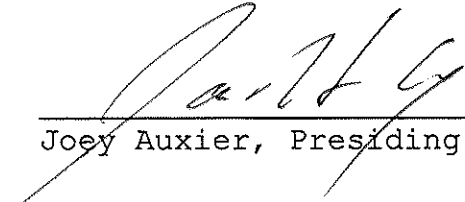
Assessor Tim Kean entered at 11:22 am.

In the matter of
Assessor's Office budget:


Kean presents commission with his proposed 2024 budget. Discussion was had on the question of can the assessor give a higher COLA than what commission may suggest. Further discussions were had on merit raises and whether the commission has the authority to deny the merit raises. Discussions were had on the increase of appraisal guides and Kean advised this is because of the assessment coming up. Commission suggested he make a few line item tweaks and bring an MOU back to commission tomorrow, January 3rd.

Kean left at 11:58 am.

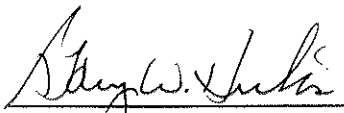
Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
January 3, 2024 Second Day of the January Term

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

Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner
Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner
Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner
Laura Johnson, County Clerk

Also present was Recorder Robin Kordes.

In the matter of
Recorders Budgets:

Kordes presents her 2 funds and advised on her GR fund she is not asking for any more than she did last year. She explains the funds she receives from state have gone down drastically. Kordes explains she has a majority of her office expenses coming out of her user fees "Tech" fund which saves the county funding. She explains anything that has to do with technology and preservation.

Public administrator Dana Sooter entered at 9:20 am.

Robin Kordes left at 9:25 am.

In the matter of
Public Administrators Budget:

Sooter presents her proposed budget for 2024 to commission. Commission broke out the elected official salary from her clerical staff to read EO: \$65,693 and Clerical: \$103,0000 and also suggested she change the Insurance county share to \$28,600. Commission advised they want her to make sure she separates the salary line and to make sure she provides the actuals columns for the year prior to on the budget forms.

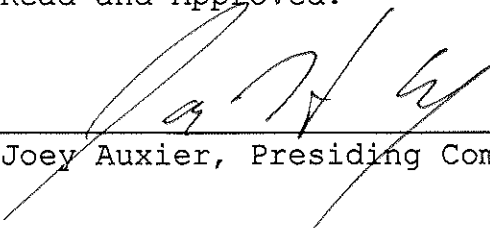
Assessor Tim Kean entered at 9:57 am.

Sooter left at 10:04 am.


In the matter of
Assessment fund budget changes:

Kean presented commission with an updated budget form and a corrected MOU for denying the county share of \$75,000. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the MOU, Commissioner Stites seconded, Motion carried.

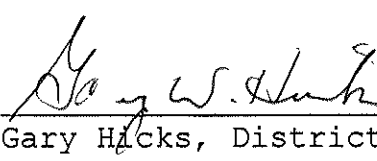
Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hacks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
January 4, 2024 the Third Day of the January Term

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

Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner
Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner
Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner
Laura Johnson, County Clerk

Also present were local resident Ray Schweikhardt and Treasurer Cathy Tipton.

In the matter of
Treasurers proposed budget:

Tipton explains budget figures to commission and explains they lost 1 of the part time employees so her salary line was lower than anticipated.

Senior Companions Director Yvonne Leuthauser entered at 9:07 am.

Sheriff Kirn entered at 9:10 am followed by Local resident Madison Brooks at 9:18 am and local attorney Bryce Crowley at 9:24 am.

In the matter of
Caucus training:

Crowley advised the republican party is hosting a caucus training tonight and invited the elected officials to attend and to help spread the word on how the caucus will work.

Crowley and Kirn left at 9:29 am.

In the matter of
Senior Companions proposed budget:

Yvonne explains budget figures to commission and explains that her department is different than others since they are run off of a grant each year. She explains her grant is not the same time line as county budgets so it is hard to give direct figures.

Yvonne left at 9:38 am.

In the matter of
Citizen Input:

Mr. Brooks approached commission and advised he doesn't feel comfortable being here and provided commission and County clerk with His "Letter of Intent to Sue" the county. After handing each a copy he advised you have been served and you have 30 days to respond or this letter is void.

Mr. Brooks left at 9:45 am.

The Focus Reporter entered at 9:45 am.

In the matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved batches in the amounts of \$500 for Crisis Intervention, \$7,569.18 for KC Life and \$7,689.48 for NW, CERF, Liberty National and All State.

Mr. Schweikhardt and the Focus Reporter left at 10:12 am.

In the matter of
LEOP Review letter:

Commission reviewed and discussed the presented SEMA (State Emergency Management Agency) letter with the LEOP (local emergency operations plan). Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the plan, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Brandi Richardson, Jean Day, Olivia Engelmier and Sarah Higgins from the extension office entered at 10:24 am.

In the matter of
Extension Council Proposed budget:

Extension explains what they do for the community and what their current projects are. Commission asked for explanation of the extra \$700 for bookkeeping and mileage. Brandi advised Olivia is being trained to do bookkeeping but in the mean time they have contracted another county to do this work in the meantime. Brandi explains she had 2 part time employees from other counties that filled in temporarily while they were looking for a new employee to replace Laura who retired in July. Brandi explains there were no benefits paid to these temporary employees just the salary. Discussions were had on whether the \$9,000 health insurance that is being paid by the county for the retired employee. Brandi explains there is an option to put in place a sales tax that would strictly fund the extension council. Commission advised against this at this time.

Extension left at 11:20 am.

In the matter of
County clerk and Election:

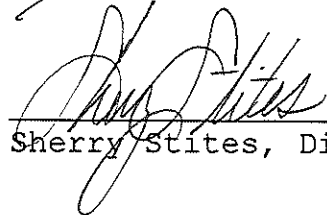
Johnson presented commission with her 2 general revenue funds. Discussions were had on the training and travel & meetings line has increased as she wants to start sending staff to training. Discussions were also had on the potential of hiring a part time employee instead of a full time for the opening with in the office to save funding.

Brendon Fox entered at 11:45 am and left at 11:48 am.

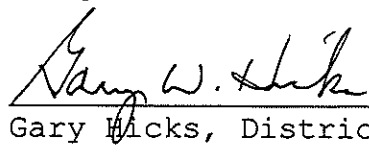
Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
January 9, 2024 the Fourth Day of the January Term

Now at this 9th day of January, Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner
Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner
Laura Johnson, County Clerk

Also present were Road and Bridge superintendent Mark Case and administrative assistant Michelle Bock.

In the matter of
County Road 7100:

Discussions were had on finding a fix for the complaint of rocks along the ditch line of a property owners land are causing erosion. These rocks were placed to prevent erosion when the new bridge was put in.

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 9:12 am. Barnes left at 9:15 am.

In the matter of
Road & Bridge Proposed budget:

Bock presented commission with budget forms for fund 100 and 102. Discussions were had on potentially moving a few numbers around and transferring in some funds from debt service.

Sheriff Mike Kirn, Jail Lt. Joe Taylor and Admin Asst Theresa Lasher entered at 9:58 am.

Case and Bock left at 10:12 am.

In the matter of
DHSS grant for confined spaces:

Lt. Taylor presents commission with the grant paper work for a Covid confined spaces grant and explains what they intend to utilize the funds for in the jail. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve submission of the grant, Commissioner Auxier seconded, motion carried.

In the matter of
Sheriff's Department proposed budgets:

Lasher presents commission with 6 proposed budgets for the sheriff's department. Brief discussions were had and no changes were made.

Circuit Clerk Marlaina Wallace entered at 10:41 am.

Lasher and Kirn left at 10:50 am.

Local resident, Mark Heflin entered at 11:00 am.

In the matter of
Circuit Clerk proposed budget:

Wallace presents commission with proposed budgets for her office. Wallace explains she is requesting to upgrade some of the office equipment/furniture. She advised there are several desks that the drawers are taped shut because they won't stay shut anymore.

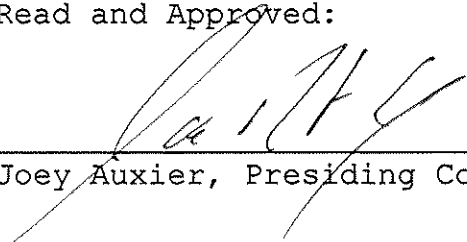
Wallace left at 11:06 am. Ashley Campbell entered at 11:06 am.
Heflin left at 11:16 am.

In the matter of
Health Department proposed budget:

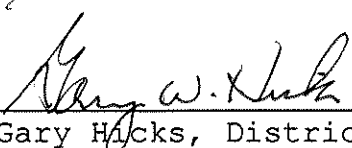
Campbell presents commission with proposed budget for her office. Discussions were had on her hopes of filling the 4 openings she has this year so that increased her salary line from her actuals last year.

Hearing no other business commission adjourned at 11:35 am.

Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
January 11, 2024 the Fifth Day of the January Term

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

Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner
Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner
Laura Johnson, County Clerk

Also present were Support Services Sissy Korich and local resident Ray Schweikhardt.

In the matter of
Support Services proposed budgets:

Korich presents proposed budgets for Fund 900 and Building and grounds. Discussions were had on Fund 900 revenue being only earned interest. Further discussions were had on the only increase being the CERF contributions as she has some employees that work more than 1000 hours. Korich further explained a list of projects that need to happen this year.

- Need to switch to fiber
- Need to switch to cloud storage
- Need to increase cyber security

Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:27 am.

Korich left at 9:48am.

In the matter of
Election Services and Special Election budgets:

Johnson presents proposed budgets for Election Services Fund and Special Election Fund to commission. She explains to commission the Special Elections fund is the fund that will get some reimbursement from State for the August Primary and the November General Elections. She also explains she is purchasing some election equipment out of her Election Services fund to save the expense from General Revenue.

Kojro and Schweikhardt left at 10:05 am.

In the matter of
County Retirement stipulations Policy:

Discussions were had on changing the employee retirement term to 90 and out and putting in 30 years of service to be able to retain county insurance. This would change our current 80 and out and putting in 25 years to keep county insurance.

In the matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved payments in the amount of \$8,206.39 for Aflac/Masa/Empl Reimb, \$29,170.83 for UMB Bank/EATS/Rolla Westside TIF, \$1,171,198.35 for River City and \$26,464.24 for Senior Companions.

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 10:21 am.

In the matter of
Tax Corrections:

Commission reviewed and approved tax corrections on Certificate #2023000082 and 2023000081.

The Focus Reporter entered at 10:26 am.

In the matter of
SB 190 house bill resolutions:

Discussions were had on the 8 resolutions proposed on the SB 190 house bill. Further discussions were had on making it the same across the board, meaning if you are at the eligibility age you are eligible for the tax freeze.

Collector Faith Barnes left at 10:41 am.

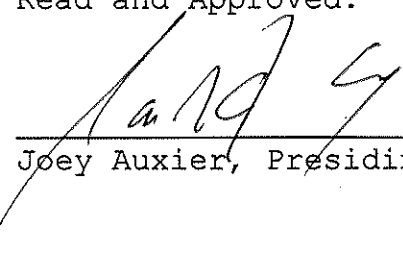
Local resident Jacob Lepich entered at 11:19 am.

In the matter of
Brays Lake County Road 5170:

Mr. Lepich advised commission the road needs some work. Commission advised they have not maintained that road in over 6 years due to the current property owner blocking access. Mr. Lepich asked commission if they would grade the road periodically and advised he wants to move his mail boxes so it is safer for the mail lady and the residents that now own all of the property. Discussions were had on potentially vacating the road but Mr. Lepich would rather not vacate instead would like to see the county maintain some of the road. He asked commission if they would just grade the road a few times a year. Discussions were had on commission sending out the road supervisor Mark Case to assess the roads condition and see if a grader would be able to access and turn around on that county road.

Mr. Lepich left at 11:40 am followed by the focus reporter at 11:42 am.

Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

Gary W. Hicks

Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
January 16, 2024 Sixth Day of the January Term

Now at this 16th day of January, Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner
Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner
Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner
Laura Johnson, County Clerk

Also present were Gary Young, Donna Adams, Brenda Rocaberto and Jeanie Cavendar from the Developmentally Disabled Board.

In the matter of
Developmentally Disabled Board Proposed Budget:

Mrs. Adams presented commission with their proposed budget. Adams explained last year they spent some extra funding, that built up due to COVID, to assist the sheltered Workshop and Capable Kids with some repairs and storage. Discussions were had on the Kyle Center in St James that is newly up and coming and how they feel it will draw in adults in need in the surrounding counties.

Local Resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:32 am.

DD Board left at 9:37 am.

Prosecuting Attorney Brendon Fox entered at 9:49 am followed by Treasurer Cathy Tipton at 9:52 am.

In the matter of
Prosecuting Attorney Proposed Budgets:

Fox presented commission with his proposed budgets for 2024. Fox explains he is still down an assistant Prosecuting attorney. Discussions were had on how there are several unfounded mandates for a Prosecuting attorneys office and how Mr. Fox has contemplated increasing the salary on his 2 APA's instead of hiring a 3rd one to be at full staff.

Fox left at 10:15 am.

In the matter of
Investment CD Bid opening:

As scheduled Bank bids were opened in the order of date and time received in office. They are as follows:

Bid Opening						
Tuesday, January 16, 2024 @ 10:00 am						
\$50,000 Unemployment Fund						
	6 Month CD Interest Rate	12 Month CD Interest Rate	Money Market Interest Rate	Other Investment	6 Month APY	12 Month APY
Citizens Bank of Midwest						
First Community National Bank opened at 10:21 am	0.75%	1%				
First State Community Bank opened at 10:18 am	4.75%	4.50%			4.84%	4.58%
Jefferson Bank opened at 10:19 am						4.50%
Maries County Bank						
Southern Bank opened at 10:20 am	4%	4%			4.04%	4.06%
The Bank of Missouri opened at 10:17 am		5.25%				
Town & County Bank opened at 10:22 am	2.25%	3.29%				
<i>*Interest rate for the general fund is based on the federal funds rate. The current interest rate is 4.4%.</i>						

After reviewing all the bids with the Treasurer Commissioner Hicks moved to approve investing with Bank of Missouri for 12 months, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

In the matter of
County Sales tax report:

Tipton presented commission with the sales tax report. Discussions were had on how we are down roughly 6% but not bad overall. Discussions were also had on the increase of Marijuana tax that came in from the first payment received last month.

Kojro left at 10:28 am.

Tipton left at 10:35 am.

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 10:36 am followed by Coroner Ernie Coverdell at 10:38 am and Support services Sissy Korich and Amy Asberry at 10:43 am.

In the matter of
Collectors Proposed budget:

Barnes presented commission with her proposed budgets for 2024. Commission reviewed her proposed budgets.

Barnes left at 11:08 am.

In the matter of
Support services Budget revisit:

Korich presents commission with updated budgets for 2024 to include the expenses of things that need to be done this year.

Korich and Asberry left at 11:30 am.

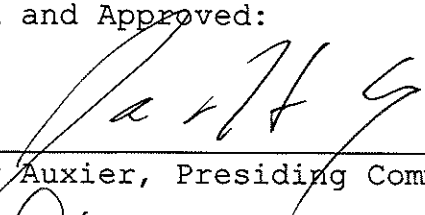
In the matter of
Coroner Proposed Budget:

Coverdell presents commission with his proposed budget for 2024. Discussions were had on potentially hiring a 2nd part time employee to assist with the work load that has significantly increased in the last few years.

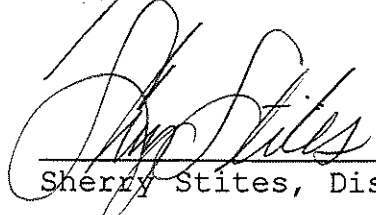
Coverdell left at 11:59 am.

Hearing no other business Commission adjourned at 12:01 pm.

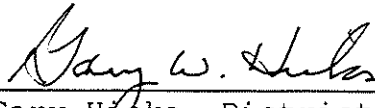
Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

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Phelps Count Commission Record
January 18, 2024 the Seventh Day of the January Term

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

Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner
Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner
Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner
Laura Johnson, County Clerk

Also present was Ray Schwartz from Senator Justin Browns office and Collector Faith Barnes.

In the matter of
Senate News:

Schwartz started discussion on SB 190 and commission advised they need to simplify the bill to read at a specific retirement age your taxes will no longer be assessed and you would be locked into your rate at the time of that specific retirement age. This would help our retirement community who are on a set budget to not have increases over time.

In the matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved payments in the amounts of \$5974.96 for CERF/Garnishments/Emply Reimb, \$22,755.75 for Flett Plumbing & Poes Gas, \$126,797.94 for UMR Self Insured and moving \$50,000 from unemployment fund into a 12 month CD.

Barnes left at 9:22 am.

Lt. Joe Taylor and Admin Assistant Theresa Lasher entered at 9:58 am followed by Road & Bridge Asst supervisor Shawn Pearson and Admin Assistant Michelle Bock at 9:59 am.

Taylor and Lasher left at 10:03 am.

In the matter of
Assessors Quarterly Reimbursement:

Commission reviewed and Presiding Commissioner approved the Assessors Quarterly Reimbursement Report.

The Focus Reporter entered at 10:04 am.

In the matter of
Road & Bridge news:

Discussions were had on where we were at with the trade in of the old dump truck with Freightliner. Freightliner is now trying to back out of the signed contract of the trade amount for the

old dump truck to go toward the new dump truck that has been delivered. Discussions were had on taking \$500 to \$1000 off of the allotted trade amount and see if they would take the trade then. Further discussions were had on if they would not take that deduction that we would not take more than 10% off (\$2,800).

General discussions were had on the building of the new Road & Bridge facility. Discussion was had on running pipe from the regulator to the manifold from the 4 heaters to provide line for the power washer. Commissioner Stites asked why we put in additional 4 heaters and discussions were had on those being put in as backup to the floor heaters. Stites asked if this was in the original plans and was advised it was not and that is why there was a change order initiated. Bock advised she felt like the company is nickel and diming the county, Commissioner Stites and County Clerk agreed. Commissioner Auxier advised when you are building a commercial building it should be anticipated for additional costs/change orders as the project goes along as its not the same as residential building and things come up that may not have been included in the bid. Auxier advised we are only roughly at 3% increase on the overall project. Stites advised she is concerned with the numbers adding up and costing more than the initial cost that was agreed upon. Stites advised she would like the monthly progress reports to be conducted in the commission chambers so that it can be recorded in the minutes and all commissioners would be able to provide feedback and know what is happening and why. Bock advised these reports are being provided by the construction company.

The Focus Reporter left at 10:38 am.

Treasurer Cathy Tipton entered at 10:44 am.

In the matter of
February employee acknowledgement:

Tipton advised commission February is her month to come up with a fun activity to bring in employees to learn more about each other and to be able to gain the prize associated for winning. She advised she wants to play a game that would have employees answer some questions on who they think that question would be associated with. She asked commission if they would be willing to provide a few answers to some questions so they could be used in the game. Commission unanimously agreed.

Tipton left at 10:49 am.

Assessor Tim Kean entered at 10:53 am.

Pearson and Bock left at 10:56 am.

In the matter of
Assessor news:

Kean advised he has received an email from the State Tax Collections office in reference to the Norman Matthews property. Tax Commission advised that Mr. Matthews has filed appeals on his personal property however they denied his residential

appeal. Kean advised the tax commission has cc'd him on every email chain so that he is aware of what Mr. Matthews is accusing the county of. Discussions were had on the residential property he is upset about has the structure listed as salvage and assessed at \$8,000 and the land is assessed at \$18,000 because it is still a buildable site if the current home is torn down. If the home is torn down that would lower his assessed value. On his other property he is being assessed at 3 times the normal because he has 3 separate homes all with their own wells and septic's which is why it is higher being 3 residencies on his land.

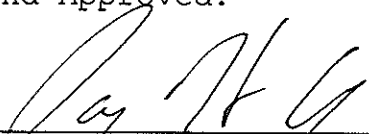
Kean left at 11:27 am.

In the matter of
Previous Commission minutes:

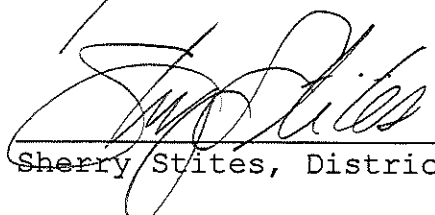
Commission reviewed and approved minutes from January 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 9th and 11th.

Hearing no other business Commission adjourned at 12:00 pm.

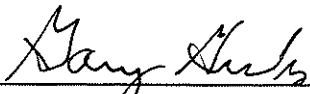
Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
January 19, 2024 the Eight Day of the January Term

Now at this 19th day of January, Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

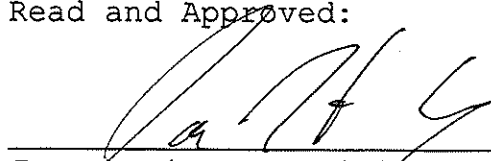
Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner
Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner
Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner
Laura Johnson, County Clerk

In the matter of
Budget review for potential COLA:


Commission was provided a sum of expenses and revenues for the proposed 2024 budget by Clerk Johnson. General discussions were had on raising the emergency fund line, transferring Road and Bridge additional funds for necessary equipment purchases and whether commission could approve a 3% or 6% COLA to employees. Commission decided to follow suit of the Sheriff and give the employees outside of the Sheriff/Jail budgets a 6% COLA. Further discussion was had on leaving it to the discretion of the office holder to give the COLA to employees that have not been employed with the county for 6 months. Commission also agreed to increasing the Emergency Fund line to \$600,000 to cover a months' worth (2 pay periods) of payroll for the county.

Having concluded on the scheduled matter commission adjourned at 2:45 pm.

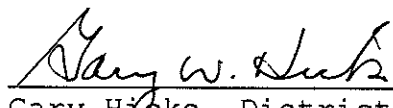
Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
January 23, 2024 Nineth Day of the January Term

Now at this 23rd day of January, Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner
Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner
Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner
Laura Johnson, County Clerk

In the matter of
Ongoing discussion on budgets:

Discussions were had on how we need to correct the reflection of the extension council budget lines on the county budget. Commissioner Hicks advised Ms. Johnson to reach out to the auditor to see how these 2 lines should be correctly recorded on the budget.

Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:35 am.

Treasurer Cathy Tipton entered at 9:39 am.

In the matter of
Crisis Intervention Fund ACH Reimbursement Form:

Tipton asked commission who needs to be listed as the business owners in order to initiate ACH drafts with the Crisis Intervention Funds Reimbursements.

In the matter of
ADP Payroll/Time & Attendance system:

General discussions were had on the new ADP system the county is switching over to for Payroll/Time and Attendance.

Tipton left at 9:53 am.

Local resident Jim Dipardo called commission at 9:59 am.

In the matter of
Citizen Input:

Dipardo advised commission county road 3630 is solid ice, Commission advised we would see about getting a road truck out there to lay cinders.

In the matter of
SEMA Hazard Mitigation match:

Commission reviewed the match for State emergency Management. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the grant to update our hazard mitigation plan, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Sheriff Kirn entered at 10:25 am.

In the matter of
Change order on Jail Expansion:

Sheriff Kirn provided Commission with a change order on the construction of the jail expansion project. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the order, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Kojro left at 10:29 am.

Commissioner Auxier left at 10:32 am for a prior arranged commitment.

Ms. Johnson moved to appoint Commissioner Hicks as Acting Presiding Commissioner, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Road & Bridge Admin Assistant Michelle Bock entered at 10:42 am.

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 10:46 am.

In the matter of
Road & Bridge Road Conditions updates:

Superintendent Mark Case called in to commission and advised that they have had several reports of citizens complaining about the state of county roads after the winter weather passed through. He advised that they are informing citizens that our big trucks can't make it to the roads to treat them until the ice melts a bit more.

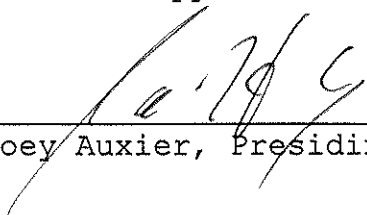
Barnes left at 10:59 am.

In the matter of
Sheriff's Department matter:


Sheriff has advised commission he has a pretrial inmate with substantial medical needs. He advised due to the inmate being incarcerated Medicaid has denied paying any medical. Sheriff advised he found out it would cost the sheriff's office \$25,000 a month to cover his substantial medical care. Sheriff also advised he has had discussions with the Judge, Prosecutor and the victim's family to discuss potential of house arrest along with mandated check ins until he has a trial and is convicted. This would free up that monthly cost from the county as the inmates Medicaid would be reinstated.

Hearing no other business commission adjourned at 12:01 pm

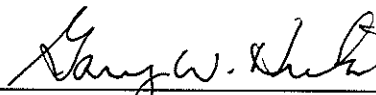
Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
January 25, 2024 Tenth Day of the January Term

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

Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner
Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner
Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner
Laura Johnson, County Clerk

In the matter of
RREC and MAC invoices:

Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the payment of the Rolla Regional Economic Commission and the Missouri Association of Counties Invoices, Commissioner Auxier seconded, motion carried.

Health Dept. Director Ashley Campbell entered at 9:05 am.

Treasurer Cathy Tipton entered at 9:10 am followed by Deputy Clerk Peter Cook at 9:13 am

In the matter of
ADP request:

Johnson, Campbell, Tipton and Cook advised commission we met with ADP yesterday and they had a request. They requested we set up a separate account that they can access since we do not want them to have access to all of General Funds. Campbell suggested we keep at least 2 pay periods worth of funds in this account so there would not be an issue of anything getting missed. Further discussions were had that we have not received a contract from ADP yet and we need to see that before moving any further.

Campbell and Cook left at 9:42 am.

In the matter of
CART Fund report:

Tipton presented commission with the Monthly CART Fund report for review. She explains gas is a little low but still up from previous years. All in all, she advised we are up across the board compared to previous years.

In the matter of
State Tax Commission Consumer Price index:

Johnson advised commission the State Tax Commission sent the Certified increase in the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers.

BPJ representatives Mike Scott, Tonya Greven and Tim Lee entered at 9:51 am.

In the matter of
BPJ business:

Mrs. Greven introduced a new team member, Tim Lee, to their team who will be assisting with the Counties account. Mr. Scott provided Commission with a report of where our partially self-funded account is at in the last month of the year. Mr. Scott explained that the overall year for the county is at 80.18% of Net Claims vs. Premium Loss Ratio. He also explained that the 3 highest claims are employees that are no longer here so we should see a decrease in claims this year.

The Focus Reporter entered at 10:04 am followed by the Collector Faith Barnes at 10:05 am.

Barnes left at 10:07 am.

Discussions were had on the telehealth that is available for employees for free.

Further discussions were had on the Optum prescription plan. This plan would automatically look for a generic version or decide if there is a coupon that would make it cheaper for the employee on retail purchases.

Discussions were had on potentially adding a wellness visit incentive.

Cathy Tipton left at 10:34 am.

Mr. Scott explains that we did not meet our Aggregate Amount which is good, you never want to meet or be over that amount as it would change your plan.

Discussions were had on the Mineral HR system that BPJ is going to provide for their clients. This system will work for every department in the county. Example was given of a Safety training that the road & bridge could take to be compliant with state regulations.

Discussions were had on the county changing their stipulations for being able to continue health insurance after retirement. BPJ suggested putting in place a sliding scale system.

The focus Reporter left at 11:01 am.

They advised you can make amendments to retirees by stating we will no longer pay the county portion of the insurance over a certain time frame or potentially cutting the county covered portion in half.

Mr. Lee, Mr. Scott and Ms. Greven left at 11:40 am.

In the matter of
Jerome Flood plain issue:


Commissioner Auxier advised he met with Tammy Snodgrass at Jefferson City in reference to the complaint of the Jerome issue. Discussions were had on the county not wanting the property owner to have to pay for a no rise certificate if an engineer from state could do the same thing. Commission is waiting to hear from Preston Cramer before moving forward.

In the matter of
Closed Session:

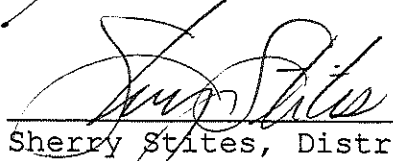
Commissioner Hicks moved to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (2) to discuss real estate, Commissioner Stites seconded, moved to closed session at 11:55 am. Commissioner Hicks moved to return to open session, Commissioner Stites seconded, Returned to open session at 12:02 pm. The Closed session was not announced in advance.

Hearing no other business, the commission adjourned at 12:05 pm.

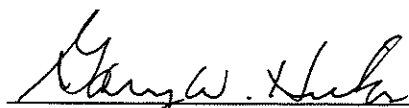
Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

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Phelps County Commission Record
January 30, 2024 Eleventh Day of the January Term

Now at this 30th day of January, Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner
Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner
Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner
Laura Johnson, County Clerk

Also present were Representative Grant Wilson from Jason Smiths office.

In the matter of
Previous Commission Minutes:

Commission reviewed and approved with minor edits minutes from January 16th, 18th, 19th and 23rd.

Bailiff Chris Reeder entered at 9:13 am followed by Sheriff Mike Kirn at 9:19 am.

In the matter of
COLA and employment stipulations:

Commission and Sheriff discussed why the sheriff's department does not follow giving pay increases at the 6 month mark. Sheriff explained he has to get his starting pay increased to at least match the other local law enforcement agencies. He explains the high cost of the county family insurance plan is a huge hurt to gaining employees. He also explained that the county does have better retirement benefits although these younger employees do not see that as a perk when they are spending a lot of money on insuring their families. Sheriff explains he has to do these small pay increases each year to be able to get the pay up to where it needs to be at instead of doing it all at once which would be a huge hit to county funds.

After discussing commission decided to keep the 6% COLA but changing it to leaving the discretion of the office holders to give the COLA as they see fit instead of the baseline of 6 month employment mark.

Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:31 am.

In the matter of
Jail Expansion Change order & Grant:

Sheriff presented commission with a change order addressing the additional construction needed to correct where the 2 inmates escaped and a grant for purchasing safety equipment for the deputies. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the Jail Expansion Project change order and a Grant from DPS for the purchase of vests, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Sheriff Kirn left at 9:52 am.

Admin Assistant Theresa Lasher entered at 9:58 am. Followed by local residents Chester Crider at 10:05 am and Gene Deluca at 10:08 am.

In the matter of
Sick Leave Policy for Sheriff's Department:

Lasher explains to commission she feels COVID is here to stay and we need to bring back our 3 day sick leave instead of 5 days. She has employees that are taking advantage of this 5 day leave now and would like to see it return back to the 3 days and need a doctor note. Commission advised we are still finalizing the county guideline policy and plan to revisit and finish editing the guideline after budget is over.

Lasher left at 10:21 am followed by Kojro at 10:27 am.

Road and Bridge Superintendent Mark Case and Admin Assistant Michelle Bock entered at 10:29 am.

Wilson left at 10:32am.

In the matter of
Bid Solicitation review for Road & Bridge supplies:

Commission reviewed the proposed bids and specifications for Grader Blades, Chip & Seal Rock and Sand, Rock and Gravel, Culverts and Asphalt products. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the solicitation for bids for the above mentioned supplies needed, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Crider left at 10:38 am.

In the matter of
Tax Exempt Project Certificate:

Commissioner Auxier signed an extended tax-exempt letter for the Road & Bridge facility as recent change orders have delayed its completion date.

Bailiff Jamie Arnold entered at 11:06 am followed by Bailiff John Machino at 11:08 am.

In the matter of
Chair for Security:

Reeder asked commission for approval to purchase a new chair for the security area. Commission approved the purchase.

In the matter of
Panic buttons in the Courthouse:

Discussions were had on the current panic buttons needing updated. Discussion was had on the current buttons now being out of warranty. Bailiff Arnold advised commission if no additional

updates are needed for a yearly fee of \$120 the county can connect the current buttons to a text/email system. Discussions were had on the potential of additional costs if it is discovered the software needs updated. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve updating the panic buttons, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Reeder, Arnold and Machino left at 11:29 am.

In the matter of
Trade in with Freightliner continued:

Mark Case advised commission they settled the trade in at \$1,000 off the contracted price to make the necessary maintenance needed on the dump truck for the trade.

Ms.Bock, Mr. Case and Mr. Deluca left at 11:40 am.

In the matter of
Change order #13:

Commission reviewed the updated change order that reflects the \$800 discount for the gas pipe. Commissioner Hicks moved to approved the change order, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Treasurer Tipton entered at 11:43 am.

In the matter of
Marijuana questionnaire from the newspaper:

Tipton presented commission with the questionnaire she received from a local reporter. Commission reviewed the questions and approved Ms. Tipton's answers.

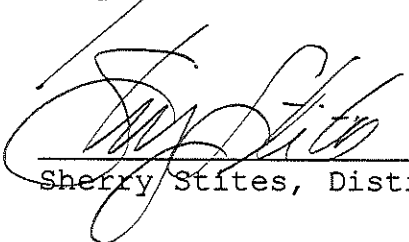
Tipton left at 11:47 am.

Hearing no other business commission adjourned at 12:00pm

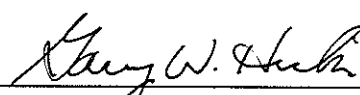
Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

