

## Phelps County Commission Record

May 2, 2023 Nineth Day of the April Term

Now at this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May the commission met in pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Laura Johnson, Phelps County Clerk

Also present were local resident Scott White and the Focus Reporter.

County Clerk Johnson moved to appoint Gary Hicks as presiding commissioner, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried at 9:02 am.

Presiding Commissioner Joey Auxier entered at 9:12 am and resumed the position as Presiding.

Assessor Tim Kean entered at 9:14 am followed by local resident Carla White at 9:18 am. Sheriff Kirn entered at 9:39 am.

In the matter of  
Private Drive 2305:

Mr. White expressed his concerns of the make shift fence that was put up by a neighbor, The Boultes. Mr. White advised commission this fence is actually on county road way property and he would like it removed. Mr. White explains he has had some issues with this neighbor trespassing and that neighbor's dog attacked Mrs. Whites small 13 lb dog. He explains they are becoming a big problem and he has come to commission for help. The Whites explained these neighbors are retaliating by causing property damage with a tractor when they were asked nicely to not trespass on their property. Mr. White explains there is a 20-foot easement around the neighboring lake for pedestrians to enjoy. Commissioner Auxier advises the sheriff that he will need law enforcement to explain to the Boultes that they cannot drive posts or put up fence on county property/right of ways. The assessor advised the right of ways vary by the road depth and the area it lays so there is no standard footage set on right of ways. The Whites advised they recently sold a car and when the buyer came to pick up the vehicle, they parked in the grass along the road way and the neighbors called the cops on them. Commission advised the Whites to contact an attorney on this matter as they aren't able to do much other than pinning a property line. Commission also advised if it is county property along the road way, they reach out to the county surveyor to assist in this matter. Commission reiterated they aren't able to do much other than remove the make shift fence off of the county right of way if it is in fact county property. Mr. Kean advised since Elgin was just out there to survey for the Whites there should already be property line stacks in place making it a fairly easy survey for the county surveyor. Mr. White advised to

be honest when this was created there were several issues and commissioner Auxier advised "That is an understatement" as he is well aware of issues associated with this subdivision.

Discussions were had about the commission contacting the Boultes and advising them they need to remove their make shift fence if it is on county property. Commissioner Stites advised she will follow up with the Whites as soon as she gets in contact with the county surveyor. The Whites advised they were happy with this plan.

The Whites left at 10:00 am.

In the matter of  
Gas main hit at Sheriff's Dept:

Sheriff advised they hit a gas main today during construction. He advised commission they contacted Ameren 3 times and they never came out to mark the lines. He advised Ameren is finally out there fixing the main now that it has been hit.

In the matter of  
Jail Expansion Documents:

Commissioner Hicks Moved to approve the signing of certain documents relating to the Jail expansion project, Commissioner Stites seconded, Motion carried at 10:04 am.

In the matter of  
Sheriff's Department Gun Range progress:

Sheriff explains they are getting ready to pour 2 concrete pads at the new range and they will be building a pavilion over each pad to keep the officers out of the weather and sun. Discussions were had on the intent to cover using wood materials but with the prices being high it would cost the same amount to utilize metal materials and this will last longer. Discussions were had on while looking for the best deal they found one locally that were a fair price and quality. Commissioner Stites moved to approve moving forward with this project, Commissioner Hicks seconded, Motion carried at 10:17 am.

Support services Sissy Korich and Amy Asbery entered at 10:27 am. The Focus Reporter left at 10:28 am. The Recorder Robin Kordes entered at 10:30 am. Kordes left at 10:33 am.

In the matter of  
Private Drive 2305 rediscussed:

Commissioner Stites called Mr. White and advised him due to a recent map presented to commission that shows the county has never accepted this subdivision they can no longer get involved. Mr. White advised he will be in in just a moment as he was out in the parking lot.

Mr. and Mrs. White reentered at 10:37 am.

Mr. White advised looking at the GIS mapping it shows county owning this road. Mr. Kean advised that is only showing that no one in that neighborhood owns that parceled area. Discussions were had on how in the past there was a program that allowed the county to chip and seal the roads if the residents wanted it done. Watkins Lakewood subdivision is a private subdivision and not a county accepted subdivision. Commission explained the subdivision was not accepted but the county does help maintain some of the roads in that area. Mr. Kean advised this needs to be brought to an attorney to decipher who owns what as no one in the room is a real estate attorney. Further discussions were had on how there is a potential of there being an easement on this property and again they need to take this matter under legal advisement. Mr. Kean reiterates that no one in this room is a specialist on this matter and that the Whites need to reach out to a Real Estate attorney to move forward on rectifying this matter. Sheriff asked who is currently maintaining the road. Mr. White advised he and another property owner are the ones taking care of the road maintenance currently. Mr. White advised I guess to move forward we are going to have to go to court with the neighbors that this road is affecting to get anywhere on this matter. Commissioner Auxier advised this will be considered a civil matter and you will need to go to court to rectify the matter. Commission advised our hands are tied at this time until something comes from them (The Whites) going to court advising any further on the matter.

Mr. and Mrs. White and the Sheriff left at 11:03 am followed by Assesor Kean at 11:04 am.

In the matter of  
Invoice to website contract labor:

Commissioner Stites moved to pay the invoice for the updating of the employee health insurance on the company website, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried at 11:06 am.

In the matter of  
Updating the Courthouse Cooling Towers:

Korich advises commission on her findings of the chemicals side of the previous proposed bid. Discussions were had on how they do not have to do the chemical side of this update as the soft water treatment does the same process and this will decrease the cost. Korich advised the base price would be a final cost of \$250,000.00 to replace the tower. Hicks moved to approve the contract for the cooling tower replacement, Stites Seconded, motion carried at 11:13 am.

In the matter of  
Elevator updates:

Korich advised commission on her findings of the costs associated with updating the courthouse elevators. Korich advised the price she was given is an expected cost but there could be some added additions as the building was not built

correctly to operate these elevators. Discussions were had on the jacks of the elevators and how one company is advising they don't think the one needs to be replaced but another company is advising it does need replacing. Korich advised if we are wanting to make the second elevator to reach the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor as well then, we need to replace the jack now to prevent a higher cost later down the road. Discussions were had on what's best for the county and citizens. Korich advised the company that sent the bid is offering to give a presentation to commission and support services and Commission advised yes, they would like to attend that.

Korich and Asberry left at 11:40 am.

In the matter of  
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amount of \$127,790.10 for UMR Medical, \$19,185.68 for May Contract Pay and \$3,525.40 for Grand Jury Pay.

In the matter of  
Concern of LGBTQ event:

Local resident, Mrs. Hicks called commission and has some concerns of the welfare of the children being exposed to performing drag queens. She advised she is not against anyone living this lifestyle but feels it would be detrimental to any child in attendance. Commission advised they do not have any pull in this matter as individuals are allowed to take their child to any event as long as there are no laws being violated.

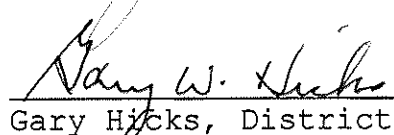
In the matter of  
Region I and MOCA meetings:

Commissioner Hicks advised he attended the Region I and MOCA meetings recently gave a brief report on the meetings.

Read and Approved:

  
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Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

  
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Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

  
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Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

## Phelps County Commission Record

May 4, 2023 Tenth Day of the April Term

Now at this 4<sup>th</sup> day of May the 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, Phelps County Clerk

In the matter of  
Opioid Settlement payments:

Commissioner Auxier advised there are going to be 4 more companies making payments in the ongoing opioid settlements.

The Focus Reporter entered at 9:04 am followed by Tammy Snodgrass and Patrick Stites from The Meramec Regional Planning Committee @ 9:06 am.

In the matter of  
County Flood Plain Management:

Ms. Snodgrass and Mr. Stites presents commission with documentations on the county flood plain management system. Discussions were had on how the county has been a member of the NFIP (National Flood Insurance Program) since the mid 1980's but the Meramec regional planning community took over around 1993. Discussion was had on how prior to 1993 commission was responsible for flood plain management. Discussions were had on how any home owner wanting to build in a flood plain will have to obtain a permit and will have to build to flood plain specifications. Further discussions were had on in the last 10 years we have had four 100-year floods happen which is detrimental to the home owners and the communities involved in these flood plain areas. The flood plain was created to reduce the future costs to the property owner and the government. Discussions were had on how private insurance is roughly 40% cheaper but the private insurance company has the ability to pick and choose who they will process claims on whereas NFIP has to take every claim and process it, they can't choose who gets coverage. Further discussions were had on making updates to the flood plain management enforcement section. Discussion on how the ordinance allows for fines to be issued if a property owner is blatantly out of compliance were had. Ms. Snodgrass advised they are in the process of obtaining updated maps and would like to update the informational pamphlets.

Local Resident Ray Schweikhardt entered at 9:33 am followed by Health Department Director Ashley Campbell @ 9:59 am. Local Resident Chester Crider entered at 10:11 am.

In the matter of  
Health Department contracts:

Ms. Campbell presents contract to commission for signing. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve signing the Crisis Cooperative Agreement for another year, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried at 10:17 am.

Mr. Stites and Ms. Snodgrass left at 10:15 am followed by Ms. Campbell at 10:21 am, Mr. Crider and the Focus Reporter at 10:24 am. Local resident Gary Heavin entered at 10:32 am.

In the matter of  
Citizen input:

Discussions were had on the development of the new road and bridge facility. Commission advised they received the final say of how the ARPA funds could be utilized and it has taken them almost a year of designing, planning, bidding and hiring a firm to get the project started. Mr. Heavin asked do you have to go out to bid before you sell the current road and bridge property? Commission advised the realtors would have to bid what their % of the sale would be and commission would choose the best bid for the county. Mr. Heavin advised the university needs to buy the property. Discussions were had on how the commission doesn't even know if it is zoned commercial or Government? Upon researching it was discovered it is zoned as government and institutional.

Local resident Schweikhardt left at 10:47 am. Local resident Chester Kohrjo entered at 11:10 am. Mr. Heavin left at 11:14 am. Deputy Clerk Lisa Dowdy entered at 11:21 am.

In the matter of  
UMR Health report:

Discussions were had on the matter of stop loss funding. Ms. Dowdy explains we have a handful of claims coming in that will be hitting the stop loss funds. Commission discussed they will contact the local insurance representative and ask for a monthly report so commission can keep an eye on the funds.

In the matter of  
Drug Court purchase reimbursement:

County Clerk Johnson presents commission with a request of reimbursement of cards from the Drug Court Participation Funds in the amount of \$109.90. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the reimbursement, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried at 11:55 am.

In the matter of  
BRO projects:

Commissioner Hicks calls and placed on speaker, Mr. Jeff Banderet who is overseeing the projects in the county. Discussions were had on how the commission wants to move a bridge off of CR 2110 up the list to have repairs done this year. Mr. Banderet advised to submit 2 applications to state and

choose which one they want to make top priority. Discussions were had on how this bridge has lost more of its structure just in the last few months.

Local resident Gwen Hicks entered at 11:46 am followed by Collector Faith Barnes at 11:50 am. Ms. Hicks left at 11:57 am followed by Collector Barnes and Mr. Kohrjo at 11:57 am. Recorder Robin Kordes entered at 11:57am.

In the Matter of  
Closed Session:

Commissioner Hicks moved to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (5) to discuss personnel matters, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried at 11:58 am.

Commissioner Hicks moved to come out of closed session, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried at 12:20pm.

Commission recessed at 12:21pm

Commission reconvened at 1:00pm and the following members were present:

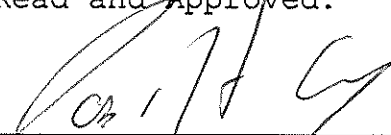
Sherry Stites-District 1 Commissioner, Gary Hicks-District 2 Commissioner, Laura Johnson-Phelps County Clerk, Sissy Korich-Support Services and Amy Asberry-Support Services.

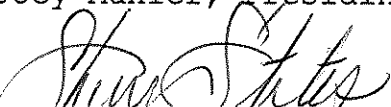
In the matter of  
ATIS webinar on Elevator Repairs:

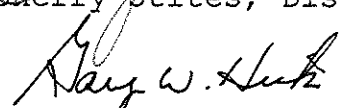
All in attendance watched the webinar on the proposed repairs, changes and cost associated with the Elevator repairs for the Courthouse. Discussions were had on having a base bid but making sure the companies place a contingency for any unforeseen issues/costs. A rough estimate of the project will cost about \$385,000 and Ms. Korich advised per statute we must state this is a prevailing wage job.

All in attendance adjourned at 2:15 pm

Read and Approved:

  
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Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

  
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Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

  
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Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner





# Phelps County Commission Record

May 9, 2023 Eleventh Day of the April Term

Now at this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May the 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

Also Present were local resident Ray Schweikhardt. Deputy Clerk Hudson took minutes in the absence of County Clerk Johnson.

## IN THE MATTER OF BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

Brief discussion was had of a proposed amendment to the Prosecutor's Office budget. No action was taken; numbers are still being computed by the Clerk's Office.

## IN THE MATTER OF PROPERTY VALUES:

Brief discussion was had on methods of valuing property bought and sold by the County. No specific property was under consideration, and no action was taken.

The *Focus Reporter* entered at 9:03 am.

## IN THE MATTER OF COUNTY SHED - HIGHWAY 68 AND COUNTY ROAD 1050:

Discussion was had of possible dispositions of County land between Fairgrounds and Bryant Roads, near the Ed Morse car dealership and a National Guard installation. A shed currently stands on the County land.

A phone call was made to Preston Kramer of Missouri Department of Transportation; the Commission left a voicemail message requesting a return call. The Commission will inquire whether DOT might be planning a widening of one of the adjacent roads. No specific proposals were entertained, and no action was taken.

The *Focus Reporter* left at this time 9:30 am.

## IN THE MATTER OF CITIZEN INPUT:

A return call was placed to Deborah Frost off Fawn Ridge Drive concerning concrete cable boxes, which were buried but have been exposed by subsequent rainfall. Ms. Frost will be provided a phone number to the cable company to see if a remedy can be arranged through the company's standing contract.

IN THE MATTER OF  
REQUEST FOR PAYMENT RELATED TO ROAD AND BRIDGE FACILITY SHED:

A request for payment in the amount of \$131,263.04 related to the Road and Bridge shed and its grounds was received by the Commission. As moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Stites, the payment was conditionally approved, pending receipt of supporting documentation from the Department of Transportation.

IN THE MATTER OF  
ON-SITE PROGRESS MEETING RELATED TO ROAD AND BRIDGE FACILITY SHED:

It was mentioned that there would be an on-site progress meeting at the Road and Bridge shed on May 18.

Mr. Schweikhardt left at this time 9:50 am. Assessor Tim Kean entered at 9:59 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
A LAKE OR POND NEAR COUNTY ROAD 2310:

General discussion was had of the possible joint ownership and potential easements and barriers affecting a lake or pond adjoining several residential properties on County Road 2310. The Recorder will be consulted to find out if there are any easements of record around this body of water.

Assessor Kean generally discussed how parcels and land ownership can be designated in county records for property tax assessment, based on such factors as location, deeds, homeowners' association agreements, and devises. Kean gave an example of a homeowners' association in a different location specifying common lake usage in their by-laws. Asked about challenges to property valuations, Kean stated that requests in proper form, preferably from an attorney, can be made to the Assessor's Office for reconsideration of assessed values.

Michelle Bock of the Road and Bridge Department entered at 10:11 am followed by Collector Faith Barnes at 10:13 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Commission reviewed and approved Invoices in the amount of \$78,862.92 for A - L and \$88,072.07 for M - Z.

Ms. Barnes left at 10:20 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
COUNTY ROAD SPECIFICATIONS:

Discussions were had generally of published County Road specifications and the need for private property owners to build within these specifications if roads are to be dedicated for public use and if the County is to assume maintenance of the same.

IN THE MATTER OF  
PROPOSED VACATION OF A SECTION OF NORTH PARK STREET (SHERIFF'S  
DEPARTMENT PARKING LOT):

The Rolla Planning and Zoning Committee will meet tonight to discuss the proposed vacation of the section of North Park Street running from Second Street to the Burlington Northern railroad tracks - that is, the section encompassed by the Sheriff's Department parking lot. Commissioner Stites will attend this meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF  
TRAFFIC ON PEARL STREET:

Ms. Bock relayed concerns communicated to the Road and Bridge Department about speeding vehicles on Pearl Street, especially around school drop-off and collection times. Concerned citizens have been, and will be advised to report reckless driving to the police, and to request additional patrols.

Assessor Kean left at 10:35 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
A TREE ON THIRD STREET IN JEROME:

Ms. Bock mentioned that a tree on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Jerome was hit by lightning in yesterday's thunderstorm and will need to be removed. No immediate action was taken.

Tonya Greven from Barker Phillips Jackson Insurance entered at 10:59 am and Ms. Bock left.

IN THE MATTER OF  
EMPLOYEE PARTIALLY SELF-FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE:

Ms. Greven briefly clarified stop-loss reimbursements reflected on periodic insurance spending reports.

Greven also suggested that she or a colleague attend a Commission meeting once a month to clarify any issues or reports that have been drawn to the Commission's attention. Ms. Greven further suggested an insurance representative might be available in the courthouse once a month to provide on-site employee guidance concerning their health insurance. Greven generally explained the \$500 deductible and 90% / 10% payment structure for certain procedures performed outside of the Phelps Regional Medical Center. Ms. Greven presented to the Commission an administrative service agreement. On motion of Commissioner Hicks as seconded by Commissioner Stites, the agreement was approved. Ms. Greven will provide a copy of the signed agreement to the County Clerk. The Commission requested an insurance representative's presence at the last Commission meeting of every month.

Jason Schenefield of Phelps Regional Medical Center entered at 11:18 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
PHELPS COUNTY MEDICAL CENTER STAFF HOUSING:

A brief discussion was had with Mr. Schenefield about the possibility of PCRMC building temporary housing for its new staff recruits. It was noted that this might be an alternative to renting temporary accommodations.

Ms. Greven left at 11:41 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
PCRMC MEDICAID BILLING:

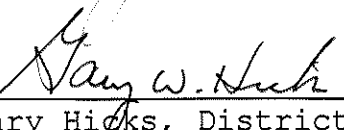
Mr. Schenefield confirmed that PCRMC bills Medicaid when patients are covered by Medicaid. Apparently there had been some confusion in the community over the hospital's acceptance and billing of Medicaid. PCRMC also follows the Medicaid 3% price increase for all patient care.

There being no other business, the Commission adjourned at noon.

Read and Approved:

  
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Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

  
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Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

  
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Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

# Phelps County Commission Record

May 11, 2023 Twelfth Day of the April Term

Now at this 11<sup>th</sup> day of May the 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, Phelps County Clerk

Also present were The Focus Report and Grant Wilson.

In the matter of  
House updates:

Mr. Wilson explains the house just had a hearing outdoor on Trade in New York. Discussions were had on how the house has not had an outdoor hearing in several years. Further discussions were had on how they are still attempting to get a trade opened with Mexico on Corn. Discussions were had on the biggest issue currently in house is the debt limit. Mr. Wilson explains they are working to raise the sealing so they can continue to pay all their debts.

In the matter of  
Progress at the Road and Bridge facility:

Commissioner Hicks reports when he drove out to check the progress of the new facility there were roughly 150 feet of footers poured on the south side already. Hicks advised they have already moved the utility pole and laid some rock down as well.

In the matter of  
Pride Fest:

Discussions were had on how the commission is being bombarded with emails and calls about the Pride fest that is being held at the Pleasure Zone. Commission advised they cannot create an ordinance for this particular matter but there are already state laws in place that will prevent minors from attending the event. Discussions were had on how the commission cannot get involved with a private property event and if there are any laws being broken the sheriff's department would need to be called.

In the matter of  
County payroll:

Discussions were had on how of the \$350,000 paid out roughly \$95,000 is for Sheriff's department staff, roughly \$80,000 is

from courthouse employees and roughly \$32,000 is for Road and Bridge staff.

Assessor Tim Kean entered at 9:49 am followed by Circuit Clerk Marlaina Wallace at 9:56 am.

In the matter of  
Section 9 of Courthouse parking:

Ms. Wallace explains its one-way parking and the issue they are having is when someone tries to enter the one way and someone is trying to leave it causes congestion. Commission advised they would advise putting up a do not enter sign at the end of the parking lot on the street side of this section. Assessor Kean advised could we put up a sign that also says courthouse employees only to hopefully detour the other businesses in the area from using our parking lot. Discussions were had on how the commission will contact building and maintenance to see about putting up a do not enter sign and a sign that advises courthouse parking only during the times of 8am-5pm.

In the matter of  
Courthouse security updates:

Discussions were had on how there was a delay in the new entrance doors which has pushed our timeline back to August.

Wallace left at 10:13 am.

In the matter of  
Assessor news:

Kean advised he is working on sending out the updated change of assessments to property owners and he advised these have to be sent out by June 15<sup>th</sup> per statute. Kean advised he knows there will be a big reassessment in 2025 so he is only doing a few this year as he does not want to hit people with raised assessments this year and then again in 2025.

The Focus Reporter left at 10:27 am followed by Grant Wilson and Tim Kean at 10:34 am. Sheriff Kirn entered at 10:35 am.

In the matter of  
Change Order for Sheriff's Department Construction:

Sheriff presents commission with a change order from the facility addition that is currently underway. Commissioner Auxier approved and signed the change order.

Sheriff Kirn left at 10:51 am.

In the matter of  
Maintenance agreements with MODOT:

Discussions were had on a section of Hwy 72 not being deeded to anyone. Commission advised calling Michelle Bock at road and

bridge to see if we are receiving CART funds on this section before they take action.

In the matter of  
Destruction of records:

Commissioner Hicks moved to approve destruction of certain documents for the Clerk's office, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried at 11:02 am.

Document Destruction

May 2023

Commission approved on \_\_\_\_\_

Shredded on \_\_\_\_\_

March 10, 2020 Presidential Preference Primary

- Sample Ballots

June 2, 2020 Municipal Election

- Unopened Rejected Ballots

Assessment Quarterly 2015

Assessment Quarterly 2016

Assessment Quarterly 2017

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Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner.

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Sherry Stires, Commissioner District 1.

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Garry Hicks, Commissioner District 2.

In the matter of  
Property Tax Partial Abatements:

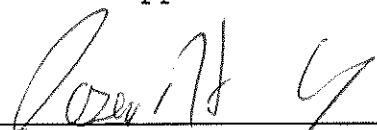
Commissioner Hicks moved to amend the partial tax abatements for #2022-20216 & #2021-67746, Commissioner Stites Seconded, Motion carried at 11:24 am.

Recorder Robin Kordes entered at 11:37 am.

In the matter of  
Revisit of Section 9 of Courthouse Parking:

Commission called Building and maintenance Sissy Korich to discuss the DO NOT enter sign. Korich advised we visited this issue a few years back and there is no good place to put the sign. Commission and Korich advised they would schedule a time to look at the area next Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Read and Approved:

  
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Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

  
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Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

  
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Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner



**Phelps County Commission Record**  
**May 16, 2023 Thirteenth Day of the April Term**

Now at this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, the 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

Also present was Jeff Banderet of Great River Engineering. Deputy Clerk Hudson took minutes in the absence of County Clerk Johnson.

IN THE MATTER OF  
BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM (BRO) PROJECTS:

Mr. Banderet was present to discuss preliminary steps in the planned renovation or rebuilding of Phelps County bridges, notably the County Road 3620 bridge, using funds from the Bridge Replacement Program (BRO). Banderet planned to visit at least one bridge in the county eligible for repair under BRO funds this date. The MoDOT estimate for repair of the CR 3620 bridge is approximately \$366,000, though Banderet estimates actual costs at \$450,000 to \$500,000 at current prices.

The *Focus Reporter* entered at 9:09 am.

Applications for additional repair funds for additional bridges were discussed. For instance, the County Road 2110 bridge now has only one guardrail, and currently has a 26-point rating on a 45-point National Bridge Inspection (NBI) scale, where the higher the number, the worse the condition, and the more eligible for government funding for repair. A regional bridge committee, covering a district from Boone to Washington Counties, reviews applications for funding and repairs. Phelps County could be eligible for funding for up to 2 bridge repairs; or it could be allocated nothing at all. There is a \$500 fee for Great River Engineering to prepare the application and supporting data, which is generally cheaper than the cost for a county to apply unassisted. The application has been revised to inquire about how the County will contribute its 12% share to repair.

Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:26 am.

Discussion was then had about the ways that the County can contribute its 12%. Banderet will investigate some possibilities and will provide information to the Commission. On motion of Commissioner Hicks as seconded by Commissioner Stites, a \$500 application fee agreement with Great River was approved.

Banderet also explained the need for surveys in the event that excavations for repair work uncover historically significant artifacts. If building projects proceed and uncover items of archaeological significance, surveys would then be required under government regulations.

On motion of Commissioner Hicks as seconded by Commissioner Stites, Great River Engineering was given permission to submit

bridge repair plans to the Army Corp of Engineers to ensure compliance with applicable regulations.

Banderet also plans to visit the local director of floodplain management this date, as this department will need to grant a permit before repairs may proceed.

On motion of Commissioner Stites as seconded by Commissioner Hicks, a floodplain development permit application was then approved.

Treasurer Cathy Tipton entered and Mr. Banderet left at 9:52 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
COURTHOUSE SECURITY:

It was noted that courthouse security improvements have begun, with glass partitions and frames being installed in the courthouse foyer and entrance this day. Noise from the construction work could be heard intermittently in the Commission's meeting room, but there was no serious disruption to proceedings.

IN THE MATTER OF  
CITIZEN INPUT:

Mr. Kojro asked if there was any damage on Highway CC after the last rainstorm. None had been brought to the Commission's attention. Mr. Kojro inquired because flooding had been reported in the recent past on this road, raising some concern.

IN THE MATTER OF  
LOCAL TAX REPORTS:

Ms. Tipton presented sales tax reports, reflecting increased County revenue over this time last year.

IN THE MATTER OF  
COUNTY CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT:

Ms. Tipton will have a report on the County's CDs in June.

IN THE MATTER OF  
TAX INCREMENT FINANCING (TIF) PAYMENTS TO CITY OF ROLLA:

Commissioner Stites asked the Treasurer how long the TIF payments to the City of Rolla that began in 2012 will continue. Ms. Tipton advised it will be paid to the full term of 23 years, less what has been paid since 2012.

The Focus Reporter left at 10:13am; Collector Faith Barnes entered at 10:14 am and Ms. Tipton left at 10:15 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
SENATE BILL 190:

Ms. Barnes brought State Senate Bill 190 to the Commission's attention. This bill, enacted by the Legislature and awaiting review by the Governor, allows counties to implement property tax credits for senior citizens by ordinance or referendum. The

text of the bill was reviewed by the Commission and discussed generally.

Support Services Sissy Korich entered at 10:24 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
COURTHOUSE SECURITY:

Ms. Korich confirmed that security improvements have begun at the courthouse. Divider glass is being installed as of this date.

Ms. Barnes left at 10:30 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
COURTHOUSE PARKING LOT SECTION 9 / ONE-WAY TRAFFIC PROPOSAL:

Discussion was had of making Section 9 of the courthouse parking lot (between the old courthouse and the jail annex) a one-way traffic flow from east-to-west (i.e., ingress from Rolla Street, with traffic flowing west). Additional consideration will be made for repainting parking spaces and the placement of signs. Presiding Commissioner Auxier and Commissioner Hicks inspected Section 9 along with Ms. Korich.

IN THE MATTER OF  
PHELPS COUNTY HEALTH BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING:

The Commission was provided notice by the Phelps Health Board of Trustees that there will be a board meeting tomorrow, May 17, at noon, to review the hospital's financial audit for the 2022 fiscal year.

Ms. Barnes returned at 10:58 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
SENATE BILL 190 continued:

General discussion returned to SB 190 and the concerns it will bring forth.

Assessor Tim Kean entered at 11:06 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amount of \$22,270.39 for UMB/EATS & Westside TIF and \$1,933.88 for US Bank.

Courthouse Bailiff Chris Reeder entered at 11:16 am; Ms. Barnes left at 11:19 am; Bailiff Arnold entered at 11:21 am followed by Recorder of Deeds Robin Kordes at 11:22 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
COURTHOUSE SECURITY:

New security measures were generally discussed, including advisable measures for personnel to take that would improve

awareness and security above the level of protection offered by the new courthouse fixtures.

Bailiff's Reeder and Arnold and Ms. Kordes left at 11:32 am and Michelle Bock from Road and Bridge Department entered at 11:33 am.

IN THE MATTER OF  
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE - ROAD AND BRIDGE DEPARTMENT:

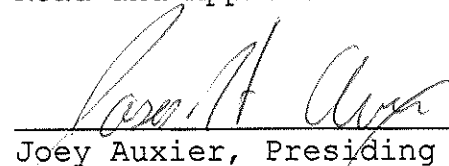
Commission reviewed and approved 2 invoices in the amounts of \$38,008.80 and \$131,263.04 to be paid to Curtiss-Manes-Schulte, Inc. for the progress made at the new Road and Bridge Facility site.


IN THE MATTER OF  
COUNTY ROAD 1130:

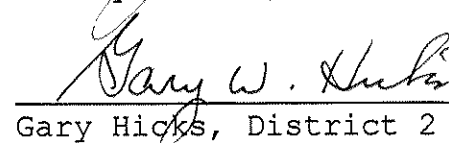
General discussion was had about the state of County Road 1130 after the Road and Bridge Department received a citizen complaint about its upkeep. Based on the most recent placement of rock, grading and maintenance standards, there is no indication that the road needs additional attention.

Hearing no other business announced, the Commission adjourned at noon.

Read and Approved:

  
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Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

  
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Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

**Phelps County Commission Record**  
**May 18, 2023 Fourteenth Day of the April Term**

Now at this 18<sup>th</sup> Day of May the 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, Phelps County Clerk

Also present were Local resident Chester Crider, Senator Browns Field Representative Ray Schwartz and The Focus Reporter.

In the matter of  
Senate News:

Discussions were had on the events of the last day of Senate and on how some of the members who held up the floor were acting in unprofessional manners; some would say old fashioned bullying. Further discussions were had on the improvements needing to be done on the major highways in Missouri and how Rolla has the potential to make highway 63 a 4 Lane highway. Mr. Schwartz advised the hopes are that state will spend 2 billion making I-70 a 6 lane Interstate and that the Feds will pick up the rest of the project cost since it is an Interstate. Mr. Schwartz advised commission to start thinking about what they are wanting improvements on as senate will start reviewing bills again in November. Discussions were had on how it only takes a few bad ones in senate to run it down and how the radical left and right are ruining the country.

Chester Crider left at 9:12 am. Treasurer Cathy Tipton entered at 9:57 am followed by Deputy Clerk Bill Hudson at 9:58 am.

In the matter of  
Opioid Settlement Bankruptcy:

Bankruptcy of New York sent notification to all entities that were eligible for the opioid settlement that if they wish to still be paid then they need to fill out a form. Hudson advised he spoke with local legal council who advised the county should fill out the online form so the county can still get their funds from this settlement. Commission advised they do want to move forward and submit the claim on line. Deputy Clerk Hudson advised he will have Prosecutor Fox fill out the information and to state the amount as unknown so that we do not lose money that's owed to the county. Commissioner Stites moved to approve submitting the claim, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried at 10:03 am.

In the matter of  
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amount of \$41,268.67 for A - L and \$54,122.46 for M - Z.

Cathy Tipton left at 10:07 am followed by Bill Hudson. Ray Schwartz left at 10:30 am. Health Department Director Ashley Campbell entered at 10:40 am.

In the matter of  
County Accounts Payable Procedures:

Discussions were had on how the offices within the Phelps County Courthouse will no longer be allowed to order off of a personal Amazon account. Office holders will need to use a county Amazon account to make any purchases and must be authorized by department head prior to purchase. Meaning we need to have signed documents in place that are submitted with payments. County Clerk Johnson advised she can type up a form that states the signer will not save this card, will not take a picture of the card and will not use the card for any unauthorized or personal purchase. Reimbursements on accounts will no longer be granted since we have credit cards and accounts available for the county to make purchases.

In the matter of  
Workforce Contract for Health department:

Campbell presents commission with the Federal Work Force contract for the Health Department in the amount of \$219,520.50. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the signing of contract giving the county the above stated amount, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried at 10:50 am.

Deputy Clerk Bethany Hawkins entered at 10:52 am and left at 10:55 am. Ashley Campbell left at 10:58 am.

In the matter of  
Speed Limit on CR 5090:

Discussions were had on a recent complaint of speeding on County Road 5090. Commission deliberated on putting up a 25 MPH Speed Limit sign. After further discussion it was decided to approach the sheriff and let him decide if there needs to be a posted speed limit sign.

Mark Case and Michelle Bock from Road and Bridge Facility entered at 11:05 am.

In the matter of  
Road and Bridge Fuel Bid:

Discussions were had on how the County is up for submitting their fuel bid this year. County Clerk will look for Bid template and send to Road and Bridge for review. Hicks moved to approve solicitation for Fuel bids for the Road department, Stites seconded, motion carried at 11:25 am.

In the matter of  
Collector adjustments and Court Orders:

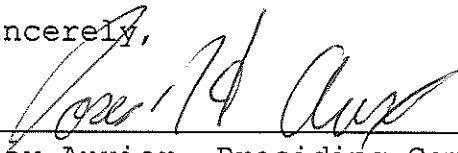
Commission reviewed and approved the adjustment on Personal Property Tax Certificate #2022002727 and the Court Ordered changes for Court Order #2148, #2147, #2146, #2145 and #2149.

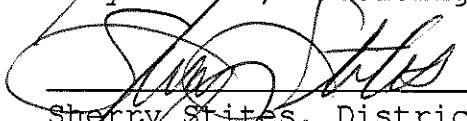
Case and Bock left at 11:49 am.

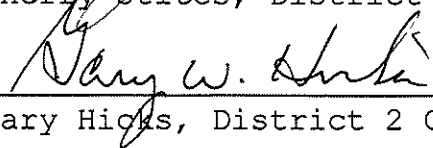
In the matter of  
Take A Stand Lemonade Stand:

Commissioner Hicks moved to allow a Lemonade stand for Take a Stand event, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried at 11:51 am.

Sincerely,

  
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Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

  
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Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

  
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Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner





**Phelps County Commission Record**  
**May 23, 2023 Fifteenth Day of the April Term**

Now at this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May the 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, Phelps County Clerk

Also present were the Focus Reporter, Treasurer Cathy Tipton and Assessor Tim Kean.

In the matter of  
May CART fees Report:

Overall, everything is up and comparable to previous years but the MV fees is down but after reaching out to DOR Tipton was advised it is down across the state.

Tipton left at 9:11 am.

In the matter of  
Extension council hiring a new employee:

Extension council reached out to commission asking how they need to proceed with replacing the retiring administrative assistant. Discussions were had on how the commission is not responsible for the replacement. Commission advised to have county clerk Johnson respond with letting them know they are responsible for hiring and we have a max salary of what the current admin assistant is at.

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 9:17 am

In the matter of  
Private Drive 2305:

Assessor Kean advised he received a few phone calls from a new homeowner along Private Drive 2305 He advised the owner that she would need to contact an attorney and if she had paperwork it needs to be taken to the recorder's office so that it can be recorded.

Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:25 am. The Focus Reporter left at 9:30 am.

In the matter of  
SB 190:

Kean presents commission with his findings on Senate Bill 190 from another local Assessor. Discussions were had on the stipulations that are involved with this bill.

Sheriff Mike Kirn and Admin assistant Theresa Lasher entered at 9:34 am. Assessor Kean and Collector Barnes left at 9:35 am.

In the matter of  
Security updates:

Kirn presents commission with his findings on a security company that would supply security officers to man the front entrance once the updates are in place. Discussions were had on how this company would provide 2 non-certified security officers and this would be a yearly contract. Discussions were had on how the county would only be responsible for the pay as the company pays for training and benefits. Discussions were had on how the sheriff would absorb the cost once the updates are in place and then when the Marijuana sales tax funds are received the county would take over funding. Discussions were had on how before implementing the county would have to have it go out for RFP bid since it is over the threshold.

In the matter of  
New Hires and Human Resources:

Discussions were had on the mistakes being made and how new hires are working for 30 plus days and their paperwork is still not entered correctly. Further discussions were had on how when someone asks for a reprint of a pay stub, they are receiving nothing but attitude. Commission advised if we need an HR Clerk then the county clerk needs to budget for it and we need to make sure we have clear position descriptions. County Clerk will reach out to Support Services to see if Theresa Lasher can obtain access to print paystubs. County Clerk also will make sure to budget for a full time and part time HR person from now on.

In the matter of  
Speeding on Pearl Street:

Sheriff advised that tickets have been issued on this street. Discussion proceeded to possible deterrents to the speeding problem.

Mr. Kojro left at 10:31 am. Recorder of Deeds Deputy clerk Lana Manley and local resident Helen Cornick entered at 10:43 am.

In the matter of  
Private Drive 2305:

Manley presents landlock paperwork that was supposed to be recorded and a warrant deed advising Kenny Lane was adopted by the county for maintenance. This document was from a local attorney's office. Ms. Cornick advised Mr. White set a fire,

lost control of it and it was heading straight towards her home. When she went out there to confront him it was discovered he set the fire on her land. Discussions were had on documentation of a warranty deed given by Judge Beger but was never recorded with the recorder of deeds office. Commission advised Ms. Cornick to find that letter and get it recorded so its on record.

Discussions were had on how the neighborhood is not safe anymore and every neighbor complains of how they are treated by Mr. and Mrs. White. Further discussions were had on how commission advised every neighbor needs to get a real estate attorney to be able to properly record the areas of the road easement since it is not owned by the county.

Manley left at 10:56 am followed by Ms. Cornick at 11:15 am.


In the matter of  
County Credit Card Usage Affidavit:

Commission reviewed and approved the new procedure in place for the usage of County Credit cards. County Clerk Johnson will email it out to the department heads. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the county credit card procedure, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried at 11:50 am.

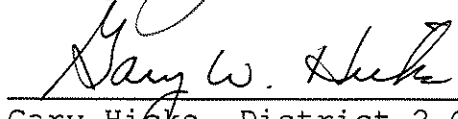
In the matter of  
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amount of \$27,396.18 for Great River Engineering and WEX Bank.

Read and Approved:

  
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Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

  
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Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

  
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Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner



**Phelps County Commission Record**  
**May 25, 2023 Sixteenth Day of the April Term**

Now at this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May the 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, Phelps County Clerk

Also present were Assessor Tim Kean, Courthouse Bailiff Chris Reeder, Mark Case and Michelle Bock from Road and Bridge and the Focus Reporter.

In the matter of  
County Payroll:

Commission reviewed and approved Payroll for the employees of Phelps County.

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 9:04 am and left at 9:08 am.

In the matter of  
County Shed business:

Case advised commission the new truck that was delivered has an issue with the step being way to high.

Case advised after speaking with the seller and explaining to him that the vehicle that was purchased is not to DOT specifications. Discussions were had and explanation was made to the fix of the vehicle and the seller is willing to hold the vehicle and fix it before delivering to the county. Commissioner Stites moves to approve paying for the fix, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried at 9:13 am.

Judge Clayton and Grant Wilson Field Representative from Congressman Smiths office entered at 9:11 am. Collector Faith Barnes reentered at 9:22 am. Health Department Director Ashley Campbell entered at 9:31 am.

In the matter of  
Personal Property Outlaws:

Commission reviewed and approved the Outlawed Personal Property Taxes for 2016, 2017 & 2018 orders. Collector Barnes explains these are all ones that they have exhausted all means to collect and are now being outlawed. Further discussion was had on these outlaws being removed from the tax records by the deadline, however the physical signature from commission and the county clerk on the outlaws didn't take place until today.

In the matter of  
Personal Property Tax Court Orders:

Commission reviewed and approved Personal Property Tax Court order #'s: 2153, 2154, 2155 and 2156.

In the matter of  
Private Drive 2305:

Commissioner Stites explains she went out and drove to neighborhood that is having issues. She reported that while she was out there talking to another neighbor Mrs. White removed the stakes that were just put in by Archer Elgin the day prior. She also reported that she advised the neighbor they need to contact a real estate attorney and take this matter to court to get it solved. Further discussions were had on the intentions of Mr. White.

Judge Clayton left at 9:45 am. Collector Barnes left at 9:51 am.

In the matter of  
Electronic Health Record MOU:

Campbell presented commission with an MOU for Electronic Health Records for the Health Department. Commission reviewed and signed the MOU.

Campbell left at 9:56 am.

In the matter of  
Road and Bridge Fuel Bid:

Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the Solicitation for fuel bid for the road and bridge department, Commissioner Stites seconded, Motion carried at 10:06 am.

Director Campbell reentered at 10:11 am. Case, Bock and Campbell left at 10:12 am followed by Assessor Kean at 10:18 am. The Focus Reporter left at 10:20 am. Recorder of Deeds Robin Kordes entered at 10:38 am

In the matter of  
Private Drive 2305(Formerly Kenny Lane):

Kordes advised she has now received several calls from not only Mr. White but now the other neighbors involved in this matter. Discussions were had on how the neighbors are wanting to buy the property and Kordes advised them they need to hire a Real Estate Attorney to solve this matter. Discussion was had on how if the county abandons this section of the road, then the property and road would be split between the Cornicks, Boultes and Boyles.

In the matter of  
Accounts Payable:

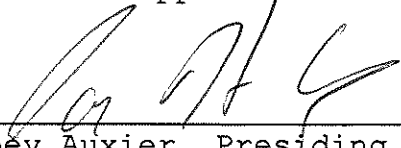
Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$185,254.13 for A - L and \$60,985.54 for M - Z.

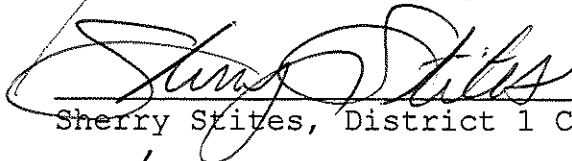
Commissioner Auxier left for another scheduled appointment at 10:59 am.

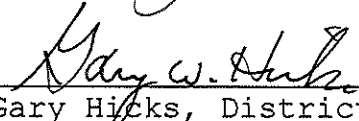
County Clerk Johnson moved to appointed Commissioner Hicks as acting Presiding Commissioner for the remainder of the meeting, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried at 11:01 am.

Recorder Kordes left at 11:02 am. Bailiff Arnold entered at 11:02 am.

Read and Approved:

  
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Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

  
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Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

  
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Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner





**Phelps County Commission Record**  
**May 30, 2023 Eighteenth Day of the April Term**

Now at this 30<sup>th</sup> day of May the 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, Phelps County Clerk

Also present were Michelle Bock form the Road and Bridge Department.

In the matter of  
Adult Abuse Board Appointment:

Commission reviewed and approved the Appointees that were provided to be appointed to the adult abuse Board of the following members: Paul Lambert, Crystal Cox and Amy Parrot. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the appointment of the above 3 individuals to the Adult Abuse Board for a 3-year term, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried at 9:15 am.

In the matter of  
County Road and Bridge business:

Bock presents commission with a bill of sale from Truck Centers for the 2024 cab and chassis of the new Freightliner. Commission reviewed and Presiding commissioner approved via signature.

The Focus Reporter entered at 9:09 am. Followed by Local resident Chester Kojro at 9:28 am

In the matter of  
Hawkins Cemetery:

Commission received an email that was sent to the presiding commissioner in reference to an irate individual that is not happy with the state of the cemetery. Discussions were had on the matter and it was determined after reviewing the statutes referencing private cemeteries the county is not liable for the maintenance of this particular cemetery. Commissioner Stites advised she will reach out to Recorder of Deeds to see who filled for making this parcel a private cemetery and contact the owner to help rectify this matter.

In the matter of  
March Personal Property Tax Court Orders:

Commission reviewed and approved the March Personal Property Tax court order #'s: 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160 and 2161.

Bock left at 9:42 am. Local resident Chester Crider entered at 9:45 am.

In the matter of  
MOCA meeting:

Commissioner Hicks presented a brief report of the MOCA (Missouri Ozarks Community Action) meeting he attended. MOCA resented their order of Covid 19 immunization for employees and have reported they are back to fully staffed now.

Crider left at 9:57 am.

In the matter of  
Helipad for St. James:

Commission proposed contacting Phelps Health to see about obtaining a section of the land owned by them next to the Clinic along North Jefferson Street. Commission advised if Phelps Health would donate the land to insert a Helipad.

In the matter of  
TORCH Platform:

Commissioner Hicks read an email that was sent asking for the commission to write a letter of support to help strengthen his submission for grant funding. This Pilot would help assist with tele health for Medicaid patients.

The Focus Reporter left at 10:07 am. Collector Faith Barnes entered at 10:47 am:

In the matter of  
SB190:

Barnes advised most counties are going to send a letter to the governor advising there are several issues with the wording of this bill. Barnes advised it would be best if the government would have reached out to an Assessor and Collector to get the proper verbiage for the bill.

Barnes left at 11:07 am.

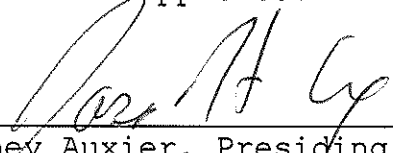
In the matter of  
Report on Vote from Closed meeting held May 25, 2023:

Pursuant to RSMo 610.021 the County Clerk reported "the Commission held an emergency Closed Session on May 25, 2023; Commissioner Hicks voted Yea, Commissioner Auxier voted yea, A unanimous vote was had on the motion to provide an exception to the formulary for a particular medication necessary for an employee's health and welfare."

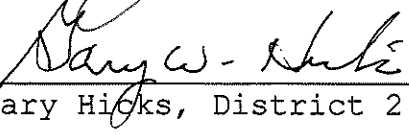
In the matter of  
Continuation of TORCH Platform:

Commissioner Stites moved to support the Phelps Health proposal to serve as a pilot community in the Transformation of Rural Community Health (TORCH), Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried at 11:45 am.

Read and Approved:

  
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Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

  
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Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

  
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Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

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