

Phelps County Commission Record
June 3, 2025 Seventeenth Day of the April Term

Now at this 3rd day of June, 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

Deputy Clerk Lorraine Britt took minutes in the absence of the County Clerk.

Also present was local resident Monte Willy.

In the Matter of
County Road 8270:

Discussion was had in regard to having County Road 8270 chip and sealed due to the condition of the road.

Willy left at 9:20 am.

Mark Case and Michelle Bock entered at 9:20 am.

In the Matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$19,494.67 for June Contract Pay, \$3,321.64 for ADP Multi-Vendor Invoices and HFL Networks (Internet) invoice for their portion to be invoiced.

Rick Hope entered at 9:35.

In the Matter of
FEMA:

Hope informed the Commission that FEMA is set up in the Multi-Purpose room in the Courthouse and inquired about setting up signs outside to inform the public. They plan on being here for approximately 3 weeks.

Hope exited at 9:44am.

In the Matter of
Road Improvements:

Discussions were had into the cost of doing an asphalt overlay on County Road 2070. Also discussed asphalt improvements in the Ridge Creek Subdivision.

HR Director Elizabeth Davis entered at 10:10am.

In the Matter of
Dump Truck:

Mark Case informed the Commission about a program through Rush Truck Centers where you can order a dump truck now, defer the bill date and get it in 2026. There is an option to cancel if the cost has increased in the new year due to possible tariff's and new emissions. Mark will get a quote from the company.

Case and Bock left at 10:46 am.

In the Matter of
Payroll:

Elizabeth asked what fund the Sheriff's deputies were to be paid from for working at the Phelps County Fair. Will be checking with the Treasurer to see how they were paid last year.

Davis left at 10:56 am.

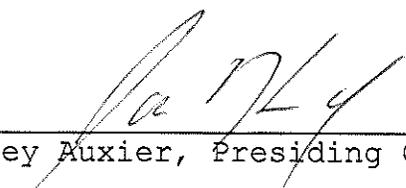
11:14 am Commissioner Auxier responded to a voicemail from local resident Jeff Kerr in regard to a culvert in his driveway.

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 11:19 and left at 11:30.

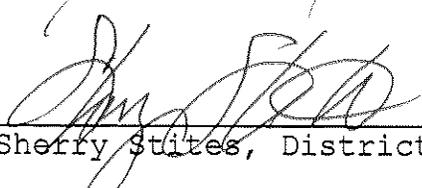
HR Director Elizabeth Davis re-entered at 11:40 and introduced a new employee for the Health Department to the Commission.

Hearing no other business commission adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
June 5, 2025 Eighteenth Day of the April Term

Now at this 5th day of June, 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

Deputy Clerk Lorraine Britt took minutes in the absence of the County Clerk.

Also present was Treasurer Cathy Tipton.

In the Matter of
National Forest Minerals/1908 Act Payment:

Treasurer informed Commission of the National Forest payment (1908 Act & Mineral Receipts) received in the amount of \$94,860.13 for year ending December 31, 2024.

Ray Schwartze entered at 9:10 am.
Tipton left at 9:15 am.

Schwartze discussed SB240 and various other senate bill's with the Commissioners.

Mayor Pro Tempore Kevin Greven entered at 9:28 am followed by Sandra Brinkley entered at 9:44 am and Collector Faith Barnes entered at 9:54 am.

In the Matter of
Jerome:

Brinkley asked Commissioner about putting a No Thru Traffic sign On Pearl and Oak Streets. Cars are using those streets to cut through Jerome and are exceeding the speed limit. Commissioners Suggested calling the Sheriff's Department and informing them of This issue.

Deputy Clerk Erica Bargerstock entered at 10:00 am.
Barnes discussed the meeting she attended with Sherry Stites with the Rolla Public Schools about how to communicate the Senior Tax Rates. Both agreed it was a very positive meeting.
Schwartze left at 10:07 am.

In the Matter of
Budget Performance Report:

Discussion was had in regard to Fund 410 - Law Enforcement Sales Tax and where we are currently with revenues year to date.

Josh Vroman entered at 11:15 am followed by Ken Bergman at 11:16 am.

In the Matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amount of \$83,731.77 for A-L, \$69,202.62 for M-Z and \$4,310.86 for Feb/Mar/Apr 2025 KOHLS TIF Sales Tax.

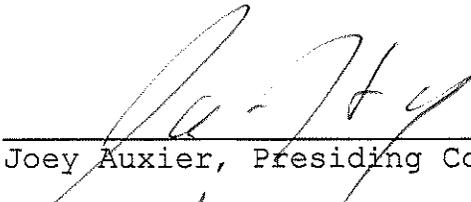
Vroman left at 11:20 am followed by Tipton and Bargerstock left at 11:35am.

In the Matter of
Letter of Community Support:

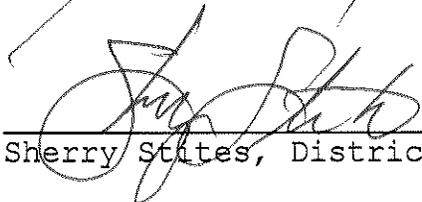
Commissioner Hicks moved to approve a Letter of Community Support for Ravi Shankar Ranganatha, MD. Dr. Ranganatha is An Internal Medicine physician and is expected to join Mercy Clinic Springfield Communities to provide Internal Medicine services at Mercy Clinic internal Medicine in Rolla, MO.

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

Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stutes, District 1 Commissioner

Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
June 10, 2025 Nineteenth Day of the April Term

Now at this 10th day of June, 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

Deputy Clerk Lorraine Britt took minutes in the absence of the County Clerk.

Sheriff Kirn, Theresa Lasher, Treasurer Cathy Tipton and Deputy Clerk Erica Bargerstorck entered at 9:05 am.

In the Matter of
Sheriff's Department:

Sheriff Kirn informed the Commission that approximately \$504,000.00 would be coming in around the end of the month from the housing of Federal prisoners. They are housing an average of 190 to 210 federal prisoners every month and the Sheriff is expecting approximately \$500,000.00 every month going forward from the housing of federal prisoners. The commissioners said the county will pay River City invoice and add it to the amount the Sheriff's department owes to county revenue. Sheriff Kirn also discussed that they will start negotiating their Federal Contract on July 1st and it will take effect on February 1st, 2026.

Bargerstock left at 9:15 am.
Local Resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:36 am.
Kirn, Lasher and Tipton left at 9:45 am.

In the matter of
Flood plain permit:

Commissioner Hicks motioned to approve Flood plain development permit application for Tina Reagan, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Kjoro left at 10:20 am.

In the matter of
Letter of Support for PCFS:

Commissioner Hicks moved to approve letter of support for Phelps Connections for Seniors CDBG grant, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

In the Matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$208,102.80 for River City Phase 2 Construction, \$6,677.03 for

May 30 Great-West & Nationwide, \$1,400.00 for April 2025 Polling Places and \$62,913.63 for Sheriff's Department invoices.

In the matter of
Stop Sign on CR 3450:

Commissioners discussed a request for stop sign on CR 3450 and 3470 stopping the eastbound traffic on CR 3450 and have taken it under advisement.

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 10:49 am followed by Treasurer Cathy Tipton, Deputy Clerk Erica Bargerstock entered at 10:51 am.
Barnes left at 10:51 am.

In the matter of
Sheriff's Department funds:

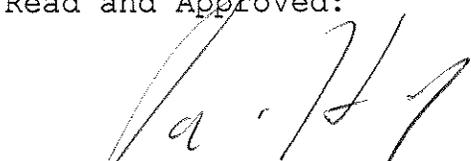
Discussion was had on the state of the sheriff's department funds and outstanding bills. Commissioner Hicks motioned to transfer \$208,102.80 from general funds to fund 420, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Tipton and Bargerstock left at 11:05 am.

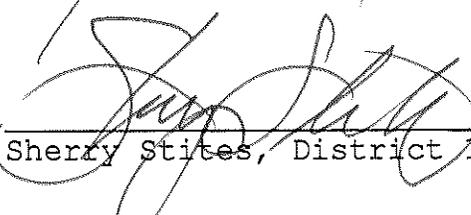
Public Administrator Dana Sooter entered at 11:15 am.

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
June 12, 2025 Twentieth Day of the April Term

Now at this 12th day of June, 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

Deputy Clerk Lorraine Britt took minutes in the absence of the County Clerk.

Local Resident Ray Schweikhardt entered at 9:00 am.

In the matter of
Oak Hill Subdivision Roads:

Discussion was had on road maintenance in Oak Hill Subdivision.

Sweikhardt left at 9:30 am.

Prosecutor Taylor Banholzer entered at 9:49 am.

In the matter of
Coroner Request:

Discussion was had on an email received from the coroner in regard to wanting to have access to CAD.

Banholzer left at 10:04 am.

HR Director Elizabeth Davis entered at 10:15 am.

In the matter of
Employee onboarding:

Discussion was had in regard to new hires and onboarding.

Davis left at 10:35 am.

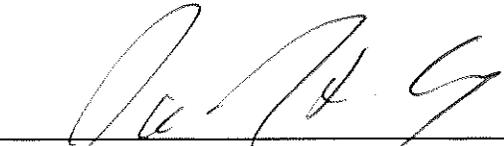
Commissioners talked via phone with local resident Sharon Morton in regard to bridge on CR 3160.

In the Matter of
Accounts Payable:

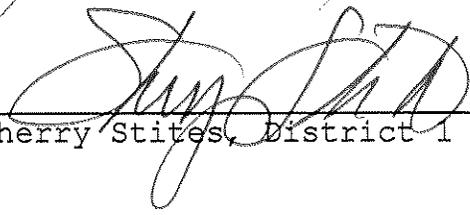
Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$32,016.32 for May Senior Companions Bill & Stipends, \$63,239.34 for A-L and \$30,153.95 for M-Z.

Hearing no other business commission adjourned at 11:10 am.

Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
June 17, 2025 Twenty-First Day of the April Term

Now at this 17th day of June, 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

Deputy Clerk Lorraine Britt took minutes in the absence of the County Clerk.

Also present was Treasurer Cathy Tipton.

In the Matter of
Sales Tax Report:

Treasurer presents commission with a report on Comparative Local and Law Enforcement Sales Tax and reports we are roughly up 1% from this time last year. She also informed the commission that the Jansen payment was received in the Opioid settlement in the amount of \$63,899.89.

Health Department Director Sonya Berry entered at 9:15 am.
Tipton left at 9:26 am.

In the Matter of
Health Department Updates:

The Health Department will be closing the following Monday for a professional development day. Sonya will be having all of the employees in her department update their job descriptions and include them in their files. She will also be updating the linked in account. Berry stated that she found discrepancies in the contracts submitted by the previous Director and has notified the State as well as updating to the correct information. The Public Health Emergency Preparedness funding has been cut in half by the CDC. They will be receiving \$23,449.00 for October 2025 to September 2026. Berry will be looking into renegotiating with Maries County for costs incurred for servicing them.

Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:39 am.
Berry exited at 9:46 am followed by Kojro at 10:12 am.

In the Matter of
Coroner's invoice for body storage:

An invoice was received from the Crawford County Coroner's office for body storage for 17 days. The Sheriff will pay for 3 days of the storage per statute and the Coroner will pay for the remaining 14 days.

Rolla Correspondent Jonathan Ahl entered at 10:23 am.

In the matter of

Abide in Love group:

Discussion was had by Mr. Ahl with the commission about a local group called Abide in Love. They have around 50 members and provide support for ICE detainee's (i.e. phones, commissary, etc.) They track the number of ICE detainee's and work with Sheriff Kirn. They also have a Facebook page. Mr. Ahl was asking the commission for more information on the monetary side of housing the ICE detainees.

Christian Farris with Viebrock entered at 10:36 am.

In the Matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$109,204.88 for A-L, \$146,328.65 for M-Z and \$34,413.50 for UMB Bank May 2025 50% EATS Rolla Westside TIF.

Prevention Consultant Jamie Myers entered at 11:03 am.
Ahl left at 11:06am followed by Farris at 11:11 am.

In the Matter of
Opioid Committee Project Plan and Support Agreement:

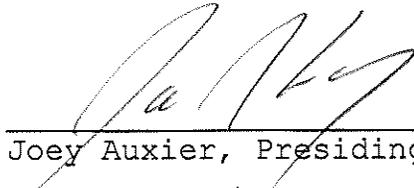
Commissioner Stites motions to make recommendation for Neighborhood Hope Dealer to receive \$1,000.00 for mileage reimbursement at approximately \$0.70 per mile for a total of 1,428 miles. Commissioner Hicks seconded. Motion passed.

Commissioner Hicks motions to approve \$45,138.00 to MS&T to promote recovery friendly workplaces. Commissioner Stites seconded. Motion passed.

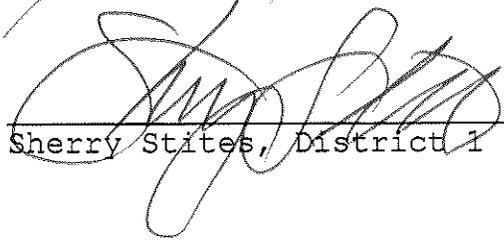
Myers left at 11:40 am.

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

June 24, 2025 Twenty-Second Day of the April Term

Now at this 24th day of June, 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

Deputy Clerk Lorraine Britt took minutes in the absence of the County Clerk.

In the matter of
Closed session:

Commissioner Hicks moved to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1), Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried. Moved to closed session at 9:05 am.

Commissioner Stites moved to return to open session, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried. Returned to open session at 11:37 am.

In the Matter of
Accounts Payable:

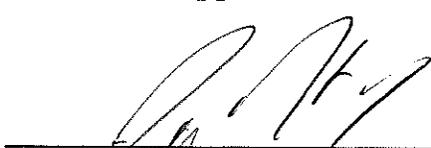
Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$136,754.39 for May PC Self Insured UMR & KCL Life, \$10,350.52 for June 13 PR Great-West & Nationwide & \$4,850.54 for ARPA request for Duke Fire Protection District.

Commission also reviewed and approved MRPC invoice #25284 in the amount of \$286.14 for May 2025 APRP Administration and invoice #25226 in the amount of \$301.92 for April 2025 ARPA Administration breakout of direct project staff time/project costs that benefit each entity.

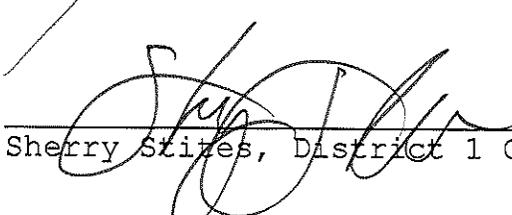
Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the election cost in the amount of \$14,452.27 for the Use Tax issue on the April 2025 General Municipal Election, Commissioner Stites seconded, Motion carried.

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
June 26, 2025 Twenty-Third Day of the April Term

Now at this 26th day of June, 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 Phelps Health CEO Jason Shenefield, Phelps Health CPA Jana Cook, Scott Waller with Gilmore & Bell and local resident Andy Davis.

In the matter of
Phelps Health Bond hearing:

Discussions were had on the 70-million-dollar request of bonds for an addition to the hospital that will be funded with Phelps Health funds. The bonds will be 30-year terms and will have the option of pay off within 10 years if applicable. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve Phelps Health going out for bid for these bonds, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

The focus reporter entered at 9:08 am.
Waller, Shenefield and Cook left at 9:33 am.
Scott Kliethermes from Rush Trucking entered at 9:55 am.

In the matter of
Purchase Letter for Road & Bridge:

Discussions were had on the purchase order for an International HV507 SFA in the amount of \$128,749.00 for the Road Department. Commissioner Hicks moved to approved a letter of intent to purchase for the equipment, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Road & Bridge Superintendent Mark Case and Admin Assistant Michelle Bock entered at 10:06 am.

In the matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$417.52 for Petit Jurors, \$37,686.86 for A - L and \$126,357.60 for M - Z.

In the matter of
Sally Road damages:

Discussions were had on the concerns of damages to a county road brought forth by homeowners on Sally Road. There are several areas of the road that are being severely damaged due to constant use of dump trucks traveling to a construction site in

that area. Further discussions were had on the attempts made to address the issue with Bloomsdale and Yoakum trucking company owners and no professional courtesy being extended to the county and our tax payer funds in return.

Assessor Tim Kean entered at 10:28 am.

Stacy Yoakum called Mark Case to ask again if there would be anyway to rectify this matter. Yoakum advised he can not take a longer route due to the following: state is not back filing after placing a culvert, there is construction on E Hwy that is making a one lane road and he cannot make a profit if he goes a different route.

Commissioner Hicks advised by statue commission is allowed to implement a weight limit that would create a special permit for use of the road after this is implemented. Yoakum advised if that's what you need to do then you can do it and he will contact his legal representative. Yoakum further advised he would like to help but he has a business that he has to run and can't not make money. Commission then asked if he would be willing to share the costs associated to fix the road and he advised no, he already pays for these roads with his taxes. Further discussions were had on the time limit of 3-4 weeks of additional hauling for this specific project. Yoakum further advised there are some home owners on Sally Road that want to have the trucks remove dirt off of their property for this project and he is not sure why there are so many "so-called" complaints on this road. Yoakum advised he'd love to help but he has to make money to run a business. He advised he will tell his drivers to drive respectfully and at the posted speed limit to help the matter but that's the best he can do for the moment. Further discussions were had on the statute and the county contacting state for review of the safety of the road. Case advised he will reach out to Preston Kramer at MODOT to see about rectifying the matter.

In the matter of
School Tax Levy discussions:

Kean advised he has done some research on the matter that was brought forth by the St James School Superintendents roll back question. Discussions were had on the matter and that the Schools are being told what to do by their lobbyist referencing Hancock for the loop hole.

Kean and Davis left at 11:03 am.

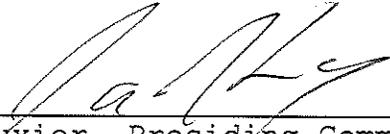
In the matter of
MRPC Flood Plain Contract renewal:

Commission reviewed the renewal contract for MRPC flood plain administration. Commissioner Stites moved to accept the contract agreement with no changes, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried.

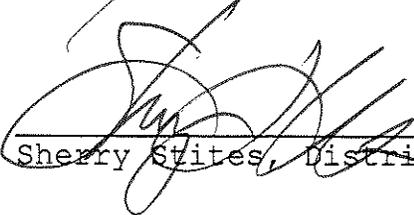
Case and Bock left at 11:30 am.

Hearing no other business commission adjourned at 11:59 pm.

Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner

Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

