

**Phelps County Commission Record**  
**June 2, 2026 Seventeenth Day of the April Term**

Now at this 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.  
County Clerk Laura Johnson was absent due to being out of state.

Also present were Sheriff's department IT Robert Hribar, Surveyor Terris Cates and Local Residents Kim Kuntz and Louise Jenkins.

In the Matter of  
Phelps County Highway Engineer:

Commissioner Hicks made the motion to appoint Terris Cates as Phelps County Highway Engineer. Commissioner Stites seconded. Motion passed.

Discussions was had in regard to the culvert on Summerfield Drive. Cates recommended replacing the culvert prior to paving the road. Cates said he can locate the right of way for the County when the commissioners are ready and agreed that it is a good idea to document any changes that are done if any.

Local Resident Chester Kojro entered and Cates left at 9:33 am.

In the Matter of  
Sheriff's Department IT bid awarding:

Hribar recommended accepting Fired Synapse bid as offered. Commissioner Stites motioned to accept Fired Synapse at \$8,152 per month, \$97,824 a year, \$8,152 onboarding fee for a first year total of \$105,976. Commissioner Hicks seconded. Motion passed.

Hribar left at 9:36 am.

In the Matter of  
Floodplain Management:

Commissioner Hicks motioned to approve payment in the amount of \$2,633 for Floodplain management with MRPC from July 2025 - March 2026, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Kuntz & Jenkins left at 10:03 am.

Discussions were had in regard to Brightspeed claim involving damages to CenturyLink property. The date was changed on it but had been previously discussed.

Health Director Sonya Berry entered at 10:18 am.

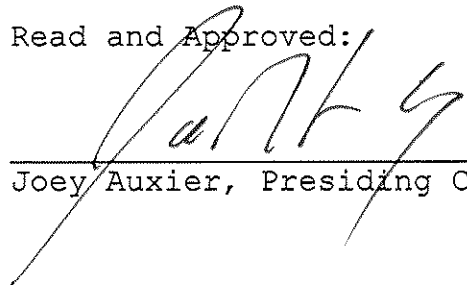
Discussions were had with Berry in regard to the commercial size medical grade vaccine refrigerator. The compressor went out

last month. They are storing the vaccines in a back up refrigerator. If it cannot be fixed then the Health Department will need to purchase one.

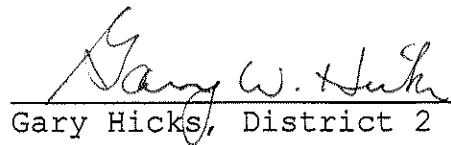
Kojro left at 10:25 am followed by Berry at 10:34 am.

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 4, 2026 Eighteenth Day of the April Term**

Now at this 4<sup>th</sup> 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.  
County Clerk Laura Johnson was absent due to being out of state.

In the matter of  
Emerald Springs Subdivision:

Discussion was had in regard to Emerald Springs Subdivision. On June 3<sup>rd</sup> Commissioner Auxier, Archer Elgin engineer Caleb Homan, Road Supervisor Mark Case, Surveyor Terris Cates and Jake Sbabo discussed what needed to be completed including removing/adding material to accommodate a 1' in 4' slope in ditches. All parties were in agreement that once it is completed, the County would accept the plat and road into the County's Road inventory.

In the matter of  
Stop signs at CR 8050 & 8010:

Discussions were had in regard to an email Commissioner Stites received from Lily Borders in reference to a stop sign. One stop sign will be put at County Road 8050 and Ridge Road and one stop sign at County Road 8010 stopping traffic at Reno if no one is not already there. Road Supervisor Mark Case will check. Also discussed a No Outlet Sign going in at Deep Woods Trail across from Elk Prairie Drive.

Deputy Clerk Erica Bargerstock entered at 9:30 am.

In the Matter of  
Credit Card Limit Increase for Health Department:

Discussion was had in regard to increasing the credit card limit for the Health Department to \$8,000 total for purchases being made from the opioid settlement funds. Commissioner Stites moved to approve, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion passed.

In the Matter of  
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$6,878.04 for Great-West & Nationwide, \$26,403.96 for general invoices A-L and \$21,155.31 for general invoices M-Z.

Treasurer Cathy Tipton entered at 9:56 am.

In the matter of  
Community Resource Center:

Discussion was had with Tipton in regard to the Community Resource Center filling the executive director position. Funding had already been awarded but needed to know moving forward how to get the funds in a timely manner for the salary. Commissioners asked Tipton to have them submit an invoice to the commission.

Tipton and Bargerstock left at 10:15 am.

In the Matter of  
Document Destruction:

Deputy Clerk Britt presented the below document destruction form:

Document Destruction

JUNE 4, 2026

Commission approved on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

Shredded on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

|                                                            |                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Accounts Payable retention met from:                       | January 1990 – December 1991<br>January 1994 – December 1994<br>January 1997 – December 1999                                 |
| LE Accrual balances retention met from:                    | 2013 - 2022                                                                                                                  |
| Receipts retention met from:                               | January 1998 – December 1999                                                                                                 |
| Journals retention met from:                               | January 1991 – December 1991<br>January 1994 – December 1994<br>January 1997 – December 1999<br>January 2004 – December 2004 |
| Payroll Records retention met from:                        | January 1992 – December 1993<br>January 1995 – December 1996<br>January 1998 – December 1999                                 |
| 941 forms retention met from:                              | 2009                                                                                                                         |
| Assessor Quarterly retention met from:                     | 2012 and 2013                                                                                                                |
| MEC filings retention met from:                            | 2003 – 2005 & 2011 – 2019                                                                                                    |
| Financial Audit Report Worksheets retention met from:      | 2013 – 2014                                                                                                                  |
| Deferred Comp retention met from:                          | 2012 – 2013                                                                                                                  |
| UMR/KCL Reconciliations met from:                          | 2023 – 2025                                                                                                                  |
| GBS Reconciliations met from:                              | 2016 – 2022                                                                                                                  |
| Business Reply Permit receipts retention met from:         | 2022 – 2023                                                                                                                  |
| Monthly Reimb Invoice retention met from:                  | 1997 – 1998, 2010 – 2011 & 2016 – 2023                                                                                       |
| 1094/1095/ACA retention met from:                          | 2016 – 2022                                                                                                                  |
| CERF Reports retention met from:                           | 1997 – 2001                                                                                                                  |
| CERF Empower billing retention met from:                   | 2013 - 2023                                                                                                                  |
| Health Ins. Contracts, Bids, Proposals retention met from: | 2010 – 2021                                                                                                                  |
| GBS – BMR Reports retention met from:                      | 2015 – 2021                                                                                                                  |

|                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Financial Disclosure Reports retention met from:                                                                                                   | 2000 – 2010                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Unvoted Ballots retention met from:                                                                                                                | November & August 2024<br>April 2026                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Voter History Reports retention met from:                                                                                                          | 1992 – 1996<br>November 2000<br>April 2001<br>2002<br>November 2003<br>2004<br>April & November 2005<br>2006 – 2010<br>April 2011<br>2012 – 2013<br>August & November 2014<br>April 2015<br>March & April 2016                                                                                                                                                        |
| Removed Voters Reports from LEMs retention met from:                                                                                               | 4 books labeled Prior to 01/01/2003                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Voter Death Records, Felony Convictions, Cancellation Log, Voter Rejects, Voter Reg mailed to other Counties, Voter Duplicates retention met from: | 2004 – 2006                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Certificate of Judge of Election retention met from:                                                                                               | 1990 – 2012                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Senior Companion Payroll Report retention met from:                                                                                                | 2014 – 2021                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Senior Companion Timesheets retention met from:                                                                                                    | 2009 – 2015                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| RSVP Timesheets retention met from:                                                                                                                | 2003 - 2008                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Revenue Collection Receipts retention met from:                                                                                                    | 2020 – 2021                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| MoPerm retention met from:                                                                                                                         | 2012 – 2016                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| MoPerm/Aetna/Savers/Hartford/Casual Indemnity retention met from:                                                                                  | 1992-1999                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Juvenile/Circuit/Court Reporter                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Qtrly billing retention met from:                                                                                                                  | 1998 – 2009 & 2013 – 2015                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Teen Court billing retention met from:                                                                                                             | 1990 – 2000                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| MHHA Invoices retention met from:                                                                                                                  | 1997 – 1999                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| MHHA Work Comp Claims retention met from:                                                                                                          | 1987 – 1998                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Work Comp Records retention met from:                                                                                                              | 1988 – 1990 (WC Ins.)<br>1990 – 1995 (WC Certificates & info)<br>1993 – 1995 (Sheriff & Road)<br>1993 & 1998 (Courthouse)<br>1996 (Assessor)<br>1996 & 1998 (R&B)<br>1996 – 1999 (Sheriff)<br>2002 – 2004<br>2006 (R&B)<br>2007 - 2008 (Sheriff, R&B, Courthouse)<br>2009 - 2017<br>2013 – 2015 (Work Comp Audit work sheets)<br>2013 – 2015 (WC Certificates & info) |
| Terminated Employee Files retention met from:                                                                                                      | Prior to 2006 (3 boxes)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

|                                                          |                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Contract (MasterGroup) retention met from:               | 1996                      |
| CART fund records retention met from:                    | 1996 – 2002               |
| School Apportionments retention met from:                | 1995 – 2002               |
| Sales Tax records retention met from:                    | 1993 – 2002               |
| Old Party Committee reports retention met from:          | 1992 – 2004               |
| Work Comp & Certificate of Liability retention met from: | 2005 – 2006               |
| COSP registration retention met from:                    | 2011                      |
| Bids retention met from:                                 | 2012                      |
| Child Support Contracts retention met from:              | 2012                      |
| Liquor License retention met from:                       | 2011                      |
| Credit Applications retention met from:                  | 2012                      |
| Collectors Settlements:                                  | 2013                      |
| Collector Turnovers:                                     | 2011 – 2012 & 2019 - 2020 |
| Collectors Back Tax Sales:                               | 2012 & 2019 - 2020        |
| retention met from:                                      | (see above dates)         |
| Depository Bids retention met from:                      | 2009                      |
| Employment Applications retention met from:              | 2000 – 2001               |
| Notary retention met from:                               | 2012 – 2013               |
| Petition retention met from:                             | 2012                      |
| Tax Exempt letter retention met from:                    | 2012 – 2013               |
| Crude Oil Applications for refund retention met from:    | 1995 – 2006               |
| Travelers                                                | 1994                      |
| United Healthcare                                        | 1999                      |
| United Health & Life                                     | 1992                      |
| Anthem Health                                            | 1997                      |
| retention met from:                                      | (see above dates)         |
| Expired Certificate of Liability retention met from:     | 2008 – 2015               |
| Multi-vendor PR documents retention met from:            | 2007 – 2024               |
| Lagers reconciliation & AP records retention met from:   | 2019 – 2024               |
| Expired Federal Absentee application retention met from: | 2000 - 2008               |

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Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

Sherry Stites, Commissioner District 1

Gary Hicks, Commissioner District 2

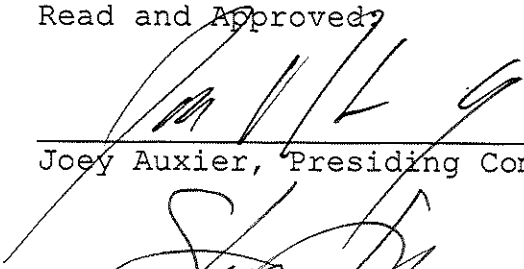
Commission approved the destruction of the retention met documents.

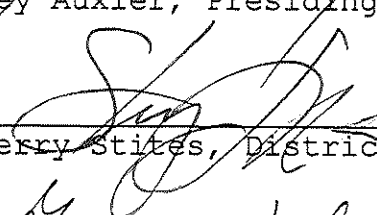
Sergeant Jamie Arnold entered at 10:26 am and left at 10:51 am.

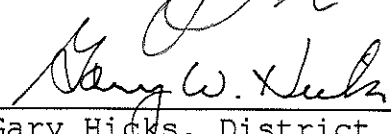
Josh Vroman with State Representative Don Mayhew's office entered at 11:01 am and left at 11:48 am.

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 9, 2026 Nineteenth Day of the April Term**

Now at this 9<sup>th</sup> 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.  
County Clerk Laura Johnson was absent due to being out of state.

In the Matter of  
Document Destruction:

Deputy Clerk Britt presented the below document destruction form:

Document Destruction

JUNE 9, 2026

Commission approved on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

Shredded on \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

Work Comp Records retention met from: 1999-2004

Pulaski County Billing retention met from: 2003-2004

Election (23 boxes) containing

- Voted Ballots
- Unvoted Ballots
- Spoiled Ballots
- Poll Books
- Seal Sheets
- Absentee Ballots and Envelopes

retention met from: August 6, 2024

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sherry Stites, Commissioner District 1

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

Commission approved the destruction of the retention met documents.

In the Matter of  
Credit Card Limit Increase for Health Department:

The Credit Card limit previously approved by the commission needed to be amended from an \$8,000 credit line total to \$10,000 and a one-time single purchase limit increase from \$2,000 to \$5,000. Commissioner Stites motioned to approve. Commissioner Hicks seconded. Motion passed.

In the Matter of  
Sale of Trailer for Road Department:

Commissioner Hicks motioned to approve the sale of 2022 Big Tex trailer. Commissioner Stites seconded. Motion passed.

HR/Payroll Administrator Amy Asberry entered at 9:10 am.

In the Matter of  
Paperless Check Stubs:

Asberry was informed that the county could not go paperless in regard to check stubs until the employees can have access via a portal or online.

Deputy Clerk Erica Bargerstock entered at 9:20 am. Asberry left at 9:29am.

Local Resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:35 am.

In the Matter of  
Surety Bond:

Commissioner Stites motioned to accept surety bond in the amount of \$25,000 from Ervin Cable Constructions LLC. Commissioner Hickes seconded. Motion passed.

Kojro left at 10:00 am and entered at 10:13 am followed by Treasurer Cathy Tipton at 10:15 am.

In the Matter of  
Use Tax Updates:

Tipton provided reports on the comparative use tax revenue and expenses to date. Discussions were had on the revenue coming in this month being up compared to last month and there were no expenses in May.

In the Matter of  
Sales Tax Report:

Tipton provided reports on the sales tax and we are up 12% from the previous month.

In the Matter of  
CART Fee Report:

Tipton provided reports on the CART fees and we are up 4% on Vehicle Sales Tax from this time last year, up 6% on Vehicle Fees from this time last year and up 12% on Fuel Tax from this time last year.

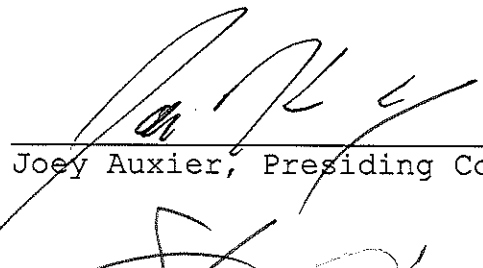
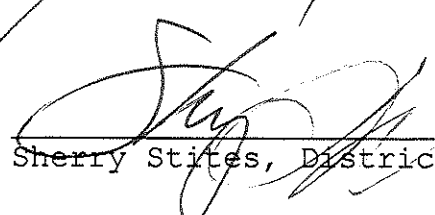
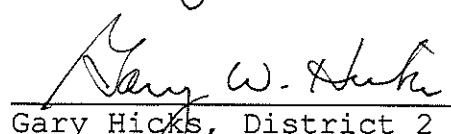
In the Matter of  
Opioid Report:

Tipton provided report on the opioid funds and advised we are sitting at around \$200,000.

Kojro left at 10:30 am followed by Tipton at 10:52 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 11, 2026 Twentieth Day of the April Term**

Now at this 11<sup>th</sup> 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.  
County Clerk Laura Johnson was absent due to being out of state.

Health Department Director Sonya Berry entered at 9:06 am.

In the Matter of  
Public Health Emergency Preparedness Contract:

Berry presented to the Commission a Public Health Emergency Preparedness Contract in the amount of \$46,468 that will run from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027. Commissioner Stites motioned to accept contract. Commissioner Hicks seconded. Motion passed.

Berry left at 9:17 am followed by Collector Faith Barnes entering at 9:21 am.

Discussion was had in regard to a young single mother that Barnes brought in to the meeting to inquire about her tax money going to various entities including SB40 and she is not receiving the help/resources she needs for her special needs child. The young lady was given contact information for State Representative Tara Peters so she could discuss her concerns.

HR/Payroll Specialist Amy Asberry and Local Resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:33 am followed by Andy Bylo with 5B Electric at 9:49 am. Barnes left at 9:49am.

In the Matter of  
Generator Bid Opening:

As scheduled commission opened bids as follows:

- 5B Electric in the amount of \$119,715 which included installation and an LP Gas Generator (150 kw).
- McNew Electric in the amount of \$86,340 which included installation and a Propane Generator (70 kw).

Commission advised they would take bids under advisement and make a decision at a later date.

HR/Payroll Administrator Amy Asberry left at 10:00 am.  
Prosecuting Attorney Taylor Banholzer entered at 10:05 am.  
Bylo left at 10:07 am.

In the matter of  
Prosecuting Attorney Office Space:

Banholzer presented document for Commission Auxier's signature certifying the square footage of the Prosecutors office in relation to the courthouse. The measurement will be used to determine the percentage of the utility bills associated with child support IV-D reimbursement.

Banholzer left at 10:13 am followed by Kojro at 10:24 am. Deputy Clerk Erica Bargerstock entered at 10:59 am followed by Phelps Health CEO Jason Shenefield at 11:02 am.

In the Matter of  
Phelps Health Updates:

Phelps Health is applying for Hub Anchor under the ToRCH program. It is hub anchor #22 which includes Phelps, Pulaski, Crawford and Dent counties. Shenefield also discussed that coming out next month Phelps Health will be in the Show-Me High Value Network.

Josh Vroman entered at 11:18 am.

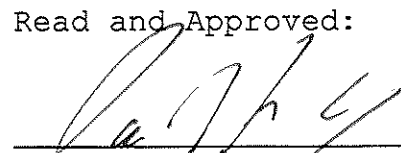
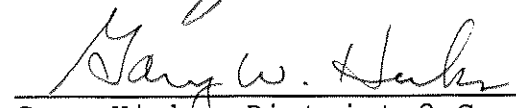
In the Matter of  
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$181,945.23 for general invoices A-L and \$149,824.08 for general invoices M-Z.

Vroman left at 12:00 pm.

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 16, 2026 Twenty-first Day of the April Term**

Now at this 16<sup>th</sup> 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

In the matter of  
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$35,438.90 for UMB Bank May26 50% EATS Rolla Westside TIF, \$7,063.31 June 12 PR Great West & Nationwide, \$1,821.80 for Garnishments for June26 PR 061226 and \$6,750.58 for US Bank.

Kent Bagnel from the morning mayor entered at 9:30 am followed by local resident Chester Kojro at 9:40 am.  
Bagnel left at 10:00 am.

In the matter of  
Employee donated sick time:

Discussions were had on the potential for setting a strict policy on the use of donated sick leave to prevent employees from abusing the donated time.

Kojro left at 10:26 am.  
Road and Bridge Superintendent Mark Case and Admin Assistant Michelle Bock entered at 10:37 am.

In the matter of  
Road and Bridge discussions:

Case presented commission with a report of power usage over a 12-month period at the new road facility. Discussions were had on the report and then the bids received for installing a generator.

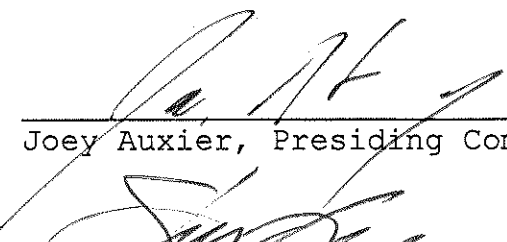
Discussions were also had on the very delayed delivery of the brush hog the county traded for from John Deere.

Discussions were had on the complaints coming in about mowing needing to be done along county roads out in the county. Further discussions were had on the county being short staffed at the moment and the need for the public to understand the one mowing operator we have is doing the best they can.

Case and Bock left at 11:48 am.

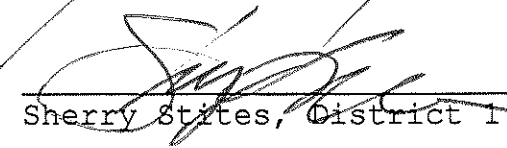
Hearing no other business commission adjourned at 11:53 am.

Read and approved,



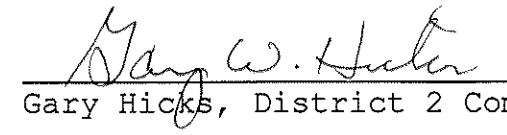
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Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



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Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



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Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

**Phelps County Commission Record**  
**June 18, 2026 Twenty-second Day of the April Term**

Now at this 18<sup>th</sup> 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 local residents Ty Copeland, Joe Zulpo, Nancy Gorman, Earnest Zulpo, Sandra Zulpo, Robert Burris, Dorothy Taylor, Robert Taylor.

In the matter of  
Citizen Input-Rosatti Railroad Crossing:

Zulpo, Copeland, Gorman and Burris advised commission that they are not happy with the closing of the railroad crossing. Stites advised all in attendance of a brief run down of the multiple meetings held with MODOT-Rail, BNSF and State Representatives.

Connie Laney entered at 9:08 am.

Burris advised he combed through the minutes all the way back to October 2024 and couldn't locate any vacation of road 3060 Commission and Clerk advised there is no road vacation until the project is completed and the clerk advised there are multiple minutes relating to the crossing discussions. Copeland and Zulpo asked why this one incident has caused this crossing to be closed immediately and others have not. Zulpo further advised why are all the crossings not being closed then. Hicks advised Rail would like to close all crossings in the county. Copeland asked why we couldn't just leave it open and Auxier advised he wanted to but since it made its way to state they made the county either put up and maintain the crossing arms or close the rail crossing and Receive a lump sum for the county to use.

Local Citizen Trina Arikian entered at 9:18 am followed by Ellen Johnston at 9:23 and Kim Kuntz, Louise Jenkins and Collector Faith Barnes at 9:24 am.

Zulpo would like to see a reduced speed limit on CR 1000 due to multiple accidents and cars speeding. Taylor advised there is a speed limit sign there but it is covered by brush. Stites advised all in attendance to text a picture when they see road issues so that commission can address the issues with Road department. Taylor advised she is former law enforcement and she agrees that reducing the speed limit would be beneficial but when drivers are just issued citations and nothing really happens it may not correct the situation.

Local resident Pam Grow entered at 9:30 am.  
Barnes left at 9:31 am.

Discussions were had on maintenance on CR 1000 and 1190 due to the dust. Commission advised the use tax that was passed last

year was implemented to help improve infrastructure and the commission plans to implement a 5-year improvement plan of county roads in the county.

Burris advised he has contacted the sheriff's department about nearly being hit or run off the road by speeding cars and he was told if we have a car available we will go out. Stites advised the sheriff's department has an app now where you can submit tips and leave a documented trail. Burris revisited the want for the speed limit to be reduced to 25 mph at least where the gravel starts to hopefully slow people down. Commission advised they will see about putting a traffic counter out there and then look at passing an ordinance to reduce the speed limit.

Further discussions were had on a culvert that has a large hole in it and needs to be replaced.

Auxier and Stites handed out their business cards with their cell phone numbers so the citizens with concerns can contact them.

Copeland left at 9:49 am followed by the Zulpos', Gorman, Laney, Burris and the Taylors' at 9:53 am.

In the matter of  
Citizen Input- Data Centers:

Jenkins advised commission they are looking for commissions input on the data centers. Commissioner Auxier advised he attended a meeting at Jefferson City yesterday that covered a range of topics regarding data centers. Auxier advised with Phelps County not being a 1<sup>st</sup> class county we have no planning and zoning and due to this we have no way of telling a company they can't build a data center in our county. Discussions were had on the need to initiate a moratorium to research and attend meetings related to data centers. Kuntz advised AI is a real problem with and provided an example of an issue she personally experienced with a seller utilizing AI. Jenkins advised if commission needs help with anything related to data centers all of them in attendance would help where needed.

Local resident Gene Deluca entered at 10:03 am.

Further discussions were had on Phelps County not having the infrastructure to support a data center. Auxier advised what he learned at yesterday's meeting is the data centers have to pay for their own infrastructure. Discussions were again had on looking into how to implement a moratorium and lots of research needing to be had in order to attempt to stop or at least have clear outlines of what the centers would be allowed to do if they built in our county. Arikian asked commission if they have done any research on any of the data centers to see what resources they draw or issues they create for the communities that they are already built in.

Grow asked if anyone knows what data is actually going into the data center, who has access to the data, how they are being paid

and who is footing the bill. She further advised the flock cameras that are tracking the pedestrian traffic watching your every move where is that data being sent and stored and who has access to the information. Grow further asked wouldn't this be a 4<sup>th</sup> amendment violation? Commission advised they are not sure and advised to have her contact the state for an answer on that.

Arikian advised by having transparency and being informative is how we can potentially get planning and zoning approved by the voters.

Jamie Meyers with Prevention Consultants entered at 10:40 am. Grow, Deluca, Jenkins, Kuntz, Arikian and Johnston left at 10:41 am.

Barnes re-entered at 10:48 am. and left at 11:05 am.

In the matter of  
Opioid Settlement request:

Meyer presented commission with a request approved by the opioid committee to supply funds for a vehicle to CASA. The request is for \$76,000 and would be utilized when they are removing children and the necessary items needed for those children, from a home where the parent(s) are abusing drugs. Commissioner Hicks advised he does not feel the opioid funds should be utilized on purchasing a vehicle for this use and that he feels the funds could be better utilized elsewhere. He did reiterate that he is in full support of CASA but does not feel this is good use of the opioid funds. Johnson asked what vehicle they are looking at purchasing. Meyer advised it's a ford explorer. Johnson advised why aren't they looking at a minivan because a ford explorer with 3rd row will not have any room for hauling anything but 4-5 children and asked why aren't they looking at a minivan as that would save \$15,000- \$20,000 and provide more room for hauling the needed items. Meyer advised he asked a similar question when they were presenting. Commissioner Hicks advised he can not in good faith approve the current request as he does not feel it will be valid use of the opioid funds.

Jeff Banderet with Great Rivers Engineering entered at 11:08 am. Meyer left at 11:20 am.

In the matter of  
Transportation bill and BRO funding:

Banderet advised commission GRE is having a lot of issues getting any information related to BRO funding for the fiscal year from MODOT. He further advised if the Transportation bill(Build America 250 Act) gets passed it will be very beneficial to the counties that rely on funding for maintaining and improving bridges. Banderet advised the current projected release of applications to be available for BRO funding will not be until September so we wouldn't see any of the funds until 2027.

Representative Bill Hardwick entered at 11:39 am.

In the matter of  
Data Centers revisited:

Stites asked Hardwick what is stored in a data center and he advised all meta data like social media, zoom camera, ring doorbell footage, financial institution information, etc. is all being stored in a data center. Further discussions were had on the potential of data centers being obsolete in a decade due to how the world is progressing.

Barnes reentered again at 11:51 am.

Stites asked Hardwick if he knows anything about a creating a moratorium. Hardwick advised he does not and he is not sure what statutes provide authority for one to be created in a county. He further advised he would only suggest utilizing MAC attorney Travis Elliott to draft it and provide guidelines.

Further discussions were had on how long it would take a data center to be built and the resources necessary to run a data center.

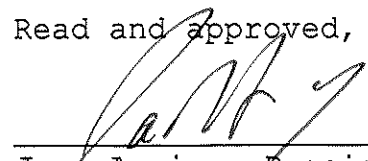
Banderet and Hardwick left at 12:05 pm.

In the matter of  
Collector Faith Barnes:

Barnes advised she has some requests and concerns about how the office relocation recently was handled and provided and gave commission a letter stating the concerns and requests. Auxier advised we need to have this placed on the agenda to discuss it as we are already past time for todays date. This is scheduled to be addressed on June 25, 2026.

Hearing no other business commission adjourned at 12:09 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**  
**June 23, 2026 Twenty-third Day of the April Term**

Now at this 23<sup>rd</sup> 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 was Human Resources Amy Asberry.

In the matter of  
Closed session:

Commissioner Stites moved to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(3), Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried, moved to closed session at 9:00 am.

Commissioner Stites moved to return to open session, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried returned to open session at 9:26 am.

In the matter of  
Timesheets:

Asberry advised commission she is looking for clarification on salaried employees. She asked if you have a salaried employee work 60 hours the first week of a pay period and then they only work 20 the next week do they need to be using time to make up the lost hours when they worked over the prior week. Commission advised no, they are salaried and the 2 weeks would have totaled 80 hrs for the pay period. Commission reiterated the time should only be used if they are out sick or on vacation and do not have their hours in for the pay period.

Asberry left at 9:35 am.  
Local resident Carl Matthews entered at 9:35 am.

In the matter of  
Citizen concern:

Matthews advised the fair grounds have a line from the cattle wash bays draining into the ditch along the road leaving manure built up. He further advised the board is looking at connecting the septic tank to this line which will eventually have human feces draining into the ditch which is not safe for any residents that live in the neighborhood.

Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:43 am.  
Matthews left at 9:46 am.  
Treasurer Cathy Tipton entered at 9:58 am.

In the matter of  
National Forest Title III funds:

Discussions were had on the Title III funds that the county has received and the 2 options on how the funds can be utilized. Tipton advised last time we received these funds commission decided to provide the 20% split it between Duke, Edgar, St James and Doolittle Fire departments. Commissioner Stites moved to provide the funds as secure rural schools that would provide the 20% be split between Duke, Edgar, St. James and Doolittle Fire departments, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried. Tipton advised these will not be received and distributed until 2027.

Admin assistant Michelle Bock entered at 10:24 am.

In the matter of  
National Forest 1908 Act funds:

Tipton advised commission we have received National Forest 1908 act funds and need to allocate them. Discussions were had on utilizing the funds for maintenance on the county roads located in the southwest portion adjacent to the national forest areas in our county. Commissioner Stites moved to allocate the funds to the above-mentioned areas, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried.

Asberry reentered at 10:30 am.

In the matter of  
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$146,904.53 for A - L and \$141,688.32 M - Z.

In the matter of  
Review of Minutes:

Commission reviewed and approved minutes from the 5/26, 5/28, 6/2, 6/9, 6/11, 6/16 and 6/18 commission meetings.

Sheriff Mike Kirn entered at 10:52 am followed by Prosecutor Taylor Banholzer at 10:57 am.  
Bock left at 11:00 am.

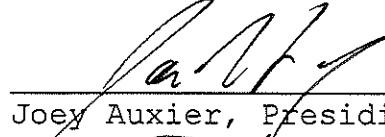
In the matter of  
Closed Session:

Commissioner Hicks moved to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1), Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried and moved to closed session at 11:00 am.

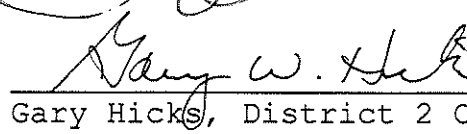
Commissioner Stites moved to return to open session,  
Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried and returned to open  
session at 12:00pm.

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

Read and approved,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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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**Phelps County Commission Record**  
**June 25, 2026 Twenty-fourth Day of the April Term**

Now at this 25<sup>th</sup> 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

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 9:03 am.

In the matter of  
Office Discussions:

Barnes advised she just wants the commission to know they are out of space in her current office and just wants there to be a department head meeting in the future if we chose to look at any future office relocations or additions. Commission advised we are quickly outgrowing our building and there will likely be more discussions held in the future. Commission and Barnes advised moving forward we will definitely hold more informative meetings when looking at expanding spaces.

Barnes left at 9:13 am.

In the matter of  
P & Z discussions:

Discussions were had on the multiple conversations that are happening related to Data Centers and the only way to stop it from happening in our county is to implement Planning and Zoning in the county. Further discussions were had on possibly putting implementation of P & Z on the ballot in a future election for voters to decide if they want this in place.

Tom Coots, Darrin Pryor and Dawn Bell from City of Rolla entered at 9:39 am.

In the matter of  
History Signs:

Coots advised commission the City has been working on updating the History signs in the City that are now 25-30 years old. Coots further advised when they were looking at the signs and noticed they are fairly simple so they did some more research and gathered new information for the 62 signs through out the city. Discussions were had on the courthouse area being the hub of the start of the city and county. Further discussions were had on the locations for these updated signs to be placed. Coots advised he is hopeful that visitors to our community will read these signs and make social media posts to further gain visitors/tourism to the city and county. Commission asked how long these new signs will last. Coots advised he projects these

to last 30+ years before they need to be replaced again. Coots provided commission proposed placement of the signs through out the City.

The Focus Reporter entered at 9:53 am followed by Support Services Sissy Shults.

Discussions were had on the placement of signage on county property. Shults will review and then submit approved finalized placements to Coots who will then provide a digital copy of the placement to County Clerk to be place on official commission record.

Shults left at 10:03 am followed by Coots, Bell and Pryor.

In the matter of  
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$6,929.32 for June 26 PR Great-West & Nationwide, \$129,854.89 for PC Self Insured UMR/KC Life, \$4,319.46 for June Multi-Vendor, \$10,487.24 for A - L and \$26,258.39 for M - Z.

Tonya Greven and Mike Scott from BPJ entered at 10:22 am.

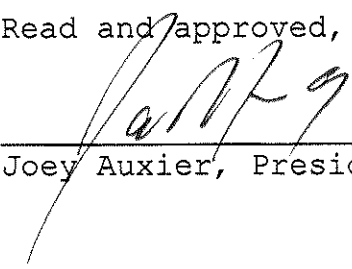
In the matter of  
BPJ Quarterly updates:

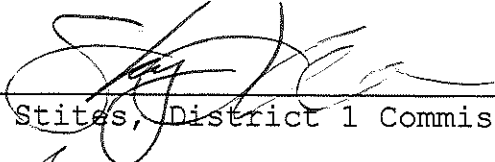
Scott advised the county reserves in our health fund are doing good and our claims are down. Discussions were had on the potential of offering an optional plan of an employee and 1 child being listed instead of the base family plan that covers multiple children. Further discussions were had on this plan being offered at a local school and multiple employees being very happy with that option due to only having 1 child. Discussions were had on this not only helping the employee and child but also helping with employee retention. Greven advised she has had a lot of employees inquire if the health insurance offers any kind of gym membership. Discussions were had on maybe utilizing the wellness dollars to pay for a 1-year membership to the 128 employees utilizing the health insurance. Further discussions were had on the need to compose a Broker Services Bid since it has been 3 years.

Greven and Scott left at 11:54 am.

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

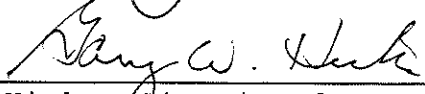
Read and approved,

  
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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**  
**June 30<sup>th</sup> 2026 Twenty-fifth Day of the April Term**

Now at this 30<sup>th</sup> 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

In the matter of  
Review of Minutes:

Commission reviewed and approved minutes from the 6/23 and 6/25 commission meetings.

Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:31 am followed by Lt. Paul Lambert with the Sheriff's department entered at 9:57 am.

In the matter of  
Sheriff's department grant application:

Lambert presented commission with an application for DOJ grant funding to replace the mobile radios that are out dated. Commissioner Hicks moved to apply and receive the grant in the amount of \$183,115.85, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Local resident Anthony Niswander entered at 10:03 am.

In the matter of  
Family Cemetery:

Niswander advised he has some property out in the county and he is inquiring on implementing a family cemetery. Commission pulled up 214.090 - 214.132 and advised Niswander to review the statutes and make sure he is following the outlined statutes and to record the cemetery with the Records office so there is an official record.

Lambert left at 10:19 am followed by Niswander at 10:22 am.

In the matter of  
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$20,841.99 for July contract pay, \$30,913.63 for A - L and \$144,333.11 for M - Z.

Kojro left 10:30 am followed by Commissioner Stites at 10:40 am who needed to assist with the Carnival setup. Road and Bridge Superintendent Mark Case entered at 10:53 am.

In the matter of  
Road department mower:

Discussions were had on the current mower having issues with the stump jumper being bent. Further discussions were had on looking at other brands of mowers to see if we can find a heavier duty one.

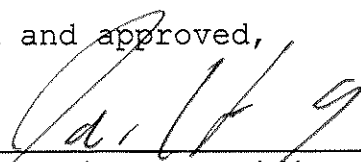
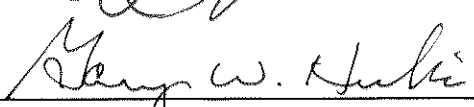
In the matter of  
Generator bid discussions revisited:

Case advised he has been contacting electric companies and other utility companies to find out what Kilowatts we are going to need to run a generator out at the new road and bridge department. Commissioner Hicks moved to accept the bid for 70 KW from McNew Electric, Commissioner Auxier seconded, motion carried.

Case left at 11:31 am.  
HR Amy Asberry entered at 11:39 am.

Hearing no other business commission adjourned at 12:00 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