

Phelps County Commission Record
September 1, 2026 Eighteenth Day of the July Term

Now at this 1st day of September, 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

County Clerk was absent due to her mandated training conference.

Deputy Clerk Lorraine Britt took minutes.

Treasurer Cathy Tipton entered at 9:15 am followed by HR/Payroll Specialist Amy Asberry and Local Resident Chester Kojro at 9:33 am.

In the Matter of
Tax Levy Public Hearing:

The commission was provided with the calculated tax levy for Road and Bridge and General Revenue from the County Clerk. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the General Revenue Levy at 0.0859, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the Road & Bridge Levy at 0.0926, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Tipton left at 9:42 am.

In the Matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$1,100.00 for August 2026 Polling Places, \$4,058.01 for August Multi-Vendor Invoices, \$3,645.75 for General Invoices A-L, \$91,170.84 for General Invoices M-Z, \$24,741.99 for September Contract Pay and \$125,572.08 for August for September - PC Self Insured UMR/KCL.

In the Matter of
Human Resources:

Asberry discussed salaried exempt and non-exempt status and accruals. Employee statuses were determined and changes were made appropriately in New World. All employees will continue to accrue leave, both sick and vacation.

Doolittle Chief of Police Chris Finch, Amber Steinbarger and Jenn Thomas from CASA and Dawson Nimmo from Higginbotham entered at 10 am.

In the Matter of
CASA:

Nimmo presented a check to CASA from Higginbotham in the amount of \$1,115.00. They along with the commissioners stepped outside for a group photo.

Finch and Asberry left at 10:07 am followed by Kojro at 10:28 am.

Asberry reentered and Nimmo left at 11:00 am followed by Sheriff's Dept Admin Theresa Lasher entering at 11:06 am.

In the matter of
Sheriff's Department Cyber Security:

Discussion was had with Lasher asking commission about Cyber Security. She was informed that the Sheriff's Department should have their own and the courthouse uses Cowbell.

Road and Bridge Admin Michelle Bock entered at 11:13 am and Lasher left at 11:18 am.

In the matter of
HR Updates:

Discussion was had with Asberry letting the commission know that she would be binding four employee handbooks for the commissions review and will have them ready for Thursday.

Discussion was had with Bock letting the commission know she ordered the signs for CR 2220.

Asberry left at 11:38 am followed by Bock.

Local Resident Alfaye Jackson entered at 11:55 am.

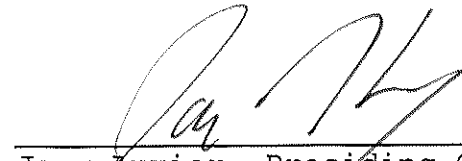
In the matter of
Citizen input:

Discussion was had with Jackson asking who she needs to bring a complaint to against a volunteer with the Senior Companions. Commissioners said they will look into the proper channels of how the complaint process works.

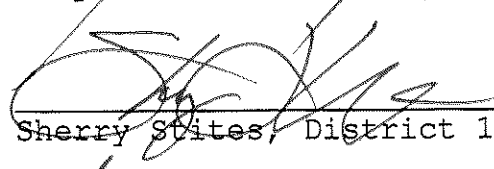
Jackson left at 12:03 pm.

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

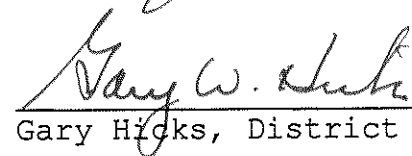
Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
September 3, 2026 Nineteenth Day of the July Term

Now at this 3rd day of September, 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

County Clerk was absent due to her mandated training conference.

Deputy Clerk Lorraine Britt took minutes.

Local Resident Denzel Hills entered at 9:18 am followed by Greg Brauner with Hutchison Engineering at 9:26 am.

In the matter of
Engineering Services:

Brauner discussed that he is now working for Hutchison Engineering. The company works with at least 5 other counties. Discussions were had with Hills in regard to his concerns about data centers and their electric and water usage.

Brauner left at 10:05 am. Deputy Clerk Erica Bargerstock entered at 10:12 am and Hills left at 10:14 am.

In the Matter of
Health Department Opioid funds:

Bargerstock asked the Commission if the one-time single purchase limit can be increased from \$2,500.00 to \$3,000.00 because they are needing to order t-shirts that had been approved to purchase through opioid funding. Bargerstock also asked about increasing their credit limit from \$5,000.00 to \$8,000.00. Commissioners agreed to increase the one-time single purchase to \$3,000.00 but not their credit limit.

Treasurer Cathy Tipton entered at 10:25 am followed by Collector Faith Barnes and Kendra Brophy from the Collectors office at 10:29 am.

In the Matter of
Collectors Office:

Land Sale Report Phelps County										Page 1 of 1 8/28/2026 09:54:13
Cert. #	To Whom Assessed	Sale #	Purchaser	Buyer Code	County Tax	Int & Pen	Costs	Special	Surplus	Total Pd
2026-00001	WASSON, RANDALL E	1-000029	Born Michael J	04	\$1,137.50	\$061.49	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,700.00
2026-00002	HENSON, MICHAEL S &	1-000043	MELTON ALFRED L	116	\$1,705.18	\$840.23	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$704.11	\$3,500.00
2026-00007	MODERITT, KEITH B	1-000077	MELTON ALFRED L	116	\$635.33	\$455.39	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$18,010.78	\$20,000.00
2026-00016	MOBSON, JOYCE A	3-000119	HAZEN GARY L	148	\$5.02	\$01.07	\$240.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
2026-00013	FORRESTEN, SANDRA K	2-000119	HAZEN GARY L	148	\$646.46	\$304.36	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,210.21
2026-00016	MURRAY, KENNETH A &	2-000114	HAZEN GARY L	148	\$403.44	\$447.70	\$245.00	\$0.00	\$239.36	\$1,400.00
2026-00012	BARKER, JAMES A HE/	2-000114	COOK BETH A	220	\$23.71	\$04.58	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$1,040.21	\$1,300.00
2026-00010	OREER, PATRICIA	1-000150	COOK BETH A	220	\$269.27	\$104.04	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$080.19	\$1,200.00
2026-00011	ROGERS, ROBERT M &	2-000100	PETTY SZKIEL L	221	\$170.70	\$148.14	\$175.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$482.34
2026-00008	RUCKER, BOOKER HAJ	1-000104	PETTY SZKIEL L	221	\$109.18	\$57.16	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.19	\$2,200.00
2026-00008	SKAGGS, DANIEL K	1-000136	PETTY SZKIEL L	221	\$3,085.89	\$1,425.94	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00
2026-00008	GIDEON, DAVID G & K	1-000087	LUEBBERG THOMAS A	225	\$90.89	\$70.03	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$270.42
2026-00008	FLEMING, EDITH L	1-000088	MALISSEK ZACHARIAH	228	\$128.00	\$82.74	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$1,078.48	\$2,000.00
2026-00004	FLEMING, EDITH L	1-000090	MALISSEK ZACHARIAH	228	\$208.40	\$120.68	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$870.14	\$1,000.00
2026-00003	CLAUS, THOMAS L	1-000047	WILSON MARGARET M	231	\$77.38	\$08.02	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$240.00
2026-00014	HAYES, KENNETH E	2-000144	MOONKAMP WILLIAM G	232	\$344.43	\$226.14	\$170.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$740.07
Totals					\$8,476.84	\$5,210.91	\$3,305.00	\$0.00	\$28,404.44	\$42,300.01

Submitted to Commission for Minutes
cc: Cathy Tipton X
Laura Johnson X
Joey Auxier X
Faith Barnes X
- Faith Barnes
9/3/26

Barnes introduced her new employee, Kendra Brophy, to the commission. Barnes also presented the Land Sale Report from the Tax Lien sale.

Tipton left at 10:39 am.

Barnes and Brophy left and Deputy Surveyor Don Diehl entered at 10:58 am.

In the Matter of
Floodplain Permits:

Diehl asked about how many floodplain permits/applications are received in a year. Commission said that approximately 6 to 12 a year come in.

Diehl left at 11:20 am.

In the Matter of
Accounts Payable:

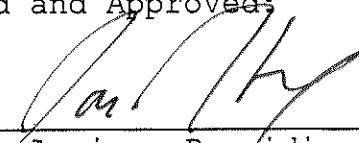
Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$165,929.15 for General Invoices A-L and \$137,739.45 for General Invoices M-Z.

In the Matter of
Letter for Review:

Commissioners sent a letter containing floodplain management ordinance violations to the Prosecutor for review.

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

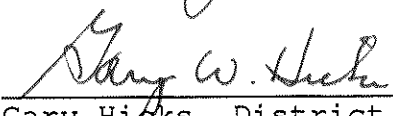
Read and Approved:



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
September 8, 2026 Twentieth Day of the July Term

Now at this 8th day of September, 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

Lt. Scott Jarrett entered at 9:05 am.

In the matter of
Blue Shield Grant:

Jarrett presented commission with a Blue Shield grant application in the amount of \$29,069.76. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the application, Commissioner Auxier seconded, motion carried.

Jarrett left at 9:20 am.

In the matter of
MRPC invoices:

~Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the invoice for overages on floodplain management in the amount of \$527.25, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

~Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the invoice for the Hazard Mitigation Plan match in the amount of \$5,000.00, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

PA Taylor Banholzer and Recorder Robin Kordes entered at 9:30 am followed by local resident Chester Kojro and the Focus Reporter at 9:35 am and Assessor Tim Kean at 9:41 am and Collector Faith Barnes at 9:47 am.
Kordes left at 9:50 am followed by Barnes at 9:57 am.

In the matter of
Jerome Property Encroachments:

Discussions were had on the property in Jerome that is encroaching on county property that was bought out with FEMA funding and can not be developed.

Kojro left at 10:24 am followed by Banholzer at 11:00 am.

In the matter of
Employee Meal Reimbursements:

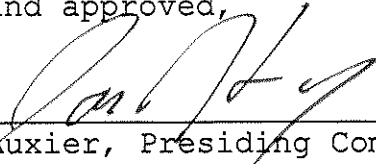
Kean advised commission he is looking for clarification on the employee meal reimbursement policy. Stites advised we have already discussed this as a commission and then explained how

the receipts need to be turned in for reimbursement and auditing purposes.

Kean left at 11:09 am followed by the Focus reporter at 11:25 am.

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

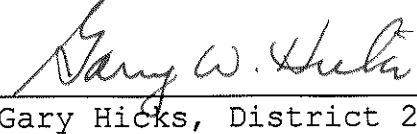
Read and approved,



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
September 10, 2026 Twenty-first Day of the July Term

Now at this 10th day of September, 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 Treasurer Cathy Tipton.

In the matter of
Unemployment CD Bid opening:

As scheduled Commission opened bids for unemployment CD bids as follows:

- Opened at 9:01 am, The Bank of Missouri = 6 month cd at 3.84% and 91 day money market tbill-1.25%
- Opened at 9:04 am First state Community Bank = 6 month cd at 3.81% 12 month at 3.91% and APY 6 month 3.86%, 12 month 3.97%
- Opened at 9:06 am Southern Bank = 6 month at 3.94%, 12 month 4.04% money market 2.65% and APY 6 month 4.00% 12 month 4.10%,
- Opened at 9:07 am PCB = 6 month 3.65%, 12 month at 3.75% and APY 6 month 3.70% 12 month 3.80%

Discussions were had on the bids. Commissioner Stites moved to accept the bid from Southern Bank and invest funds for 6 months, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried.

In the matter of
Use tax rollback discussions:

County Clerk advised she has tried several different ways to configure the rollback on the use tax and has had no luck finding anyone that knows how to calculate it and further advised she has researched for several days trying to find out how to calculate the rollback to no avail. Further discussion was had on if we use the sales tax calculation that would end up supplanting the Road and Bridge fund which is not allowed per the ballot language. Commission advised to reach out to the AG office for guidance.

Tipton left at 9:30 am.

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 9:37 am.

Brandi Richardson and Susan Vandermark from the Extension office entered at 9:57 am.

In the matter of
Extension Council updates:

Richardson provided commission with a packet of information and advised they have found a new location that will serve the

community very well. She further advised the council has ran several budget scenarios as they are seeking more than the budgeted \$10,000 that commission gives them. Commissioner Hicks asked if this budget was for other counties. Richardson advised the proposed budget is to fund employees for only Phelps County as every county has their own office and employees through extension. The options provided on the proposal range from annual contributions of \$65,000/\$61,000/\$55,000/\$51,000 to cover support staff, a bookkeeper, YPA's and NPA's.

Richardson and Vandermark left at 10:33 am.

In the matter of
Document Destruction form:

County Clerk provided commission with the below document destruction form:

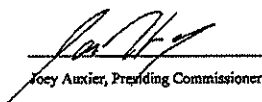
Document Destruction
September 10, 2026
Commission approved on September 10, 2026
Shredded on September 10, 2026

Election retention met records from: November 5th, 2024 General Election
(Unvoted ballots, voted ballots, Absentee applications & affidavits, Absentee envelopes, Poll Books, Spoiled ballots, Provisional Ballots, Sample ballots, tabulator tapes, tally sheets, keys sign out, judges oaths and accuracy test)
Voter registration history reports 1988, 1996 - 2000
August 4, 2026 unvoted ballots

Railroad & Utility retention met records from: 2013 - 2016

School Reports retention met records from: 2003 - 2012

Tax Levies retention met records from: 2011 - 2016


Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

 Sherry Stites, Commissioner District 1

 Gary Hicks, Commissioner District 2

Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the destruction of documents, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Local resident Nikki Siefert entered at 10:39 am followed by Treasurer Cathy Tipton at 10:45am and Prevention Consultants Jamie Meyer at 10:54 am.

In the matter of
Opioid Fund requests:

Meyer provided commission with a board approved request for some additional funding for Bunches of Joy program to be able to provide more services. Siefert advised she has found a location she is wanting to purchase and is working with MRPC to compose a grant to secure funding for the property to expand the program. Commissioner Stites moved to approve the request of \$6,000, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried.

Siefert left at 10:58 am.

Meyer presented commission with board approved request for an extension and additional funding to MS&T/Clair Kueny. Commissioner Stites moved to approve the extension and additional funding of \$6,500, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried.

Meyer presented commission with board approved request for the Phelps County Community Resource Center in the amount of \$15,000 to partner with the Dream Center on a new program for the community. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the request, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Meyer advised he has been working with the sheriff to find a new board member. Commission advised they would like to table this matter as they can not give an answer at the moment.

Meyer and Tipton left at 11:10 am

In the matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$7,873.11 for September 04 PR Great-West & Nationwide, \$361,609.41 for A - L and \$100,369.26 for M - Z.

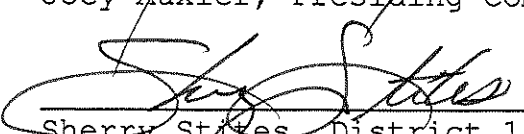
In the matter of
Health Department grant application:

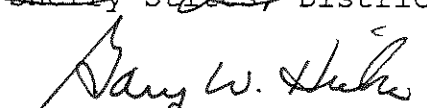
Commission reviewed and approved the grant application amendment for Safe Cribs For Missouri Program in the amount of \$5,000. This amendment is to Contract # KQ260058610 for the period of October 1, 2026 through September 30, 2027.

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
September 15, 2026 Twenty-second Day of the July Term

Now at this 15th day of September, Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

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

Commissioner Stites was absent due to illness.

Also present were Treasurer Cathy Tipton, Phelps County Bank employees Ben Tipton, Bobbie Steritz and Nathan Hall.

In the matter of
Intrafi Agreement:

Tipton provided commission with the Intrafi Agreement for the county funds. Tipton provided a shortened description of how the Intrafi works since it has been several months from the first time this program was discussed. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the agreement, Commissioner Auxier seconded, motion carried. Tipton will get with Treasurer Tipton for official signing.

Tipton, Tipton, Steritz and Hall left at 9:25 am.
Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:31 am.

In the matter of
Floodplain application:

Commission reviewed floodplain applications for Judy Dabler and Tyler Ross. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve Judy Dablers application located off of State Rte E, Commissioner Auxier seconded, motion carried. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve Tyler Ross' application located off of CR 7100, Commissioner Auxier seconded, motion carried.

In the matter of
Floodplain fees waiver:

Commissioner Hicks moved to waive the requirement to have a floodplain permit for Bryan Wilson to remove gravel from county property, Commissioner Auxier seconded, motion carried.

In the matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$35,000 for Phelps Co 6-month CD deposit and \$1,100.39 for August Senior Companions.

In the matter of
Review of minutes:

Commission reviewed and approved minutes from the 9/01,9/08 and 9/10 commission meetings.

In the matter of
No planning & Zoning Ordinance:

Discussions were had on making the verbiage of our no planning and zoning ordinance clearer outlining our floodplain permits.

Collector Faith Barnes entered at 10:17 am.
Kojro left at 10:30 am.

In the matter of
Collector updates:

Barnes advised based on collector office policy the City of St. James had first right of refusal for post 3rd property at 211 anna street. St James Council meet on 9/14 and approved ordinance to purchase the property from collector's office removing the lien from the property.

Barnes left at 10:41 am.
Arnold entered at 10:42 am.

In the matter of
Courthouse Security request:

Arnold presented a printout of a 3 drawer file cabinet and asked if there was money to pay for 2 of these. Commission advised to check the surplus store at Jeff City and GOVdeals first and if there are none that are the right size then they will approve the purchase of new ones off amazon.

Arnold left at 11:00 am.

In the matter of
Sunshine Law Policy review:

Johnson advised she is being inundated with sunshine requests and it is putting her farther behind on her other multitude of job duties. Johnson provided commission with a revised sunshine law policy that makes each office holder responsible for their records. She further advised if commission approved the change then it will be presented at the next quarterly department head meeting.

Treasurer Tipton reentered at 11:15 am.
HR and Payroll Specialist Amy Asberry entered at 11:26 am.

In the matter of
Sales tax, use tax and opioid fund reports:

Discussions were had on the expenditures, allocations, deposits and available funds in the opioid fund.

Discussions were had on the sales tax received being down a little this month from last but up from this time last year.

Discussions were had on the use tax being down slightly from last month.

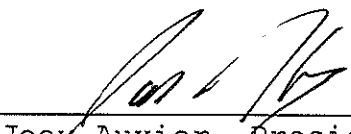
In the matter of
State Unclaimed funds:

Tipton advised we finally received the county's unclaimed funds from the state. The deposit was for \$1,890.00 that was put in the general fund.

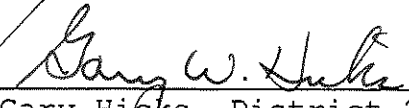
Tipton left at 11:32 am.

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

Read and approved,



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
September 17, 2026 Twenty-third Day of the July Term

Now at this 17th day of September, 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 Larry Roberts with the Phelps County Historic Society and Road and Bridge Admin Assistant Michelle Bock.

In the matter of
Dillon House Restoration project:

Roberts advised commission the historical society is working on raising funds to do some restorations on the Dillon house and provided a document of the proposed updates.

Roberts left at 9:20 am.

In the matter of
Title for Road Department:

Commission reviewed and signed the application and title for a 2026 Ford F550 that is to be added to the road department fleet.

In the matter of
FEMA/SEMA Closeout Certification form:

Bock presented commission with the state of Missouri public assistance applicant closeout certification form. This form will closeout our FEMA/SEMA grant period so we can get our funding sent.

Bock left at 9:40 am.
Treasurer Tipton entered at 10:30 am.

In the matter of
Opioid fund request clarification:

Tipton advised she needs some clarification from commission on an expense from one of the awardees. She advised there is some utility bills that she needs approval on since the approved request wasn't specific. Commission reviewed the approved request and advised the request was broad so yes it would be totally fine to pay.

In the matter of
ACH deposits:

Tipton advised she is running into some issues when paper checks are cut instead of employees using ACH deposits. She advised cutting checks are costing the county time and money since there

are so many extra steps involved and the supplies needed.
Commission unanimously agreed all reimbursements will require an
ACH deposit.

Tipton left at 11:02 am.

In the matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed invoices in the amounts of \$72,734.56 for A
- L and \$20,837.66 for M - Z. Discussions were had on an invoice
for the coroner and was pulled out of the batch until the
Coroner can explain further.

Stites left at 11:30 am for a prior scheduled arrangement.

In the matter of
Commission business:

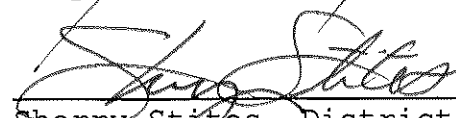
Commissioner Auxier will be attending the Landfill board meeting
at 2pm and the RREC board meeting at 8am tomorrow morning.

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

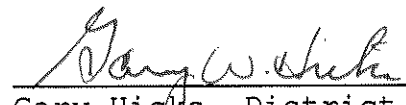
Read and approved,



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
September 22, 2026 Twenty-fourth Day of the July Term

Now at this 22nd day of September, 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

Jason Smiths field representative Grant Wilson entered at 9:02 am.

In the matter of
Review of minutes:

Commission reviewed and approved minutes from the 9/17 commission minutes.

In the matter of
Accounts payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$1450.20 for Assessor Lodging reimbursement and \$34,582.27 for UMB Bank Aug26 50% EATS Rolla Westside TIF.

HD Director Alex Jones entered at 9:19 am.

In the matter of
HD Contracts:

Jones presents commission with a few contracts to commission for approval. Commissioner Stites moved to approved the DHSS Measles Vaccination Response Efforts contract, Commissioner Hicks seconded, motion carried. Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the Maternal Child Health Services contract, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried.

Deputy Assessor Paul Long entered at 9:28 am.
Local Resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:34 am.
Jones left at 9:42 am.

In the matter of
Road specification edits:

Discussions were had on the changes/editions need to be done on the plat section of the subdivision specifications.

HR/Payroll Specialist Amy Asberry entered at 9:52 am followed by local resident Chester Crider at 10:01 am.
Crider left at 10:15 am.

In the matter of
Final review of Guidebook:

Commission reviewed the final edits made to the Phelps County
Employee Handbook.

Yanik Joseph from AXIOS entered at 10:28 am.

Commissioner Hicks moved to approve the new Phelps County
Employee Handbook as presented with amendments, Stites advised
she wants the book to be reviewed by BPJ to verify all
legalities. Commissioner Hicks withdrew his motion to approve
until the document has been reviewed for compliance of labor
laws.

In the matter of
Employee supplemental insurance services:

Yanik Joseph introduced himself to commission.
Joseph advised commission he is with the benefit group AXIOS and
explained what they provide to employers and employees. Asberry
advised we have an RFP being published on Thursday, Johnson will
get you a copy of the RFP.

Joseph left at 10:40 am followed by Asberry at 10:50 am.
Treasurer Cathy Tipton entered at 11:17 am.

In the matter of
CART Fund reports:

Tipton advised commission she just received the report and with
her being out at mandatory training the remainder of the week
she wanted to present today. Discussions were had on Fuel Tax is
pretty flat compared to last month and up 9% from last year at
this time. Sales tax is up 2% from last month and up 5% from
this time last year. Vehicle fees is up 10% over last month and
4% from this time last year.

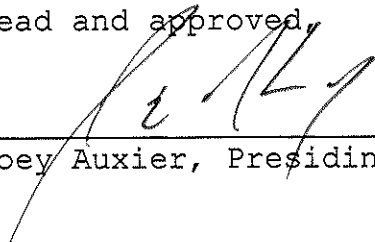
In the matter of
Commission business:

Commissioner Stites advised she is heading out to a CASA meeting
at 11:30am and has a Meramec Regional Community foundation
meeting at 2pm.

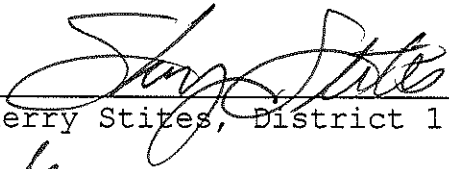
Stites left at 11:25am for the CASA Meeting.
Tipton left at 11:51 am.

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

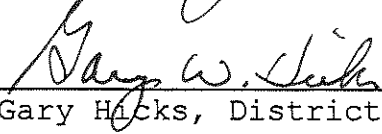
Read and approved,



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
September 24, 2026 Twenty-fifth Day of the July Term

Now at this 24th day of September, 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 Kari Craun, Morgan Bearden, Daniel Victor, Marsha Snodgrass, Lucy Sutcliffe, Agnes Uhls, Martha Long, Louise Jenkins, Kim Kuntz, Alan Knaup, Brenda Knaup, Freda Schmidt, Dianna Powelson, Carla Bates and Jody Eberly.

In the matter of
Data Center discussions:

Craun introduced herself again to all in attendance. Craun advised she has collected 1,017 signatures of residents in the county and in the area that was recently approached for a battery storage facility. Craun also advised she wants to know how to get a measure on the ballot. Johnson advised Craun, as I mentioned to you in the email, I can only tell you what the deadlines are to submit measures when they are available and that there has to be a title for the ballot measure, outside of that I do not have any authority to give you legal advice. Craun advised can you tell me what the estimated date would be and Johnson advised I am not going to give you a wrong date so I will not answer that until I receive the dates from the State like every other elected official. Commission asked if anyone in attendance has contacted representatives at the state level about this because the commissions hands are tied since we have no planning and zoning in place. Craun advised yes but no one will return my calls or emails.

Discussions were had again on what several attorneys have advised the commission on this specific matter. Auxier advised we can only attempt to negotiate with any company that may come in the future and he would want closed loop, light and noise regulations and property setbacks. Several discussions were had on the tax incentives that some data centers have negotiated in other counties. Commission again reiterated the county commission does not have any authority to regulate this matter as it needs to come from state and fed down. Commission advised this entire group needs to be heading to the Capital to get stipulations from the state that will come down to the county level and showed a map of the state of Missouri showing all the 3rd class counties that are in this same boat.

All left at 9:31 am except for Victor.
Barnes entered at 9:34 am.

In the matter of
Review of minutes:

Commission reviewed and approved minutes from the 9/22 commission minutes.

Barnes left at 9:41 am.

In the matter of
Purchasing Policy Discussions:

Johnson advised we need to create a purchasing/procurement policy to stream line purchasing and provide guidance to all elected officials. Discussions were had on setting the required approval amount to \$1,500. Victor asked if this would outline who and what can be ordered for IT services. Johnson advised our IT is the only one allowed to purchase computers, laptops that will be connected to internet.

In the matter of
General discussions:

Victor advised the AI build out is billions over even the Railroad company and discussions were had on the Montgomery County data center. General discussions were had on the lack of communication, support and care for the legislative bills the state legislators are implementing and the direct impact on local county officials and county budgets. Examples of the SB3 bill and tying the sheriff's salary to an associate judge salary were given and that the state pays nothing on these but left the monetary affects(downfalls) to the counties to pay.

Sheriff's department Lt. Paul Lambert entered at 9:57 am.

In the matter of
Traffic Grants for Sheriff's Department:

Lambert presented commission with documents from 3 grants that he applied for and received:

- DWI Grant - asked \$13,000 received \$9,000 for 10/01/2026-09/30/2027
- HNV Grant - asked \$14,000 received \$8,000 for 10/01/2026-09/30/2027
- Move Over Grant - asked \$9,000 received \$6,000 for 10/01/2026-09/30/2027.

Victor commenced discussions on how many officers would be utilizing the grants and about how much overtime these grants would cover.

Lambert left at 10:18 am.
HR/Payroll Specialist Amy Asberry entered at 10:23 am.
Victor left at 10:24 am.

In the matter of
Closed Session:

Commissioner Hicks moved to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(3), Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried and moved to closed session at 10:30 am.

Commissioner Hicks moved to return to open session, Commissioner Stites seconded, motion carried and returned to open session at 10:48 am.

In the matter of
Commission Business:

Commissioner Hicks provided a brief overview of the MCEC (Meramec Community Enhancement Committee) meeting he attended this week about their financial state and the \$4,700 audit that took roughly a 3rd of their available funds.

Commissioner Hicks advised he reached out to the USACE (United States Army Core of Engineers) office about the concrete steps that someone put in along the river in Jerome. More discussions will be had at a later date of the findings and procedures to follow.

Commissioner Stites advised she attended the MRCF (Meramec Regional Community Foundation) meeting and a brief report was given on the trade scholarship fund that the foundation put into place to allow purchasing of tools, work clothes, etc. for any student attending a trade program in the county.

Commissioner Stites advised she attended the Rolla Chamber Ambassador meeting as commissioner and brief description was given on the state of the sales tax revenue and projects that have been completed utilizing the use tax.

Commissioner Stites also advised she has been in contact with the MOCA board to do what is necessary to make the transition into filling Commissioner Hicks' seat as will be retiring at the end of his term.

Commissioner Stites advised she is going to be attending the Rosati Neighborhood watch meeting on Monday 9/28/26 @ 6:30 pm.

Commissioner Stites also advised on 9/1/26 commission attended a zoom coordinated by Joanie Prenger from MODOT with the commission, MODOT and Great Rivers Engineering to discuss the need for a BEEP study regarding the outer road from Rolla city limits to Hwy V intersection at the rail road viaduct bridge.

Commissioner Auxier advised after working with the state he did find 5 members to serve on the vacant Sewer District 4 board and 6 more residents in that district that are willing to step up if needed. The new board president is Debbie Grotha and he has provided the state contact information to her with any questions she might have.

Commissioner Hicks left at 11:00 am for a prior appointment.

In the matter of
Accounts Payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$317,148.43 for A - L and \$79,075.74 for M - Z.

In the matter of
Closed Session:

Stites moved to go into an emergency closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021(1) Commissioner Auxier seconded, motion carried and moved to closed session at 11:21 am.

Commissioner Stites moved to go out of closed session, Commissioner Auxier seconded, motion carried and moved back into open session at 11:25 am.

Public Administrator Dana Sooter entered at 11:29 am.

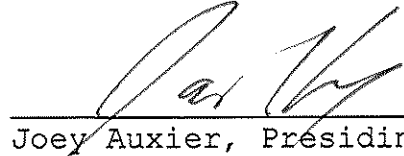
In the matter of
Public Admin construction:

Sooter advised she is looking for a contractor that will cut and frame the door to the space that has been freed up next to her office so she can expand. Discussions were had on the contractor the county normally uses no longer doing construction and Auxier advised he gave support services a list of some contractors in the area.

Asberry left 11:35 am.

Hearing no other business commission adjourned at 11:58 am.

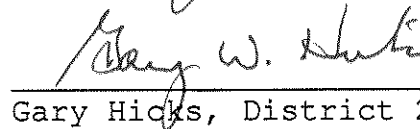
Read and approved,



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner



Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner



Gary Hicks, District 2 Commissioner

Phelps County Commission Record
September 29, 2026 Twenty-sixth Day of the July Term

Now at this 26th day of September, Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

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

Commissioner Hicks was absent due to a prior arranged procedure.

In the matter of
Review of Minutes:

Commission reviewed and approved minutes from the 9/24 commission meeting.

Local resident Chester Kojro entered at 9:32 am.

In the matter of
Accounts payable:

Commission reviewed and approved invoices in the amounts of \$1,614.84 for Garnishments, \$3,637.19 for September Multi-Vendor, \$7,922.93 for September 18 Great-West & Nationwide and \$133,349.26 for Sept-Oct Self Insured UMR/KCL.

Road & Bridge Admin Assistant Michelle Bock entered at 10:26 am.
Kojro left at 10:27 am.

In the matter of
Call to Webster Co Commission:

Commissioner Stites called in to speak with the Webster County Commission about the moratorium they put in place in reference to data centers. Webster county advised they did not want to do the moratorium as it now expires in December and the group that pressured them has not submitted a petition to have a P&Z commission put together.

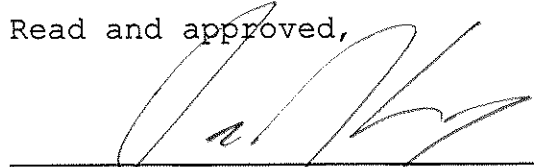
In the matter of
NAP Application for Bunches of Joy:

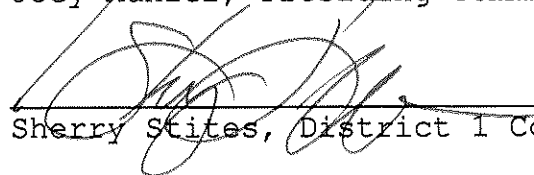
Commission received a request from MRPC to fill out a NAP tax credit application in order for Bunches of Joy to utilize a specific grant. Discussions were had on A requirement of these tax credit applications is that the local jurisdiction confirm that the project is not in conflict with any local plans or ordinances. Commission reviewed and signed the application.

Treasurer Cathy Tipton entered at 11:10 am and left at 11:17 am.
Bock left at 11:19 am.
Collector Faith Barnes entered at 11:38 am and left at 11:48 am.

Hearing no other business commission adjourned at 11:51 am.

Read and approved,



Joey Auxier, Presiding Commissioner

Sherry Stites, District 1 Commissioner