

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
December 3, 2019 Eighteenth day of the October term

Now at this the 3rd day of December 2019 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE
PERFORMANCE AUDIT:

Robin Vogt, CPA, Nicole Cash, MBA, Albert Borde-Koufie and Logan Vogel of the SAO's office provided information on the performance audit of the county, to proceed over the next three months. Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley was also present. The performance audit will not be the same as a the SAO's financial statement audit which are contracted for counties. The auditors will plan to look at county officials who collect fees; the Health Department for which the County Commission has oversight; the SB40 Board and the Phelps County Board for the Developmentally Disabled; a minimal look at the courts but some check over probate. Vogt said that the time from the end of the official work to the issuance of a report would be four months, or late spring to early June. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp inquired about the frequency of performance audits; Vogt said once during every elected official's four-year term. When asked by Sheeley, Vogt replied that the audit was routine.

IN THE MATTER OF
LAW ENFORCEMENT
RESTITUTION FUND:

The board for the Phelps County Law Enforcement Restitution Fund, Phelps County Fund 430, met the previous day and considered funding requests for calendar year 2020. The clerk reported that \$55,000 for support of an assistant prosecutor salary and \$35,000 for deputy sheriff salary support were the requests received, and were agreed upon by the board. Local resident Chester Kojro entered and Sheeley left.

IN THE MATTER OF
JEROME, SEPTIC COMPLAINT:

Local resident Karen Peterman requested a progress report on the complaint of septic effluent running across her late mother's property from the neighboring home. Telephone consultation with the Prosecuting Attorney's office revealed that the Probable Cause Statement had, that day, been received in the office, and charges would probably be filed today. Peterman asked if there had been a delay, since she last inquired of the Commission in October. She was referred to the Prosecuting Attorney's office for further help, and left.

IN THE MATTER OF
PUBLIC DEFENDER'S
OFFICE BUDGET:

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PUBLIC DEFENDER OFFICE BUDGET, Continued:

Communication was received from the Office of the State Public Defender regarding the 2020 budget, consisting of \$9520.00 for rent and \$2855.00 for utilities, down from the 2019 request of \$10,475.00 and \$3145.00, respectively, and roughly equal to the 2018 request of \$9518.00 and \$2855.00.

IN THE MATTER OF
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

Collector Faith Barnes entered to provide an illustration of the costs to employees, effectively a significant lowering of compensation, considering the high cost of dependent and spousal coverages.

IN THE MATTER OF
CORNER REMONUMENTATION:

Communication from the Department of Agriculture, State of Missouri Land Survey Program was received. This modified the corner remonumentation program, contract #20-11, in that 10 rather than 16 corners met the criteria for the program. The State Department of Agriculture would compensate the county a total of \$3000.00 rather than \$4800.00, at their rate of \$300 per remonumented corner. Kojro then left.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT REGARDING
1972 JAIL, OPIOID MISUSE, AND PDMP:

Local resident Ray Schweikhardt arrived and mentioned that the lights on the remodeled 1972 jail were very bright at night and impaired motorist visibility at the intersection of Rolla and Second Streets. He also asked if citizens could be ticketed for failing to use seatbelts using the reasoning that such failure would result in costs to the public, then shouldn't opioid abusers be ticketed because of the public costs such as naloxone and emergency room care which are incurred? He also asked if any data was available yet for the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP); none was available.

IN THE MATTER OF
ST. JAMES CARING
CENTER CDBG:

Request for Funds #4 for the St. James Caring Center Community Development Block Grant was reviewed and approved as moved by Commissioner Stratman, seconded by Presiding Commissioner Verkamp. The disbursements would be \$4,982.50 for Missouri Engineering and \$1,317.72 for grant administration to MRPC. Schweikhardt then left.

IN THE MATTER OF
LIABILITY COVERAGE:

Dan Cavender with MRPC arrived to discuss the renewal of the county's liability coverage with MOPERM; with some deductible changes, the premium came in almost the same as last year:

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LIABILITY COVERAGE, Continued:

\$251,451 (liability) and \$65,681 (property). Several aspects of the coverage were discussed. Cavender said 700 entities are covered by MOPERM; approximately 30% are counties and 30% cities with the remainder being schools, sewer, and water districts. His belief is that the private market will be unable to compete with MOPERM. There are some additional insured entities including MoDOT because of the Northweye Outer Road project (which Presiding Commissioner Verkamp said to remove) and RMU due to its being a polling place at one time. Aside from the increase in the general liability deductible to \$5,000, Cavender said all the other deductibles were the same. Your Community Health Center medical malpractice was discussed because of their anticipated presence in the Health Department facilities; a certificate of insurance from YCHC will be sought. Additionally, employment practices liability of YCHC will not be taken on by the county.

IN THE MATTER OF
PERSONAL PROPERTY
COURT ORDERS:

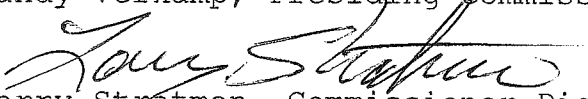
Personal Property Court Orders #1985 through 1988, 2016 through 2019 Add-ons for October 2019, were reviewed and approved. These increased assessed valuation by \$3,760; \$30,750; \$181,220; and \$796,986, respectively.

IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commission reviewed and approved payment of 28 and 15 invoices, respectively, in the amounts of \$22,295.29 and \$21,066.86.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1

[Absent]
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
December 5, 2019 Nineteenth day of the October term

Now at this the 5th day of December 2019 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
FORT LEONARD WOOD:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp provided a report on a meeting with the leadership at Fort Leonard Wood. Local resident Ray Schweikhardt was also present.

IN THE MATTER OF
OZARK RIVERS SOLID
WASTE MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT (ORSWMD):

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp provided followup on the Mill Creek Coalition and a member, Mark Dean, being recognized for their accomplishments in cleanup efforts, by the ORSWMD.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT:

Local residents Tom and Brandy Pasley visited briefly with the Commission.

IN THE MATTER OF
INSURANCE CONSULTANTS:

Dan Arriel with USI, seeking the bid for employee insurance consulting with the county, called and spoke with Commissioner Stratman.

IN THE MATTER OF
SEWER FEES, DOOLITTLE:

Collector Faith Barnes let the Commission know that the Doolittle City Clerk had requested the removal of sewer fees from a property in the city, per Real Estate Court Order Certificate 2019-000014.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT:

Sheriff's Deputy Carmelo Crivello attended to visit briefly and then spoke privately with Commissioner Larry Stratman.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD AND BRIDGE
PERSONNEL POLICY:

Superintendent of Roads Walter Snelson and Michelle Bock of the Road and Bridge Department arrived to discuss weekend and holiday work, comp time, and potential sick leave abuse.

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 5, 2019 Ninteenth day of the October term

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 5120:

Local resident Nolan Dunlap of 11230 County Road 5120 entered to report that his road frontage would see only 10-14 cars per day, and that his neighbors were not very interesting in paying for chip and seal. He inquired of the minimum length of chip and seal undertaken by the county; he was told 0.2 mile was the minimum. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp suggested waiting until spring 2020 and said property tax was not really what funded the roads, but rather, it was sales and gas taxes. At this point Commissioner Stratman rejoined the meeting and Dunlap left.

IN THE MATTER OF
EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE:

The Benefit Management Report from Group Benefit Services was received and reviewed by the Commission; through November 2019 the loss ratio was 50% and the reserve account balance for the county was \$202,532.85.

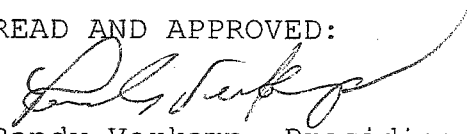
IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

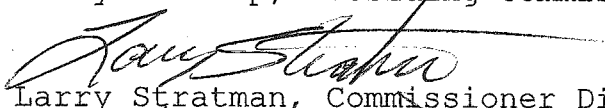
The Commission reviewed and approved payment of 35 and 35 invoices in the amounts of \$57,212.88 and \$16,478.02, respectively.

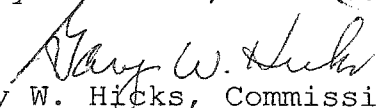
IN THE MATTER OF
25TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
2020 BUDGET:

The Commission was notified that the Court En Banc meeting for the presentation of the 2020 budget would be held December 6, 2019 at 9 a.m. in the Circuit's Phelps County Courthouse offices.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
December 10, 2019 Twentieth day of the October term

Now at this the 10th day of December 2019 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
FLOOD BUYOUT:

Gary O'Day of Meramec Regional Planning Commission was present, as was Andrew Sheeley of Phelps County Focus. O'Day presented some additional paperwork for reimbursement to the county of the appraisal costs under the FMA FEMA grant; as moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Stratman this was approved. Additionally, he requested signature of the request for funds for the purchase of a property on which closing was scheduled for December 30. A county official will need to be present at the closing; just over \$700 is expected in closing costs. FEMA is deducting the property tax money owed to the county for 2019. The RFF was approved as moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Stratman.

IN THE MATTER OF
COMMODITY FLOW
STUDY:

Tammy Snodgrass of MRPC had requested the county's input on this study; Sheeley asked for some details. It was tied to funding from a fee paid by those permitted to store hazardous materials; Highways 28, 68, 89, 133 and Route A in Washington County were included. Commissioner Stratman moved, and Commissioner Hicks seconded, that the document be approved. O'Day then left.

IN THE MATTER OF
COMMISSIONER TRAINING:

The County Commissioner training was discussed. Local resident Chester Kojro then entered.

IN THE MATTER OF
SALES TAXES:

Treasurer Carol Green reported that sales taxes through the end of 2019 showed a 5.76% increase as compared with 2018; December's sales tax was \$258,687.41, an increase of 4.28% in the MTM comparison.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROADS:

Michelle Bock of the Road Department attended to discuss various road matters.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 1050:

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December 10, 2019 Twentieth day of the October term

ROAD 1050, Continued:

Local resident Curt Voss came to express concern about the intersection of Highway 68 and Road 1050; traffic outbound from St. James on 68 tends to go 55 mph or more and motorists on 1050 making the left turn to proceed southbound on Highway 68 are seriously imperiled, in his opinion.

IN THE MATTER OF
STORM READY DESIGNATION:

Cpl. Mike Kirn of the Phelps County Sheriff's Department, and county Emergency Management Director, arrived to discuss the county achieving Storm Ready County Designation after having met requirements including emergency operation plan, communication plans, Everbridge Mass Notification system use as well as social media use.

IN THE MATTER OF
CLOSED SESSION:

The Commission entered closed session at 11:02 as moved by Commissioner Stratman, seconded by Commissioner Hicks, pursuant to RSMo 610.021(17) - Auditor communication. No actions having been taken, the meeting returned to open session at 11:30 a.m. as moved by Commissioner Stratman, seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

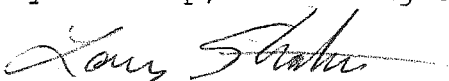
The Commissioners reviewed and approved payment of one, 57, and 64 invoices in the amounts of \$16,342.50; \$122,540.26; and \$50,754.81, respectively. The second batch was amended to be \$127,351.32 due to one invoice being an erroneous total.

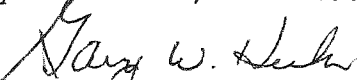
IN THE MATTER OF
COURT ORDERS:

The Commissioners reviewed and approved two real estate court orders, 2019-000014 and 2019-000015, parcels numbers 2019-5505 and 2019-5320, respectively; these were to remove sewer fees.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 12, 2019 Twenty-first day of the October term

Now at this the 12th day of December 2019 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
CENTRAL WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT BOARD:

Commissioner Stratman moved and Commissioner Hicks seconded the appointment of Julie Littrell to the Central Workforce Development Board.

IN THE MATTER OF
CORNER REMONUMENTATION:

The Commissioners approved the reimbursement request of County Surveyor Terris Cates for ten corner remonumentations to the Missouri Department of Agriculture, as moved by Commissioner Stratman and seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

IN THE MATTER OF
ST. JAMES AREA TAX BASE:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp reported on a meeting he attended with St. James City Administrator Jim Fleming, St. James R-1 Schools Superintendent Dr. Merlyn Johnson, and Assessor Bill Stoltz. The St. James Wal-Mart Distribution Center Chapter 100 Tax-exempt status will mature in 2021, and the effect of this expiration on the assessed valuation and taxes paid was discussed at some length.

IN THE MATTER OF
AUDITS:

The 2015 performance audit done by the State Auditor's Office was briefly discussed, and the need to document Commission approval for the annual interest transfers between the Unemployment Fund and County Revenue.

IN THE MATTER OF
BROADBAND:

The Commission reported an \$11.4 million award for broadband internet in Howard County, wondering who the direct recipient would have been.

IN THE MATTER OF
TRANSPORTATION
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT (TDD):

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp announced this meeting to be held at 5:00 p.m. on December 16, 2019 in the Rolla City Council chambers.

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December 12, 2019 Twenty-first day of the October term

IN THE MATTER OF
LIABILITY INSURANCE:

Dan Cavender of BPJ Insurance came to discuss the MoPERM liability coverage. The coverage of 4.5 FTE bailiffs was added to correct an omission, and as moved by Commissioner Stratman and seconded by Commissioner Hicks, Presiding Commissioner Verkamp signed the property policy. Cavender also asked the clerk to procure a certificate of insurance on Summit Food Cervices, and wanted Advance Correctional Health Care to add the county on as an additional insured.

IN THE MATTER OF
MCEC AND 2020 CENSUS:

Commissioner Hicks provided a report of a meeting of the MCEC from December 11, 2019; grants for census-taking were explained there. Other topics included jobs placement for convicted felons after completion of sentence; the high proportion of employers seeking job trainees who expressed willingness to consider applicants with prior felony convictions; the Community Foundation of the Ozarks (CFO) Rural Health Initiative, overcoming barriers in substance use disorder recovery.

IN THE MATTER OF
SHOP-WITH-A-COP:

Sheriff Rick Lisenbe arrived and reported on the roughly 250 children helped through this effort, funded by some \$9,000 or more.

IN THE MATTER OF
INMATE HEALTH CARE:

Sheriff Lisenbe fielded Commission inquiry about injury of inmates and whether they were treated at Phelps Health. Lisenbe said his budget funded their care, either through Advanced Correctional Health Care or through MoPERM depending on the circumstance. He suspects that illnesses, on the other hand, were likely written off by Phelps Health because he "...does not pay hospital bills."

IN THE MATTER OF
JAIL STAFFING:

Lisenbe discussed developments in hiring jailers.

IN THE MATTER OF
COURTROOM ONE AV
IMPROVEMENTS:

25th Judicial Circuit Presiding Judge Bill Hickle appeared to discuss video and sound system improvements to Courtroom #1, the main large courtroom. The implementation of a new system was discussed in some detail, and the equipment and capabilities in use currently. Judge Hickle mentioned that a monitor on the wall opposite the jury box would allow any of multiple types of video conference software to permit video arraignments on jailed defendants; jurors in the back of the courtroom during jury selection are hard to hear and microphones could help greatly,

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 12, 2019 Twenty-first day of the October term

COURTROOM ONE AV IMPROVEMENTS, Continued:

especially if they fed into the front as well as the court reporter's headset; there is an ongoing problem with trip hazards with legal teams using audiovisual equipment. Detention dockets, often judge-defendant, which require the judge to evaluate within 48 hours of detention, could be greatly facilitated with selected equipment.

IN THE MATTER OF
PAYROLL:

The Commission reviewed and approved payroll for December 13, 2019 representing work dates of 11/16-30/19, for \$177,286.81 net salaries, \$56,236.96 federal and \$7,205.50 state withholding.

IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commission reviewed and approved payment of 16 invoices in the amount of \$17,319.79.

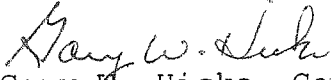
READ AND APPROVED:



Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner



Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1



Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 17, 2019 Twenty-second day of the October term

Now at this the 17th day of December 2019 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
SB40 BOARD AND
PHELPS COUNTY BOARD
FOR THE DEVELOPMENTALLY DISABLED:

Brenda Rocoberto, Director of the SB40 Board, and Mike Speak and Gary Young, outgoing and incoming Chairmen for the Phelps County Board for the Developmentally Disabled (PCBDD), respectively, attended to present the budget for the SB40 Board for 2020. Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley was also present. The SB40 Board currently serves 476 individuals in both Phelps (391) and Texas (85) counties. There are 6 individuals on the Phelps County waiting list. They employ 18 staff. When their current rented building was put up for sale, the board decided purchase was in their best interest. Their 2020 budget showed a beginning balance of \$2,980,000; expected revenues were \$1,500,000 and expenditures were \$1,000,000; the ending balance on December 31, 2020 was estimated at \$3,480,000. Commissioner Hicks asked if any changes in qualification for services were expected; Rocoberto said the funding for services is 60% federal, 40% state (Department of Mental Health or DMH) and the state is the limiting factor. Asked if DMH might become involved in the opioid misuse problem, Rocoberto says they are not that involved as developmental disabilities are their major mission. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp asked who identifies "need"; Rocoberto replied that it was the Rolla Regional Center, and Speak said this had not changed. Once the funding is approved, SB40 can authorize services; she suspects targeted case management (TCM) will decline. Her entity is audited by Center for Medicaid Services, Missouri DMH, the Department of Justice and quarterly by the state, also. Presiding Commissioner asked who held the title to their building; it is titled to Phelps County SB40 Board for Developmental Disabilities. Speak said the names of the two entities have caused confusion for some; a split occurred about 10 years ago when the state discontinued TCM and this would either have been entrusted to another county or a for-profit entity and the approximately \$4 million would leave Phelps County.

IN THE MATTER OF
PCBDD BOARD:

Speak then gave a report on board membership at PCBDD. Mary Brooks had resigned and was replaced with Michael Calkins of St. James. Speak will be resigning and Stacey Reed of Rolla is willing to serve; as moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Stratman, Stacey Reed was appointed to the Board. Speak then reviewed the membership of the board going into the new year: Gary Young (Chairman), Jeanne Cavender (Vice Chairman), Connie Chrisco (Treasurer), Donna Adam, Sue Killian,

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 17, 2019 Twenty-second day of the October term

PCBDD BOARD, Continued:

Matt Duncan, Ann Murphy, Michael Calkins, and now Stacey Reed. The board will be at full membership. He recapitulated the budget as approved by the Commission at their November 14, 2019 meeting. Commissioner Hicks asked if all agencies' requests were fully funded and Speak said they were. Of the \$403,601 total appropriated, up to \$52,139 will be contributed as matching funds under the Missouri Home and Community-Based Waiver (Mental Health Trust Fund or MHTF) which will allow the Phelps County agencies who participate in the program to withdraw over \$130,300 for community integration services. Several agencies asked for greater funding; one of these was Phelps County Industrial Services (formerly Sheltered Workshop) which was dealing with federal regulatory changes requiring increased pay rates. Rocaberto, Speak and Young then left.

IN THE MATTER OF
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY
COMMITTEE MEETING:

A summary of the recent meeting was provided; Presiding Commissioner Verkamp said none of Phelps County's projects made it to the top of the regional list. Darin Pryor, P.E. of the City of Rolla and two representatives from Washington County had made presentations; MRPC Executive Director Bonnie Prigge will likely be issuing a press release about the projects to be funded.

IN THE MATTER OF
CLOSING COURTHOUSE:

As moved by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Stratman, the courthouse will be closed at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 24, 2019.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT:

Retired PCSD Captain Rick Hope visited the Commission.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROADS:

Michelle Bock of the Road Department visited with the Commission regarding several road issues.

IN THE MATTER OF
AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE:

The Commission received a visit from Sandy P. Johnson and Michael Cosgrove from Mercy Client Services and heard a bit about Mercy Lifeline Air Ambulance.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT:

Local resident and former Commissioner Bud Dean visited with the Commission.

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IN THE MATTER OF
COUNTY LAND PURCHASE:

Land south of the Courthouse is privately listed and the Commissioners discussed its potential purchase.

IN THE MATTER OF
CHILD SUPPORT
ENFORCEMENT:

The Child Support Enforcement Grant for the coming year, Contract # ER10220C075, was approved as moved by Commissioner Stratman and seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

IN THE MATTER OF
FLOOD BUYOUT:

A Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in the amount of \$234,674 for buyout of three properties deemed ineligible due to lack of flood insurance was approved on a motion by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Stratman.

IN THE MATTER OF
FLOOD MAPS CHANGES:

Commissioner Hicks initiated a discussion about the new floodplain maps recently provided, which he believes were generated prematurely by SEMA; he referred to the Stream Stats Report made available by USGS. Stormwater conveyances are critical to flood control and Commissioner Hicks said some problems might be alleviated with proper sizing of the conveyances.

IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commissioners reviewed and approved payment of 51 and 77 invoices in the amounts of \$18,438.73 and \$77,090.43, respectively, as well as the Group Benefit Services January 2020 premium of \$130,927.05.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 19, 2019 Twenty-third day of the October term

Now at this the 19th day of December 2019 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF STORMREADY DESIGNATION:

Present were Brett Hendrix, SEMA Region I Coordinator; Steve Runnels, Warning Coordination Meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Springfield; Cpl. Mike Kirn from the PCSD and county EMD; retired PCSD Captain Rick Hope. Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley was also present. For excellence in preparing the community for hazardous weather, Phelps County was given the StormReady Designation. Runnels provided some information about the program; it began about 10 years ago nationwide with acknowledgement of extensive weather hazards. StormReady Designation permits coordination of the community with NWS. There are 3,000 such recognized entities country wide; 30 Missouri counties and 50 communities/cities; four universities and a few commercial entities. Kirn was recognized by Runnels for his hard work despite being a fairly new EMD; Kirn said about four months of work was required. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp said short of being able to control the hazardous weather, being prepared was the next best thing. Commissioner Hicks asked Kirn about the critical transportation routes; Kirn said these were included in the operation plan. As an example, Kirn mentioned the mutual operation agreements with the schools regarding use of the buses. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp mentioned the risk to certain bridges during an earthquake; some will be crossable, and some not. Kirn said the state has been looking at this concern; Hendrix said that I-44 was not thought likely to have overpasses not damaged, and I-70 and Highway 60 are believed to be the East/West routes most resilient. Runnels said that in his 30 years, he has seen significant increases in federal, state, and county cooperation. He then presented Kirn with a plaque, and the county with a road sign to display the new designation.

IN THE MATTER OF CHAPTER 100 PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT:

Hartman US, Inc. was approved for abatement of 75% of personal property from taxation, with 25% being \$671,598, on a motion by Commissioner Stratman seconded by Commissioner Hicks. Sheeley then left. This was via Court Order 2019-00062093.

IN THE MATTER OF VALUATION APPEAL, WALMART STORES:

Assessor Bill Stoltz then arrived to discuss the appeal of assessed valuations in many counties by WalMart; a consortium of counties has placed an attorney on retainer. An argument called the "Dark Store" theory needs to be countered, per Stoltz. This

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VALUATION APPEAL, WALMART STORES, Continued:

argument supposes that sale of the buildings is encumbered with deed restrictions under Chapter 100 financing; and precludes any use of the facility which becomes a "dark store". Stoltz said the cost of legal representation will be shared across multiple counties. Commissioner Hicks asked how the tax revenue would be handled; Stoltz said taxes are paid, but escrowed.

IN THE MATTER OF
US SENATOR HAWLEY
CONSTITUENT SERVICES:

Commissioner Stratman said he had visited with Senator Josh Hawley's representative, Ray Bozarth, who was going to look into the matter of the revision of floodplain maps; he reported \$20 Billion budgeted for Internet Service Providers in rural America, with a large share being secured for Missouri.

IN THE MATTER OF
MRDC:

Commissioner Hicks provided a report of the MRDC meeting on 12/18/19.

IN THE MATTER OF
JAIL HEALTHCARE:

Jail Lt. Joe Taylor stepped in to report the Sheriff had signed the contract with Advanced Correctional Healthcare.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROADS:

Michelle Bock of the Roads Department came to discuss some road issues.

IN THE MATTER OF
REAL ESTATE COURT ORDER:

The Commission reviewed and approved RE Court Order Certificate 2019000018, changing the name on a parcel.

IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commissioners reviewed the payment of Economic Activity Taxes ("EATS") for the RollaWest TIF. This group of three reimbursements were \$9,920.88 (County Revenue portion); \$5,342.01 (Road and Bridge portion); \$11,447.19 (LEST portion) and totals \$26,710.08. It is 50% of the sales tax generated at the new development over a month two months prior. Further, the Commissioners reviewed payment of 44 and 85 invoices in the amounts of \$40,683.37 and \$71,246.2 as well as an AT&T bill for \$2241.54. The clerk said some multinational companies were not willing to maintain services during the A/P hiatus when the budget was pending; cell phones and gas cards (such as WexBank for Mobile) were being cut off or frozen. Some departments were

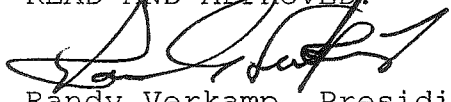
PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 19, 2019 Twenty-third day of the October term

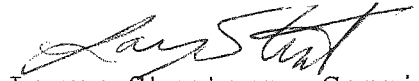
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE, Continued:

paying average bills one month in advance in order to sustain services.

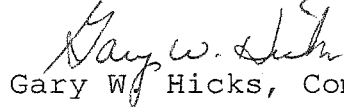
READ AND APPROVED:



Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner



Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1



Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 24, 2019 Twenty-fourth day of the October term

Now at this the 24th day of December 2019 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
COLLECTION OF
CITY SEWER FEES:

Local residents of Edgar Springs Kevin Melton and Rebecca Varney came to discuss the 2018 contract with the city of Edgar Springs for the County Collector to collect the city real estate taxes. Melton actually signed this agreement, as he was mayor of Edgar Springs at the time. He questions whether the city's agreement includes the collection of sewer fees. These fees recently were raised to \$35 monthly for a residence on a water meter, but \$50 per month for those on a well (his circumstance). After two months he realized that the two, \$15 charges which he did not agree with were accruing with additional late fees.

Commissioner Hicks asked if there was a sewer board with jurisdiction; Melton said no, it was the city council which had no ordinance about this, though they did have a public hearing. Under the current mayor, sewer fees are being attached to property taxes. Commissioner Stratman said that he believed that Collector Faith Barnes was doing what Edgar Springs asked her to do; Presiding Commissioner Verkamp does not believe the Commission has a say in the matter. Statutes regarding the situation were discussed. Collector Faith Barnes briefly stopped in and said that her office had the authority to collect the tax bill. Melton and Varney left after brief additional discussion.

IN THE MATTER OF
ST. JAMES CARING
CENTER CDBG:

Request for Funds (RFF) #5 for the renovation/parking lot improvements for the St. James Caring Center was approved as moved by Commissioner Stratman, seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

IN THE MATTER OF
CIVIL COURTS FEE:

Treasurer Carol Green and Sheriff Rick Lisenbe arrived and discussed the Civil Courts fees.

IN THE MATTER OF
SHERIFF'S BUDGET
AMENDMENTS:

Lisenbe and the clerk then discussed some amendments to his 2019 budget, one of which was to correct the significant underestimate of the TIF EATS payments during 2019, as there had been no prediction available for the gross sales at the RollaWest stores during their first full year.

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 24, 2019 Twenty-fourth day of the October term

IN THE MATTER OF
JAIL STAFFING:

Sheriff Lisenbe discussed the tight labor market for jail personnel with the Commission.

IN THE MATTER OF
PAYROLL:

The Commissioners reviewed and approved county payroll for 12/31/2019 representing work dates 12/1-15/2019 in the amount of \$174,926.92 net salaries, \$54,406.67 and \$6,951.50 federal and state withholdings, respectively.

IN THE MATTER OF
CART FUNDS:

Treasurer Carol Green provided the CART funds for December 2019. These showed gas tax of \$57,873.69; motor vehicle sales tax of \$13,910.81; motor vehicle fees of \$8,447.32. The totals for 2019 in these three categories were \$655,530.92; 187,891.14; \$95,032.54, respectively. These represented 98.94%, 138.91%, and 103.83% of the amounts budgeted for. The clerk budgets using the formula provided by Missouri Association of Counties.

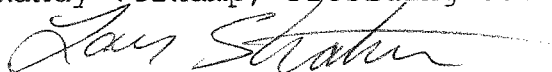
IN THE MATTER OF
FLOOD BUYOUT:

As moved by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Stratman, the flood buyout settlement on the Shepherd property was approved.

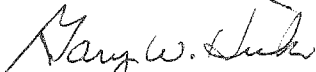
READ AND APPROVED:



Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner



Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1



Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 26, 2019 Twenty-fifth day of the October term

Now at this the 26th day of December 2019 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

The clerk did not prepare a printed agenda for the meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT:

Local resident Ray Schweikhardt attended the meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD DEPARTMENT
PERSONNEL POLICY:

Michelle Bock of the Road Department attended and discussed the amending of the department's personnel policy; she will return next week.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 7100 BRO-B081(13):

Progress Invoice #6 on this bridge project was approved as moved by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Stratman. The accompanying letter to MoDOT was signed by Presiding Commissioner Verkamp.

IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commission reviewed and approved payment of 407 jurors in the Petit Jury batch totaling \$2,852.97; the Grand Jury batch for \$3,771.58; and 5 general invoices in the amount of \$8,328.22.

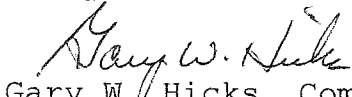
READ AND APPROVED:



Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner



Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1



Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 31, 2019 Twenty-sixth day of the October term

Now at this the 31st day of December 2019 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2
Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 1050:

Local resident Charles Shirley of 15749 County Road 1050 came to discuss problems with gravel washing off his road. He says he called the Road Department approximately 1 to 1.5 years ago, and he does not think there has been any effort expended. He acknowledged the workload and larger difficulties encountered by the department, however; Commissioner Stratman spoke with him and the situation will be looked into.

IN THE MATTER OF
COURT ORDER:

Collector Faith Barnes entered. Real Estate Court Order 2019000019 removing \$432.68 in sewer fees from parcel 2019-5132 was approved.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD DEPARTMENT:

The Commission discussed the changes to the Road and Bridge Department Personnel Policy, which chiefly centered around clarification of accrual and use of compensatory (comp) time. As moved by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Stratman, some changes were approved.

IN THE MATTER OF
ASSESSOR MAINTENANCE PLAN:

The Commissioners reviewed the 2020-21 Assessor Maintenance Plan and this was approved on a motion by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Stratman.

IN THE MATTER OF
BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR 2019:

The clerk presented a list of budget amendments to the Commission. Several of these were mere typographical errors on data entry; a few were omissions of information, or inclusion of information or dollar amounts, that were inconsistent with the final budget as adopted and forwarded to the State Auditor's Office. The most significant was the gross underestimate of the TIF Economic Activity Taxes (EATS) to be reimbursed for the RollaWest Development stores seeing their first full year of operation; far more sales tax was generated, of which 50% was returned to the account established under the TIF. This affected three funds (Road and Bridge/Fund 100; County Revenue/Fund 200; Law Enforcement Sales Tax/Fund 410), themselves the recipients of sales tax revenue. As approved on

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 31, 2019 Twenty-sixth day of the October term

BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR 2019, Continued:

a motion by Commissioner Stratman, seconded by Commissioner Hicks, the list follows:

2019 BUDGET AMENDMENTS LIST

County Commission County Share of Fringe (33.392) omitted the 1% CERF County Share, which should have been an additional \$370.80 x 2 or \$742, rounded. County Share Fringe should be \$34,134. Book (SAO, hardbound) + NW (financial software) amendment.

County Commission Legal Ads and Publications needs amending upward from \$2500 to \$5000, since the cost of both 2017 and 2018 Financial Statements fell in 2019. (\$2250 and \$2625, respectively, which allows for another legal ad if needed.)

County Clerk Ins, County Share, should be increased by 2,588 (Book and NW) to 43,528 to make up remainder of 2708 in Agg Accom Repayment not already included.

Typo in County Clerk Computer Equipment, \$1500 should be \$4500 for three new computers.

Treasurer's Ins Co Share should be increased by \$328.86 for Agg Accom Repayment (book & NW).

Collector's Fringes were budgeted as identical to the previous year. Amendments to reflect the increase in Ins Premiums, Co Share and the Agg Accom Repayment will be needed.

Collector's Insurance and Bonds (new G/L ca. 12/2018, 200-2006-503-5302) needs \$3,686.00 put in for cost of Collector's Bond; these were no longer going to be paid from 200-2003-503-5302. This would be a book change only; correct figure will be entered into NW.

CH Security department worksheet had an addition error...their initial Co Share Fringe was put down as 64,800, s/b 64,775. This would give total as 191,575; once insurance reimburseable added (1134) and Agg Accom Repayment (2283), new total would be 194,992.

Public Administrator needs \$2,283 added to Ins Co Share Medical (making it 32898) to make up for Agg Accom Repayment (book and NW).

Omission of Fund 415 Cell Phone Stipend Transfer into LEST Fund 410. Total amount \$3780. Budget Book only has the \$43911 transfer from Fund 470 into Fund 410 (Info tech Salary & Fringe). Correct figures will be entered into NW (book change only).

Left off Fund 430 PCLERF Sheriff Sal & Benefit Transfer into LEST 410. Total amount \$30000. Correct figures will be entered into NW (book change only).

Fund 480 needs Payroll Deduct Offsetting Exp. And Agg Accom Repayment put into NW (already in book.)

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

December 31, 2019 Twenty-sixth day of the October term

BUDGET AMENDMENTS FOR 2019, Continued:

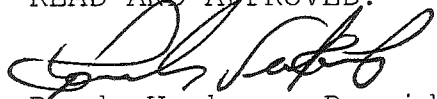
For a wrong amount: \$5725 E911 Program expense into Co Rev s/b \$5675. Outgo side from Fund 800 is 5725, for additional \$50 in E911 Program Expense (telecom.) Correct figures will be entered into NW (book change only).

Fund 205 (Use Tax) had error in budget entry of COH: s/b 302,517.71, not 302,517.00. It appears that on budget entry, the cents are truncated and converted to "\$.00"; even if cents are added to agree to Statement of Cash. Budget Performance Reports then show this "whole dollar" amount for COH. However, the cents are apparently retained in the new year's Statement of Cash.

Error in entering Pulaski-Texas-Maries total of 25th Circuit Judges Reimb in County Revenue; total figure of \$6013 used, s/b \$6456 (Book amendment only).

Senior Companions Director retired in late March, 2019. This is fund 550. There is an Insurance Reimb line for county to pay retiree premiums which are to be reimbursed, but that would involve an income to Senior Companions that would be neither Senior Companions Grant (550-0000-405-4529) nor Transfer (550-0000-408-4801). It was elected that her monthly GBS insurance premium (\$944.92) would be paid into 200-2000-500-5106, then fully reimbursed to County Revenue as the other Fund 200 retirees do (to 200-0000-407-4718).

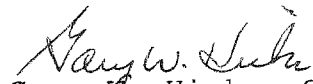
READ AND APPROVED:



Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner



Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1



Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2