

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD
May 26, 2020 Sixteenth day of the April term

Now at this the 26th day of May 2020 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
ROLLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
PROPOSITION R31 2020:

Rolla Public School Superintendent Dr. Aaron Zalis attended as did Treasurer Carol Green and Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley. He provided a significant update on the ballot issue for the General Municipal Election rescheduled for June 2, 2020. The district had pivoted to student essential needs secondary to the novel Coronavirus, COVID-19, on March 17. He reported that approximately \$46,000 in meals (1170 daily) had been distributed and they incorporated some of their perishables and commodities in donations to local food pantries. While instruction continued online with significant efforts during the suspension of in-class instruction, summer school planning continued as did the work of all the support staff. The district adopted a "no-harm policy" wherein a student could retain their grade at the end of the third quarter as their final grade while being allowed to better the grade during virtual classroom work if possible. Zalis reported that 87% of their community had access to high speed internet but in some homes there was only one device to use with multiple students; the district provided Chromebooks when possible. Between 100 and 200 children had no access either due to geography or financial issues. "I don't think we're going to unring the bell on virtual learning," he said. High school graduation will be held outdoors in the football stadium on June 14. He then outlined plans for virtual summer school to gradually transition into in-person basic courses. The directors of nursing, maintenance, custodial employees form part of the steering committee, which will be included in a wider, community task force for reopening. A doctor will be on board. Then Zalis turned to the legal requirements for timing of the bond issue and sale of bonds, desiring to put it into effect for the 2021 tax bills rather than 2020. Zalis said that the district has concerns about the timing of an increase in the debt service levy when the community is under a significant amount of economic stress due to the shut-down of businesses due to COVID-19. Green and Presiding Commissioner Verkamp asked about the CARES Act funding and how the school district was impacted.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 2020:

Michelle Bock of the Road and Bridge Department entered as Zalis, Green, and Sheeley left. A resident along this road, Betty Chaney, has concerns with trees hanging over the road.

IN THE MATTER OF
SPEED LIMIT ON LAKESIDE AND LAKEWOOD DRIVES AND HOLT ROAD:

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SPEED LIMIT ON LAKESIDE AND LAKEWOOD DRIVES AND HOLT ROAD,
Continued:

The Commission passed a speed limit of 20 mph on these densely-populated stretches of roads as moved by Commissioner Stratman, seconded by Commissioner Hicks:

**PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION
ORDER**

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of Missouri did, through the enactment of Section 304.010 RSMo., authorize the County Commission of third class counties to set speed limits on county roads; and

WHEREAS, the Phelps County Commission believes it to be in the best interest of the citizens of the county and the residents residing just east of County Road 8170 on Lakeside and Lakewood Drives and that segment of Holt Road between them, to limit the speed of vehicles traveling along said road to a maximum speed of 20 miles per hour;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS THE ORDER OF THE PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION that there is hereby established a maximum speed limit for vehicles traveling east of County Road 8170 on Lakeside and Lakewood Drives and that segment of Holt Road joining them, of 20 miles per hour; further that a copy of this Order be sent to Chief Engineer of the Missouri Highways & Transportation Department, the Superintendent of the State Highway Patrol, and to any township or road district maintaining roads in the county; further, that said road be posted with signs indicating said maximum speed limit and that said signs conform to the standards of the State Department of Highways and Transportation.

Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner
Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1
Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

ATTEST:

s/s Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

DATED: May 26, 2020

IN THE MATTER OF
COLLECTOR:

Collector Faith Barnes came and assured the Commission that any issues the auditors had with her office were completely resolved. She also discussed the revisions she may be seeking on the city tax collection contracts.

IN THE MATTER OF
COUNTY ROAD 2300:

Local residents John Heuser, Jr. and Shane Achterberg came to discuss this road, easements, a driveway, and possible land purchase.

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IN THE MATTER OF
NOVEL CORONAVIRUS COVID-19:

Phelps/Maries Health Department director Ashley Wann entered to discuss a fourth case of the novel Coronavirus which is credited to Phelps County because the patient claims residency in Phelps County. However, the exposure, observant isolation, illness, ultimately positive testing, and medical care have all occurred in Boone County, where the patient remains at present. Developments with testing locally, cost of the tests and meetings ongoing with leaders from the university, the hospital, the city of Rolla, Wann, and Commissioner Stratman were mentioned.

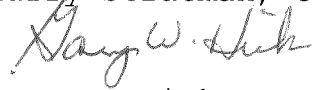
IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commissioners reviewed and approved payment of an invoice, Progress Invoice #8 for BRO-B081(13) in the amount of \$2,745.58 to Great River Engineering.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

May 28, 2020 Seventeenth day of the April term

Now at this the 28th day of May 2020 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
CARES ACT AND CORONAVIRUS
RELIEF FUNDING AND MRPC:

St. James City Administrator Jim Fleming and Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley were present for a discussion about the plans St. James has for documentation of expenses made for mitigation efforts for novel Coronavirus, both in and outside of payroll. Fleming said the city was considering making monthly reimbursement requests. Commissioner Stratman stated the way CARES Act funds were presented implied that local governments were to be the primary recipients; quasi-governmental entities may be next. The information and application developed by MRPC having been made available for four of the area's counties online, this was displayed on the screen for the attendees by Commissioner Hicks. After some more discussion, Fleming left. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp said that the counties of Dent, Gasconade, Maries and Osage had no means to compensate businesses in the frameworks they had established; a completely separate application process will be needed. Thereafter the Technical Assistance Contract for administration of the funds between the County and MRPC was discussed. Commissioner Hicks pointed out that administration fees for these funds had not been budgeted, since the entire novel Coronavirus COVID-19 situation was in its nascent stage at the time of 2020 budget approval. This would mean that these fees could be reimbursed to the County as an expense. The contract contains a 30-day termination clause and a hold-harmless clause in the insulating MRPC from liability. Commissioner Hicks observed that the SBA loan application process under Coronavirus emergency funding was almost impossible, due to changing rules. The clerk asked if it was known if expenses such as sales taxes and shipping fees would be reimbursed. As moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Stratman, the Technical Assistance Contract for the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds administration by MRPC was approved. MRPC Executive Director Bonnie Prigge called in and was placed on speakerphone. She mentioned the attorney with Missouri Association of Counties (MAC), Travis Elliott, had mentioned the possibility that counties would need a contract with larger entities such as hospitals, though he did not have a monetary threshold. Commissioner Stratman then supplied some details of recent meetings with the city of Rolla and, separately, the Phelps/Maries Health Department, Student Health Services at the university, and the city of Rolla.

IN THE MATTER OF
ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT JUDGE
MARK CALVERT AND COURT CASELOAD:

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ASSOCIATE CIRCUIT JUDGE MARK CALVERT AND COURT CASELOAD,
Continued:

Judge Mark Calvert and Courthouse Security member Bailiff John Machino entered to discuss a looming, large docket for Judge Calvert of juvenile or family cases and financial claims cases. Calvert said the number of people within his courtroom was under his control, but that he lacked a means to keep his court attendees thin enough in either the 2nd floor lobby or perhaps the 1st floor lobby to permit social distancing. Several modifications were discussed, whereupon Calvert and Machino left.

IN THE MATTER OF
CLOSED SESSION:

As moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Stratman, the meeting entered closed session pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (17) - Auditor Work Product. No actions having been taken, the meeting returned to open session as moved by Commissioner Stratman and seconded by Commissioner Hicks at 12:05 p.m.

IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commissioners reviewed and approved payment of 26 and 31 invoices in the amounts of \$8,402.29 and \$28,946.41, respectively.

IN THE MATTER OF
PAYROLL:

The Commission reviewed and approved the payroll for 5/29/20, representing work dates of 5/1-15/20 in the amount of \$180,676.80 (net) wages, \$56,944.39 and \$7,261.50 federal and state withholdings, respectively.

READ AND APPROVED:



Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner



Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1



Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2