

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

July 20, 2020 Sixth day of the July term

Now at this the 20th day of July 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
2020 BOARD OF EQUALIZATION:

The 2020 Board of Equalization opened in the Commission Hearing Room at 0900. Attendees included Assessor Bill Stoltz, public members Gene Gaddy and Steve Kirkbride, County Surveyor Terris Cates, the Commission and the clerk. The oath was administered and documents distributed. Deputy Assessor Paul Long was also present. On a motion by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Surveyor Cates, Presiding Commissioner Verkamp was nominated chair and was elected by acclamation without verbal dissent. The first appeal taken up was that of the Rolla Alumni Chapter of Beta Sigma Psi, mailing address 13321 N. Outer Forty Rd., #100, Town & Country, MO 63017. Parcel number was 71-09-1.0-02-003-002-001.503, at 2 Fraternity Drive, Rolla, MO. The Assessor's market value was \$1,331,486; the taxpayer's proposed market value was \$791,033. This was based on a partial exemption for charitable purposes. Stoltz said that all of the building was used for non-educational purposes, several times per year. He believes the appeal may arise from the desire for the alumni to capture a tax write-off, but that is not the same as a property tax exemption. As moved by Commissioner Stratman, seconded by Commissioner Hicks, the Assessor's valuation was upheld on a unanimous roll call vote: Verkamp - yes; Stratman - yes; Hicks - yes; Cates - yes; Gaddy - yes; Kirkbride - yes. The Board then undertook the appeal of Menard, Inc., mailing address 5101 Menard Dr., Eu Claire, WI 54703. This commercial personal property account number was 64702.0 and the appeal was for all reasons listed (valuation, discrimination, misgraded agricultural land, misclassification, exemption, other basis of appeal-left blank). Market value set by the Assessor was \$570,880 and the taxpayer's proposed market value was \$542,765. Assessor Stoltz said Menard wanted a shorter and steeper depreciation schedule; his assessed value was upheld as moved by Commissioner Stratman and seconded by Commissioner Hicks. Roll call vote was Verkamp - yes; Stratman - yes; Hicks - yes; Cates - yes; Gaddy - yes; Kirkbride - yes. The third appeal taken up was that of MCP-Rolla, LLC, mailing address c/o Gardner Capital, 4803 S. National Ave., Ste. 300, Springfield, MO 65810. Parcel number was 71-03-9.1-29-000-000-012.010 for this solar energy system. Assessor's market value was \$3,479,970 and taxpayers proposed market value was \$0; the appeal reasons were valuation, discrimination, exemption, and another basis for appeal since the argument is made that the property at issue is "not held for resale", is not real but rather personal property and is exempt from taxation pursuant to RSMo 137.100(10). Assessor Stoltz believes they fully intend to press ahead to the State Tax Commission. Commissioner Stratman moved and Commissioner Hicks seconded that the assigned assessed valuation be upheld. Roll call vote showed Verkamp - yes; Stratman - yes; Hicks - yes;


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2020 BOARD OF EQUALIZATION, Continued:

Cates - yes; Gaddy - yes; Kirkbride - yes. The fourth appeal taken up was that of Ameren Missouri Public Utility Natural Gas System. Assessor Stoltz said the main concern is that they want to change the value for 2020, and he cannot change a depreciation schedule in an even year, but must adhere to the 2019 depreciation schedule. The company had submitted hundreds of pages in their appeal. This matter is ongoing and is before the State Tax Commission. Gaddy moved and Kirkbride seconded a motion to uphold the valuation as assessed; without further discussion a roll call vote showed Verkamp - yes; Stratman - yes; Hicks - yes; Cates - yes; Gaddy - yes; Kirkbride - yes. The fifth and final appeal taken up was that of Karen L. Allen of 203 Christy Drive; her real residential property at that address had a parcel number of 71-09-6.0-14-001-002-008.000. The market value set by Stoltz was \$205,100; the taxpayer's proposed market value was \$198,900. She purchased land adjacent to her original home lot for \$17,000 and the parcels are now valued at \$23,200; she is appealing the value of the parcel but comparable comparisons suggest if anything she may have an undervalue; the house was purchased for \$186,000 and the land added to it at \$17,000 yields \$203,000. After more discussion Kirkbride moved, Cates seconded, that the assessor's value be upheld; roll call vote showed Verkamp - yes; Stratman - yes; Hicks - yes; Cates - yes; Gaddy - yes; Kirkbride - yes. There being no further business before the 2020 Board of Equalization, the meeting adjourned as moved by Commissioner Stratman, seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

July 21, 2020 Seventh day of the July term

Now at this the 21st day of July 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 CITY COUNCIL:

Attendees discussed the extensive citizen comments regarding cannabis policies within the city limits of Rolla, as it was a lively topic the previous evening at the Rolla City Council meeting. Local residents Ray Schweikhardt and Joey Auxier and Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley were also present.

IN THE MATTER OF
THE ASSESSOR'S QUARTERLY REPORT:

This was approved as moved by Commissioner Stratman, seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

IN THE MATTER OF
FLOOD BUY-OUT:

The Commission reviewed the documents being submitted to FEMA under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for \$9,000.00 in reimbursement and simultaneously to the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for \$3,000.00 for the demolition costs of a home at 21589 Private Drive 8496. This was approved as moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Stratman.

IN THE MATTER OF
GROUP BENEFIT SERVICES
BENEFIT MANAGEMENT REPORT:

The Commission received the Benefit Management Report for the county's partially self-funded employee medical plan, through the end of June, 2020. The loss ratio was 57% and there was a healthy reserve account balance of \$385,603.54.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROADS:

Presiding Commissioner Verkamp shared some updates on roads and road equipment.

IN THE MATTER OF
COLLECTOR:

Collector Faith Barnes arrived at 10:00 and provided information about the monitor for the lobby, which will provide help for lobby visitors. Barnes left and shortly thereafter Auxier left.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROUTE 66 MUSEUM OF PHELPS COUNTY:

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July 21, 2020 Seventh day of the July term

ROUTE 66 MUSEUM OF PHELPS COUNTY, Continued:

Local resident Mr. Jim Stanfast came to share information about a proposed new attraction in or very near Rolla to be known as the Route 66 Museum of Phelps County, which is to be a 501(c)(3) and which is in need of a good parcel of land. The location of such a feature was discussed. The city of Rolla had provided a letter of support, and the Commission was in favor of doing likewise.

IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commission reviewed and approved payment of two invoices in the amount of \$2,469.04.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

July 23, 2020 Eighth day of the July term

Now at this the 23rd day of July 2020 the Commission met pursuant to adjournment and a quorum was present of the following members:

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

Commissioner Stratman presided over the meeting in the absence of Presiding Commissioner Randy Verkamp.

IN THE MATTER OF
COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL
ADVOCATES (CASA):

Commissioner Hicks provided a report on this organization. Local residents Ray Schweikhardt and Joey Auxier were present as was Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley.

IN THE MATTER OF
PETITION REGARDING
THE REOPENING OF THE RACETRACK:

Schweikhardt notified the Commissioners that he was vehemently against reopening this extremely noisy attraction on Highway 63 at the Phelps County Fairgrounds. It was opened about 1967 or 1968 and operated for about four years; noise complaints were the reason it closed according to multiple attendees.

IN THE MATTER OF
PCSD AND SHOOTING RANGE
ON COUNTY ROAD 3410:

Sheriff Rick Lisenbe arrived and spoke briefly about plans for a parcel on County Road 3410. Michelle Bock of the Road Department also joined the meeting and the road department's help on further site work was discussed.

IN THE MATTER OF
1972 JAIL:

Lisenbe spoke with the Commission about his plans to house work-release inmates in the renovated 1972 jail; probably clothing them quite visibly different so they would not be mistaken for other inmates. Jails in other counties were discussed and compared and contrasted with Phelps County's facilities.

IN THE MATTER OF
ICE CONTROL:

Bock provided a contract for the purchase of 500 tons of salt at \$74 per ton for the coming winter season, which was approved as moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Stratman.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 3040:

Commissioner Stratman said local residents wanted a stop sign at the intersection of Roads 3040 and 3030, where westbound traffic

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

July 23, 2020 Eighth day of the July term

ROAD 3040, Continued:

on the former has a poor sight line uphill to the north along 3030. Commissioner Stratman moved to install the sign but the motion was tabled.

IN THE MATTER OF
ASSESSOR'S OFFICE:

Assessor Bill Stoltz came to discuss the possibility of his employees needing telework capability, should they be advised in the future to self-isolate while awaiting any COVID-19 tests that might be pending as cold and flu season begin.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROUTE 66 MUSEUM OF PHELPS COUNTY:

As moved by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Stratman, the letter of support for this venture was approved.


IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:


The Commission reviewed and approved payment of 28 and 38 invoices for the amounts of \$127,542.93 and \$70,207.63, respectively, as well as payment for 3 contract employees of the Juvenile division.

READ AND APPROVED:

(Absent)

Randy Verakmp, Presiding Commissioner


Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

July 28, 2020 Ninth day of the July term

Now at this the 28th day of July 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
ST. JAMES R-1 SCHOOL AND
CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDS (CRF):

Josh Cahill, St. James R-1 Safety Coordinator, came to exhort the Commission to consider the school's application for CRF favorably. Local resident Joey Auxier, Michelle Bock of the Roads Department, and Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley. Cahill reported that Franklin County was "moving their money" and had secured the services of an outside auditor to provide guidance for the disbursement of funds. Commissioner Stratman said that he was not sure that with six requests, hiring another layer of administration would be good use of the funds. Cahill was sure that the district would be instituting mass temperature scanning, costing \$60,000 for 6 units; a good deal of PPE has already been purchased. The initial wave of Cares Act funds going to school funding for salaries for overtime was discussed. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp asked how many students had access to internet; Cahill said 30% or about 1900 did not have reliable equitable access for the bandwidth required for streaming instruction. Commissioner Stratman added that 13% or Rolla-31 district students were believed to lack such access. Cahill thought about 10% of students planned for virtual instruction; 90% wanted in-person instruction. He provided details about decontamination of school buses: a "fogger" before the bus is used again, drivers and pupils masked. Since high- and middle school students are not cohorted to nearly the degree that primary students are, they will be wearing masks all the time. Local resident Chester Kojro arrived about 0930; Cahill left about 0930 as Collector Faith Barnes entered.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 3040:

A stop sign was approved for traffic traveling westbound on Road 3040 as they approached Road 3030, as moved by Commissioner Stratman and seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROADS:

Multiple road concerns were discussed including Roads 3160, 3190, and 1130. Road 3450 was also discussed.

IN THE MATTER OF
OZARK RIVERS SOLID WASTE
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT:

Several disbursement checks were forwarded to Presiding Commissioner Verkamp for his signature.

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IN THE MATTER OF
ROAD 2170:

Bock informed the Commission she was collecting documents to reflect the total cost for installing the concrete box culvert on this road.

IN THE MATTER OF
CART PARTICIPATION, 2021:

The Commission reviewed the invitation from Missouri Department of Conservation to again participate in the CART program, providing rock for roads accessing MDC lands. A letter was approved by Commissioner Stratman and seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

IN THE MATTER OF
CITIZEN INPUT, LOWELL DAVIS:

Davis attended to ask about two culverts along his property margins which were imperiled, he believed, by road crews mowing and asked if he could have some help straightening the ends. The Road Department will be informed.

IN THE MATTER OF
CLOSED SESSION:

The Commission entered closed session at 11:45 as moved by Commissioner Stratman, seconded by Commissioner Hicks, pursuant to RSMo 610.021 (5) - personally identifiable health information. The meeting returned to open session as moved by Commissioner Stratman, seconded by Commissioner Hicks, at 11:48.

IN THE MATTER OF
BID SOLICITATION, PCSD INTERVIEW ROOM DVR EQUIPMENT:

Lt. Mike Kirn and Kyle Jones entered the meeting. The equipment used for years is no longer supported and replacement parts are unavailable. As moved by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Stratman, the following solicitation was approved:

Phelps County is currently seeking bids on an Interview Room DVR setup for use at the Phelps County Sheriff's Department, at 500 West Second Street in Rolla, MO. Please provide a bid that warranties, and includes all costs for equipment and installation for a 1 year minimum. The system must provide services and hardware to support 2 setups for the facility, to support both of our interview rooms. Interview Room hardware must include the following minimum thresholds: 2 cameras, (4 total), supporting full HD, color, with .h264 and h265 codec support, in-wall microphone (2 total), in-use lit and switched on/off indicator (2 total), all cables/connectors to get equipment connected to review room (approximately 50 feet). Review room must include 1 computer based dvr per room (2 total) with the following minimum thresholds: Windows 10, 4Gb memory, SSD storage, LAN&Wireless, HDMI output, wall mount (monitors

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BID SOLICITATION, PCSD INTERVIEW ROOM DVR EQUIPMENT, Cont'd:

with HDMI input will be provided). Software setup for video storage/review must meet the following minimum thresholds: Cloud based (with option to transfer to on-premises hardware in the future), 30gb storage per month, included support and maintenance, CJIS security compliance, customizable evidence review for external clients. Bids in sealed envelopes clearly marked "PCSD Interview BIDS" on the exterior will be received in the Phelps County Clerk's Office, 200 North Main Street, Rolla, MO 65401 until 10:00am on Thursday, August 20th, at which time they will be opened. Phelps County reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Done by the order of the Phelps County Commission this 28th day of July, 2020.

/s/ Pamela K. Grow, Phelps County Clerk

PUBLISH: Phelps County Focus - Thursday, August 6, 2020

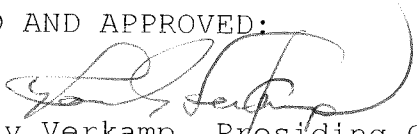
IN THE MATTER OF
CART FUNDS:

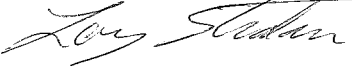
Treasurer Carol Green provided the CART Funds report. Gas taxes were down, though less markedly so compared with the prior month.


IN THE MATTER OF
REGION I HSOC:

Commissioner Hicks provided some information about the recent meeting of HSOC.

READ AND APPROVED:


Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner


Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1


Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

July 30, 2020 Tenth day of the July term

Now at this the 30th day of July 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
PAYROLL:

The Commissioners reviewed and approved payroll for 7/31/2020, representing work dates of 7/1-15/2020. Net salaries were \$184,918.71, with federal and state withholdings of \$63,655.82 and \$7,487.50, respectively. Phelps County Focus Staff Writer Andrew Sheeley was also present.

IN THE MATTER OF
PCSD AND SHOOTING RANGE, COUNTY ROAD 3410:

Lt. Mike Kirn of the Sheriff's Department presented some closing documents for property on Road 3410, for the new shooting range, which were executed by Presiding Commissioner Verkamp as signed by Commissioner Stratman and seconded by Commissioner Hicks.

IN THE MATTER OF
CARES ACT FUNDING (CRF),
APPROVAL OF REQUESTS:

Rolla-31 schools having submitted a request for \$224,131.40 in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF), and Newburg R-2 schools having submitted their request for CRF in the amount of \$65,629.71, Commissioner Stratman inquired as to whether MRPC had approved the applications. Presiding Commissioner Verkamp responded affirmatively, that if the applications had been forwarded to the Commission from MRPC, they had been reviewed and were deemed valid.

IN THE MATTER OF
FORFEITURE FUNDS:

Sheriff Rick Lisenbe entered and discussed continuity regarding forfeiture funding.

IN THE MATTER OF
ST. JAMES AMBULANCE CRF REQUEST:

As St. James Ambulance district had requested funding for their purchase of four transport ventilators, Commissioner Stratman placed a call, leaving a message, to the director of Phelps Health Ambulance for information on how they handled this need.

IN THE MATTER OF
CARES ACT FUNDING (CRF), APPROVALS:

As moved by Commissioner Stratman and seconded by Commissioner Hicks, the CRF application for \$44,011.91 to St. James R-1 Schools was approved. Similarly, \$70,814.75 in CRF for the Phelps/Maries Health Department was approved as moved by

PHELPS COUNTY COMMISSION RECORD

July 30, 2020 Tenth day of the July term

CARES ACT FUNDING (CRF), Continued:

Commissioner Stratman, seconded by Commissioner Hicks. Then the request for Rolla-31 Schools was taken up; their request for \$224,131.40 was approved as moved by Commissioner Hicks and seconded by Commissioner Stratman. Phelps Health had requested \$1,751,858.80; this was approved by Commissioner Hicks, seconded by Commissioner Stratman, as was the request from Newburg R-2 for \$65,629.71. The St. James Ambulance request for \$16,000.00 was approved, then, as moved by Commissioner Stratman and seconded by Commissioner Hicks. The request from Your Community Health Center was undergoing further review by the Commission.

IN THE MATTER OF
ROLLA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BRUSH-CLEARING REQUEST:

Rolla Fire Chief Ron Smith arrived to speak about heavy undergrowth below mature trees which was felt to be undesirable by the Rolla-31 School Administration. This was a security concern as if hindered visibility of the school grounds fairly close to the school. Commissioner Stratman offered to contact administration at Rolla Middle School regarding the constraints on the county to perform this type of work.

IN THE MATTER OF
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

The Commissioners reviewed and approved payment of 27 and 43 invoices in the amounts of \$177,222.31 and \$45,256.78, respectively, and the August premium for employee insurance in the amount of \$124,268.50.

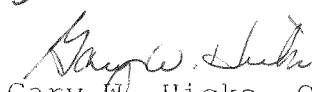
READ AND APPROVED:



Randy Verkamp, Presiding Commissioner



Larry Stratman, Commissioner District 1



Gary W. Hicks, Commissioner District 2