

# Phelps County Board Minutes



COMMISSIONERS ROOM, HOLDREGE, NE  
9:00 A.M. August 23, 2022

The Phelps County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on August 23, 2022, as advertised, with Commissioners Rick Streeter; Barb Malm; Russ Cruise; Dennis Ostgren; Matt Gregg; Tom Nutt and Theresa Puls present. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Puls. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Theresa announced the open meeting law would be in effect and that a copy is posted on the wall. Ostgren moved, seconded by Malm, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Roll call vote was Malm, yes; Ostgren, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Nutt, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Nutt moved, seconded by Malm, to approve the August payroll claims in the amount of \$236,664.35 for the general, \$74,361.66 for the road and \$2,446.77 for the weed fund. Roll call vote was Malm, yes; Ostgren, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Nutt, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Bobby Hamilton, Highway Supt., met with the Board with his road report. Bobby told the Board that he ordered a 2023 Ford F150 off the state bid and should arrive by the end of the year.

Larissa Davenport, Deputy Assessor, presented to the Board the certification of taxable value and value to attributable growth. The total value of Phelps County is \$2,331,064,332 with \$43,884,149 attributable growth.

Gregg moved, seconded by Cruise, to approve resolution 22-12 for the preliminary request for tax requirements for this coming fiscal year for political subdivisions. Roll call vote was Malm, yes; Ostgren, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Nutt, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

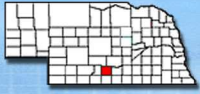
Nutt moved, seconded by Ostgren, to approve the audit engagement letter with Contryman Associates. Roll call vote was Malm, yes; Ostgren, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Nutt, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried. The audit contract is an annual contract for the year ending June 30, 2022, and the estimated fee for the audit will be \$12,000-\$14,000. Each year Contryman Associates will do a new engagement letter with the county.

Malm moved, seconded by Gregg, to approve the appointment of Angel Brandt to the Phelps County Visitors Committee. Roll call vote was Malm, yes; Ostgren, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Nutt, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried. This is for a 4-year term beginning August 1, 2022.

Justin Norris, Buildings and Grounds, met with the Board to discuss building updates. Justin told the Board that he would like to purchase a drone for the county, he received a grant check from Phelps County Foundation in the amount of \$6,000. The cost of the drone is \$10,500 and would like to pay the balance from the ARPA funds. Justin talked about a 2-year agreement with Tango Tango. This is a two-way radio app for police and emergency services and will take the place of their radio services. The cost of the 2-year agreement is \$16,000 and would like this to be paid through ARPA funds. The 3<sup>rd</sup> item Justin would like to purchase and pay through the ARPA funds would be to update the repeater system for the Phelps County vehicles. He would like to purchase 3 repeater systems which will go on the towers and the digital repeater system will go in the deputy's vehicles and the emergency manager vehicle. The cost of the new repeaters from Platte Valley is \$146,436. After discussion Ostgren moved, seconded by Cruise, to approve the purchase of the 3 items listed and to pay these items through the ARPA fund. Roll call vote was Malm, yes; Ostgren, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Nutt, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

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Sally Fox, County Clerk

Theresa Puls, Chairman Board of Commissioner