

The Phelps County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on April 2, 2024, as advertised, with Commissioners Dennis Ostgren; Russ Cruise; Tom Nutt; Matt Gregg; Rick Streeter; Barb Malm 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. Streeter moved, seconded by Cruise, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Lori Larson, Director of the Holdrege Chamber met with the Board requesting use of the courthouse lawn, parking lot, electricity, sidewalks and bathrooms for Swedish Days, Thursday - Saturday, June 13-15, 2024. After discussion Ostgren moved, seconded by Cruise, to approve Lori's request and the hold harmless agreement. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Lori discussed the Iron Horse Festival for Saturday, September 14, 2024, and is requesting use of the courthouse lawn, electricity, bathrooms and parking lot. The festival will start with an art-expo on and around the Phelps County Courthouse. Residents and visitors will experience a wide variety of arts through demonstrations, classes and boutiques, while enjoying food from statewide food trucks, listening to music and shopping. After discussion Nutt moved, seconded by Malm, to approve Lori's request and the hold harmless agreement. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried. In the evening, they will have an outdoor concert near the Iron Horse depot.

Natalie Nelsen-Pacey, County Attorney, reviewed with the Board the new agreement with Lancaster County Youth Services for juvenile detention. The rate per day was \$300 and will to \$334 per day. After discussion Gregg moved, seconded by Streeter, to renew the agreement with Lancaster County Youth Services with the new rate of \$334 per day. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed 14 1-day liquor permits for Gutterz Fun Center for 6/1, 6/8, 6/15, 6/22, 7/20, 7/27, 8/3, 8/24, 9/13, 9/21, 9/28, 10/5, 10/12 & 10/19 at Gardens on Q. After discussion Cruise moved, seconded by Gregg, to approve the liquor permits for Gardens on Q. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the county support to CASA for the next 3 budget years. Kelly, CASA Director is asking to increase the funding for CASA to \$35,000. After Board discussion they decided to increase the funding for 3 years from \$30,000 to \$32,000 and will do a resolution at the next meeting.

Theresa gave a report on a meeting she attended.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 am

Sally Fox, County Clerk

Theresa Puls, Chairman Board of Commissioner