

The Phelps County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on August 6, 2024, as advertised, with Commissioners Dennis Ostgren; Russ Cruise; Tom Nutt; Barb Malm; Matt Gregg; Rick Streeter 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. Nutt moved, seconded by Gregg, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Under citizen comments Ron Tillery with PCDC spoke to the Board.

Lori Larson, Director of the Holdrege Chamber met with the Board requesting use of the courthouse lawn, bathrooms and electricity on September 14, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the Iron Horse Creative District Festival. After discussion Ostgren moved, seconded by Malm, to approve the courthouse lawn, bathrooms, electricity and hold harmless agreement. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Calvin DeVries, Phelps County Extension met with the Board to discuss the purchase of a vehicle for the extension office. They are looking at a 2008 Toyota Rav 4 from Tri-City Auto in Holdrege for \$8,900. Gregg moved, seconded by Nutt, to approve the purchase of the 2008 Toyota only if NIRMA allows State Extension employees to be covered by our insurance. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried. The county clerk called NIRMA and state employees will be covered on the county's insurance policy.

Ed Knott, with Applied Connective Technologies met with the Board to introduce himself and to discuss services they provide for counties. They have worked with Paul on our county issues and the Board gave approval for Applied Connective Technologies to go forward and evaluate our cyber security.

Kristine Jacobson representing the Phelps County Visitors Committee met with the board to give a quarterly update on their committee.

Bobby Hamilton, Hwy Supt., met with the Board for his road report. Bobby discussed his paint striping quote for approximately 39 miles of county roads. He received one quote from Straight-Line Striping of Grand Island for \$1,290 per mile. Bobby's recommendation is to accept the quote from Straight-Line Striping. After discussion Ostgren moved, seconded by Gregg, to go with Straight-Line Striping. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried. Bobby discussed a request he received from Scott Ford to put a house on a minimum maintenance road 1.5 miles west of C Rd on 730 Rd. The county would have to make this road a top standard road, gravel and maintain it. Our zoning regulations don't allow homes to be on minimum maintenance roads. The road committee will meet with Scott on this issue and get back to the Board.

Cruise moved, seconded by Streeter, to approve the 1% increase in unused budget authority. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Malm moved, seconded by Ostgren, to approve a 1-day liquor permit for Munson's Market, Inc. on September 21, 2024, at Gardens on Q. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the lease agreement addendum #6 with the State Patrol for office space. This is for 2 years commencing July 1, 2024, and ending June 30, 2026. The lease term is for 2 years at \$800 per month. Nutt moved, seconded by Cruise, to approve the lease agreement for 2 years with State Patrol. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Gregg moved, seconded by Ostgren, to approve the Region 3 Letter of Agreement renewal for period of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2026. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Streeter, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Sally Fox, County Clerk, presented the budget sheets to the Board.

Tom discussed a meeting he attended.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.