

The Phelps County Board of Commissioners met on September 24, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioners Rick Streeter; Russ Cruise; Barb Malm; Matt Gregg; Tom Nutt; Dennis Ostgren and Theresa Puls present. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Theresa Puls.

At 9:00 a.m. as advertised, a public hearing was open for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, or suggestions relating to the proposed 2024-2025 county budget. Bob Dunaway, CPA, covered relevant factors of the detailed budget. According to Bob the tax request is for \$4,480,860 which has been the same for the last several years and the general tax request is for 4,265,360. The unused budget authority is \$2,978,611.81. The valuation increased by 14.6% and the mill levy decreased by 12.8%. There were no citizen's present.

At 9:04 a.m. the public hearing was closed.

The Phelps County Board of Commissioners met immediately following the budget hearing on September 24, 2024, as advertised, with Commissioners Rick Streeter; Dennis Ostgren; Russ Cruise; Barb Malm; 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. Cruise moved, seconded by Gregg, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Roll call vote was Ostgren, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Malm, yes; Nutt, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Gregg moved, seconded by Nutt, to approve resolution 24-11 to adopt the proposed county budget. Roll call vote was Ostgren, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Malm, yes; Nutt, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Under citizen comments Jacki Haley spoke.

Nutt moved, seconded by Malm, to approve September payroll claims in the amount of \$280,012.13 for the general, \$79,223.56 for the road and \$2,764.37 for the weed fund. Roll call vote was Streeter, yes; Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Gregg, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

At 9:15 a.m. the public hearing opened for the purpose of hearing support, opposition, criticism, or suggestions relating to setting the final tax request. Bob Dunaway explained the mill levy is .159547 and the final tax request is \$4,480,860.

At 9:17 a.m. the public hearing was closed.

Ostgren moved, seconded by Streeter, to approve resolution 24-12 to accept the tax asking for the fiscal year 2024-2025. Roll call vote was Streeter, yes; Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Gregg, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Amber Imler, Deputy County Assessor, met with the Board to discuss the property appraisal contract with Central Plains Valuation, LLC. The contractor shall complete its performance on or before March 19, 2025. The county will agree to pay \$130 per hour. This contract is only for pickup work. After discussion Streeter moved, seconded by Malm, to approve the contract between Phelps County Assessor and Central Plains Valuation, LLC. Roll call vote was Streeter, yes; Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Gregg, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried.

Nutt moved, seconded by Gregg, to approve the amended resolution 24-8 for the preliminary request for tax requirements for this coming fiscal year for political subdivisions. Roll call vote was Streeter, yes; Nutt, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Gregg, yes; Ostgren, yes; Puls, yes. Motion carried. The Historical Society updated their requested amount from \$69,000 to \$81,600.

Tom and Rick discussed committee meetings they attended.

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m.

Sally Fox, County Clerk

Theresa Puls, Chairman Board of Commissioner