

The Phelps County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on May 6, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. as per public notice given in the Holdrege Daily Citizen on April 29, 2025, a copy of the proof of publication being on file in the County Clerk's Office. Availability of the agendas was communicated in the advance notice of the meeting. All of the proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

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

Bobby Hamilton, Highway Supt., met with the Board with his road report. He discussed the change order with Missouri Petroleum by adding .25 miles of micro-surfacing. This project is on 18<sup>th</sup> St. between 14<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> St. in Holdrege. This is shared with the City of Holdrege and they will be billed for half of the additional work. After discussion Nutt moved, seconded by Gregg, to approve the change order with Missouri Petroleum with an increase of \$8,431.25. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Puls, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried. Bobby told the Board the road dept. will start summer hours on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, they will be working 10-hour days, 4 days a week and work from 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and in weeks with a holiday they will be working 5 days a week, 8-hour days.

At 9:15 a.m. the Board went into session as a Board of Equalization. Sally Fox, County Clerk, Corey O'Brien, County Attorney and Patti Meguire, County Treasurer, were present. Patti reviewed the 2025 Forest River cab vehicle exemption for Holdrege Memorial Homes. After discussion Puls moved, seconded by Cruise, to approve the motor vehicle exemption presented by Patti. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Puls, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

The Board resumed its regular session as a Board of Commissioners at 9:17 a.m.

Diana Watson and Emily Klimer, representing Central Community College, met with the Board requesting use of the courthouse lawn for the Central Community College construction kick off ceremony for May 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Puls moved, seconded by Nutt, to approve the use of the courthouse lawn and the harmless agreement between Phelps County and Central Community College. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Puls, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

Doyle Morse met with the Board regarding Farmers Market. The dates will be every Thursday from May 15 through September 25<sup>th</sup> with hours from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Streeter moved, seconded by Gregg, to approve the use of the courthouse lawn and the hold harmless agreement between Phelps County and Farmers Market. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Puls, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed 1-day liquor permits for Gutterz Fun Center on May 24, 31, June 7, 14, 21, July 12, 26, August 2, 9, September 20, 27, October 10 & 25<sup>th</sup> for Gardens on Q. After discussion Gregg moved, seconded by Puls, to approve the liquor permits for Gutterz Fun Center. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Puls, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the renewal of NACO Blue Cross Insurance. There is a 5.4% increase for health and the dental rates will remain the same. The counties deductible is \$2600 with \$600 buy down by the employee, the county pays 100% of employee's insurance and additional coverage is 70% and the employee pays 30% of their coverage. After discussion Nutt moved, seconded Malm, to stay with NACO Blue Cross Insurance, keep the deductible at \$2,600 and keep the benefits the same. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Puls, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Malm, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

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Sally Fox, County Clerk

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Dennis Ostgren, Chairman Board of Commissioner