

COMMISSIONERS ROOM, HOLDREGE, NE
9:00 A.M. July 22, 2025

The Phelps County Board of Commissioners met in regular session on July 22, 2025, at 9:00 A.M. as per public notice given in the Holdrege Daily Citizen on July 15, 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; Russ Cruise; Matt Gregg; Barb Malm; Theresa Puls; 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. Puls moved, seconded by Malm, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Streeter, yes; Malm, yes; Puls, yes; Cruise, abstain; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

At 9:01 a.m. the Board went into session as a Board of Equalization. Larissa Davenport, County Assessor, Sally Fox, County Clerk and Corey O'Brien, County Attorney, were present.

Protest #36, parcel 3596, Brent Samuelson was tabled from last week. Larissa recommended no change and the motion did not pass on the assessor's recommendation. After discussion Puls moved, seconded by Gregg, to reduce the valuation to \$329,320.00. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Puls, yes; Malm, yes; Streeter, no; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

The Board resumed its regular session as a Board of Commissioners at 9:07 a.m.

Patrick Moore, attorney and Bruce Binney, project developer with energyRe a renewable energy company, introduced themselves to the board. They discussed the utility scale solar project in Phelps County which will be on 1,500 acres of leased land. They will have several community engagements when this project begins.

Larissa Davenport, Assessor, reviewed 521's (real estate transfer statements) with the Board.

Bobby Hamilton, Highway Supt., met with the Board with his road report. Bobby discussed his paint striping quotes for approximately 51 miles of county roads. He received quotes from Straight-Line Striping for \$1,240 per mile or \$63,240 total cost, and Contractor Services, Inc. for \$1,515 per mile or \$77,265 total cost. Bobby's recommendation is to accept the low quote from Straight-Line Striping. After discussion Cruise moved, seconded by Gregg, to go with the low quote from Straight-Line Striping. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Puls, yes; Malm, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

Nutt moved, seconded by Streeter, to approve July payroll claims in the amount of \$268,421.86 for the general, \$90,721.02 for the road and \$3,015.47 for the weed fund. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Puls, yes; Malm, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

Corey O'Brien, County Attorney, discussed the interlocal agreement for cooperative law enforcement services between Adams County and Phelps County. This agreement is an annual agreement which is for mental health and Phelps County will contribute annually a \$500 fee plus any applicable per-case assessments. After discussion Malm moved, seconded by Puls, to approve the one-year agreement and \$500 per year between Adams and Phelps County. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Puls, yes; Malm, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Gregg, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

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

Rick discussed a meeting he attended.

The meeting adjourned at 11:01 a.m.

Sally Fox, County Clerk

Dennis Ostgren, Chairman Board of Commissioner