

COMMISSIONERS ROOM, HOLDREGE, NE
9:00 A.M. September 23, 2025

The Phelps County Board of Commissioners met on September 23, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. with Commissioners Rick Streeter; Russ Cruise; Barb Malm; Matt Gregg; Tom Nutt; Theresa Puls and Dennis Ostgren present. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dennis Ostgren.

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 2025-2026 county budget. Bob Dunaway, CPA, covered relevant factors of the detailed budget. According to Bob the tax request is for \$4,595,860 and the general tax request is for 4,380,360. The unused budget authority is \$351,318.97 the valuation increased by 12.3%. There were no citizens present.

At 9:08 a.m. the public hearing was closed.

The Phelps County Board of Commissioners met immediately following the budget hearing on September 23, 2025, as advertised, Commissioners Tom Nutt; Matt Gregg; Barb Malm; Rick Streeter; Theresa Puls; 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. Cruise moved, seconded by Streeter, to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Puls, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

Gregg moved, seconded by Puls, to approve resolution 25-12 to adopt the proposed county budget. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Puls, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

Nutt moved, seconded by Streeter, 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 Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Puls, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Ostgren, 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 .145553 which is a decrease of 8.7% and the final tax request is \$4,595,860.

At 9:16 a.m. the public hearing was closed.

Puls moved, seconded by Malm, to approve resolution 25-13 to accept the tax asking for the fiscal year 2025-2026. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Puls, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

Patti Meguire, County Treasurer, presented the list of delinquent and unsold parcels to the board for their review. After discussion Streeter moved, seconded by Gregg, to approve resolution 25-14 to direct the Treasurer to issue tax sale certifications. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Puls, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

Larissa Davenport, County Assessor, met with the Board to discuss the property appraisal contract with Central Plans Valuation, LLC. The contractor shall complete its performance on or before March 19, 2026. The county will agree to pay \$130 per hour. This contract is only for pickup work. After discussion Cruise moved, seconded by Nutt, to approve the contract between Phelps County Assessor and Central Plains Valuation, LLC. Roll call vote was Nutt, yes; Gregg, yes; Malm, yes; Puls, yes; Streeter, yes; Cruise, yes; Ostgren, yes. Motion carried.

Rick discussed a committee meeting he attended.

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 a.m.

Sally Fox, County Clerk

Dennis Ostgren, Chairman Board of Commissioner