

Phillips County Commissioner
Meeting Minutes¹
June 30, 2025

Call to order

Chairman Tom Timm called the meeting of the Phillips County Commissioners to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 8:00 a.m. on June 30, 2025, at the County Courthouse in the Commissioner meeting room.

County Attendees

Chairman Tom Timm, Commissioners Garold Roberts and Terry Hofmeister, Administrator/Planner Andrew Nygaard, County Clerk Beth Zilla, Sheriff Michael Beard, Road and Bridge Manager Kevin Scott, and Deputy Assessor Toby Thompson

Additional Attendees

Janelle Krueger, District 63 Representative Dusty Johnson, Dennis Herman (via phone), Pastor Kurt Hatteberg, Logan County Commissioner Mike Brownell (via phone), Cory Beal, and Nancy Berges

Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

None presented. Hofmeister moved to approve the agenda as presented. Roberts seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Roberts moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Hofmeister seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda Items:

- a) Approval of the minutes of the BOCC 06.17.2025 meeting
- b) Approval of June Payroll
- c) Approval of Invoice List
- d) Approval of Veterans Service Officer monthly report
- e) Acknowledge receipt of HUTF Summary
- f) Acknowledge receipt of Building Permits Log
- g) Acknowledge receipt of Event Center/BOC Pavilion/Facilities rentals

Public Comments

None presented.

Appointments

The board met with Administrator Nygaard, who reported on the following topics:

- Nygaard reviewed the updated flood risk review meeting he attended on June 23. New floodplain maps are being created that incorporate the new data from the appeal period in which CDOT had submitted a hydrology appeal. The timeline is to have the revised preliminary release in the fall of 2025, the due process and appeals in early 2026, and the adoption and effective date of the maps some time in late 2026.
- The contractors working on the Event Center floor feel the work will be complete by the end of July 4.
- Highline Electric Association is considering installing an energy storage battery system at their electrical substation in Section 9, Township 6 North, Range 43 West. The plan would be to charge the battery with utility power when energy is less expensive to purchase and discharge the battery when energy is expensive or when the transmission system is either unavailable or overloaded. The battery is about the size of a semi-trailer and is approximately a 6 MegaWatt-hour energy capacity with a maximum 1.5 MegaWatt discharge rate.
- Bryan Pippett, whose term on the Northeast Colorado Regional EMS/Trauma Advisory Council expires on June 30, elected to not be considered for reappointment. Potential candidates for filling the vacancy will be considered with the assistance of Executive Director Nick Nudell.

The board met with Holyoke Mayor Kevin Scott regarding utilities costs for Showdown on the Plains. The City of Holyoke does not charge the county for the water that is used by the Road and Bridge department. The board agreed that the trade of the increased cost of utilities for the event for the free water would be acceptable.

¹Minutes prepared by Beth Zilla are a summary of **discussions**, not a verbatim account.

The board met with Kevin Scott in his capacity as Road and Bridge Manager to discuss chip sealing 2 miles of County Road 21 south of Paoli from Highway 6 for a cost of \$63,628, which is a project that was approved in March. It was the consensus of the board to hold off on the project. The rock that has been ordered can be used on County Road 41, which is scheduled to be chip sealed in 2026.

The board met with Sheriff Michael Beard to discuss the body camera and taser support package with Axon Enterprises.

The board contacted Dennis Herman with Highline Electric Association by phone regarding the request to place a battery in their substation. Herman assured the board that fire suppression and mitigation were top priorities, and they would keep in touch with Nygaard about developments. The board agreed that a building permit would be required but not a land use change since the land is already being used as a substation.

The board met with District 63 Representative Dusty Johnson, who provided a legislative recap and updates from her office. She reviewed the bills that had a rural focus that were passed and signed. HUTF money, SNAP funding, and funding for emergency management were also discussed.

Public Hearing

Chairman Timm opened the public hearing at 9:00 a.m. to consider the vacation of Main Avenue, as it lies between Block C and Block B, Amherst First Addition, in the community of Amherst, lying in the NE ¼ of Section 8, T8N, R43W of the 6th P.M., and north of Granby Street and south of County Road 36. Janelle Krueger said she is not opposed to vacating the road but wanted to discuss the implications for the existing park in Amherst. She wanted to make sure there will still be access to the park. Cory Beal, representing Oscar Farms, LLC, said that his main concern was that there will never be a road through the property. The property will be used for the winter storage of equipment and will be well maintained. Toby Thompson said that Cory will provide an improvement location certificate that will show where the east and west boundaries are. Chairman Timm, seeing no further public comments, closed the hearing at 9:10 a.m.

Unfinished Business

The board discussed the intergovernmental agreement regarding the sharing of a Veterans Service Officer between Phillips and Logan Counties. The board called Logan County Commissioner Mike Brownell on the phone to discuss the IGA as well as a recent VSO survey that was sent out by the state.

Motions/New Business

Roberts updated the board that the well has been dug at the Pleasant Valley Road and Bridge storage building and that the older building that was already at the site will have a mechanical room with a backflow preventer, and the bathroom will be ADA accessible.

Hofmeister moved to adopt Resolution 2025-06-30-01 to vacate a 100' portion of Main Avenue between Block C and Block B, Amherst First Addition. Roberts seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The Resolution reads:

WHEREAS, Phillips County has a 100' right-of-way in Main Avenue, as it lies between Block C and Block B, Amherst First Addition in the community of Amherst, lying in the NE ¼ of Section 8, T8N, R43W of the 6th P.M., and north of Granby Street and south of County Road 36;

WHEREAS, the board of Phillips County Commissioners finds there is no further interest in maintaining said dedications and that no hardship would befall the general public by the closing of said street;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Phillips, State of Colorado, that Phillips County hereby vacates that portion of Main Avenue previously described herein. This vacation shall be effective immediately upon approval of the resolution.

Hofmeister moved to approve the request from Sheriff Michael Beard to enter into a new contract with Axon Enterprises for body cameras and tasers support package for the proposed price of \$10,919.52 per year for five years. Hofmeister seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Roberts moved to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the Counties of Logan and Phillips of the State of Colorado regarding the sharing of the Veterans Service Officer as presented. Hofmeister seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Hofmeister moved to reappoint Ron Carpenter to a 4-year term on the E911 Board, expiring on June 30, 2029. Timm seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Roberts moved to reappoint Stacy Rueter to a 4-year term on the E911 Board, expiring on June 30, 2029. Hofmeister seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Hofmeister moved to approve the request from DHS Director Lori Lundgren to move LorenJo Oberle to HS Grade 65 Step 2, effective July 7, 2025. Roberts seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Roberts moved to approve the request from DHS Director Lori Lundgren to pay out 100 hours of unused PTO for Tiffany Watson at a cost of \$2,978.80. Hofmeister seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The board tabled signing the prepaid propane contract between Phillips County Road and Bridge and Scholl Oil & Transportation Co. for the 2025-2026 heating season until another bid could be obtained for comparison.

Adjournment

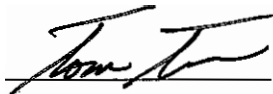
Chairman Tom Timm adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

Minutes submitted by County Clerk Beth Zilla.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2025.

Phillips County Commissioners:

Attest:



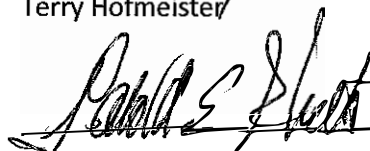
Tom Timm



Beth Zilla, County Clerk



Terry Hofmeister



Garold Roberts