

**Phillips County Commissioner
Meeting Minutes¹
August 8, 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 August 8, 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, Human Services Director Lori Lundgren, and County Treasurer Steve Young

Additional Attendees

Janelle Krueger and Amanda Monk

Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

Additions:

- 8) Bulldozer rebuild quote
- 9) Hospital Meeting
- 10) H.R.1 Meeting
- 11) Solar Meeting
- 12) Ambulance IGA
- 13) Economic Development

Hofmeister moved to approve the agenda as amended. 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 07.31.2025 meeting
- b) Approval of Invoice List
- c) Approval of Veterans Service Officer monthly report
- d) Acknowledge receipt of VSO Policy & Procedure Manual
- e) Acknowledge receipt of Final Notice of Valuation of State Assessed Property
- f) Acknowledge receipt of CAPP reports
- g) Acknowledge receipt of Treasurer reports
- h) Acknowledge receipt of Building Permits log
- i) Acknowledge receipt of Event Center/BOC Pavilion/Facilities rentals

Public Comments

None presented.

Appointments

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

- Weed and Pest Manager Kerri Doleshall is working with a landowner to get the landowner's property sprayed before the CRP deadline of November 1. The landowner is using a private sprayer and Doleshall will do spot treatments in the spring, outside of nesting bird season.
- Regarding health insurance costs, Phillips County will be going down a band in 2026. The county also moved down a band from 2024 to 2025, meaning the county only increased about 6% in 2025 compared to the 9% net increase the pool had. The Total pool increase is estimated to be about 6% in 2026, but the county will know for sure in September.
- Nygaard reviewed the additional opioid settlement documentation the county had received that required actively opting in to participate. The documents were signed for the Purdue settlement, and documentation for the Alvogen, Amneal, Apotex, Hikma, Indivior, Mylan, Sun,

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

and Zydus settlement will arrive in the coming weeks. Purdue documentation is due by September 30, and documentation for the other is due by October 8.

- Regarding the RETAC board appointment, Nygaard reported he was able to contact Julia Bieseemeier with Haxtun Health who will work with her team members to provide recommendations to the Commissioners for appointment.
- Nygaard reported that the individual charged with trespassing at the Phillips County Event Center had a status update on August 7, in which a plea of not guilty was entered. The District Attorney is scheduling the trial date.
- Lightning struck the Region One Translator Association's Pleasant Valley tower on August 2. The electrical at the site needs some repairs, and there was some damage to the transmission line connectors, and there could be antenna damage. A claim has been submitted to insurance, and a tower crew will likely be needed to repair the transmission line and look at the antenna.

The board convened as the Board of Human Services at 8:35 a.m., meeting with Director Lori Lundgren. The minutes from this portion of the meeting will be maintained by the Department of Human Services. The board reconvened as the Board of County Commissioners at 9:00 a.m.

The board met with Treasurer Steve Young regarding tax write-offs for Omimex and WME Yates.

The board met with Amanda Monk, the Northeast Colorado Field Representative for Congresswoman Lauren Boebert. Monk gave the board updates from Boebert's office.

Unfinished Business

None presented

Motions/New Business

Hofmeister moved to sign the letter regarding unfunded state mandates as presented. The letter is to be sent to the Governor, the President of the Colorado Senate, and the Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives. Roberts seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Hofmeister moved to approve the request from Treasurer Steve Young to write off taxes owed by WME Yates in the amount of \$208,520.69, as of July 31, 2025. The motion died for lack of a second. It was the consensus of the board to ask County Attorney Tammy Kelley to gather more information.

Roberts discussed potentially having the county's 1996 bulldozer rebuilt. The estimate for the rebuild is \$285,884, which Roberts said is about 60% of the cost of a new unit. The process would be to take the bulldozer to Windsor on November 1, then it would be about one month to get a complete bid and two months for the rebuild. It was the consensus of the board to move forward and get a bid.

Roberts updated the board on a meeting he attended with personnel from Melissa Memorial Hospital, Haxtun Health, and Sedgwick County representatives. He also discussed looking into having a new IGA with Melissa Memorial Hospital and Haxtun Health regarding ambulance services. Currently the county contributes \$16,000 per year to an ambulance fund. Haxtun Health and Melissa Memorial each contribute \$8,000 per year.

Hofmeister shared solar regulation information he had received regarding agrivoltaics, which simultaneously uses land for agriculture and solar energy production. It allows for growing crops with enough spacing between the solar panels to allow for both practices.

Roberts discussed the current \$30,500 contribution the county provides to Phillips County Economic Development. The Commissioners agreed to review this amount in the coming budget year.

Roberts and Nygaard updated the board on the H.R.1 meeting they attended, which outlined the rolling back of the prior Medicaid expansion. As of January 1, 2027, eligibility re-determinations will occur every 6 months instead of every 12, requiring proof that applicants are working, going to school, or volunteering at least 80 hours per month to qualify. It reduces the retroactive coverage period from three months to one month for expansion adults, and to two months for all others, starting in January 2027. There is also a clawing back of subsidies, which can increase insurance premiums by up to 40% on the individual marketplace on the Eastern Plains. The state must also have an IGA with counties for the delegation of duties. The first IGA is due July 1, 2026, and will have to be signed every three years. By January 1, 2027, counties must have agreements with at least one hospital in the county, one nursing facility in the county, and one designated case management agency.

The board agreed to advertise for sealed bids for the completion of the concrete floor at the Haxtun Road and Bridge shop. Bids must be received by 4:30 p.m. on August 28, 2025, and the Commissioners will open the bids at their August 29 meeting.

The board agreed to allow an individual to use a small bouncy house at a birthday party in Homesteaders' Park on August 30. The bouncy house cannot be staked.

The Commissioners agreed to approve Stephanie Starkebaum's request to close the CSU Extension Office for the day on Friday, August 15.

Adjournment

Chairman Timm adjourned the meeting at 10:39 a.m.

Minutes submitted by County Clerk Beth Zilla.

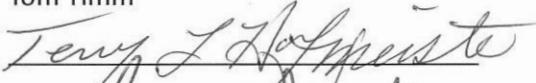
Next meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2025

Phillips County Commissioners:

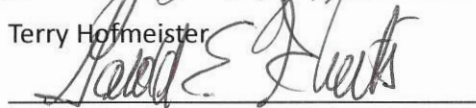
Attest:



Tom Timm



Terry Hofmeister



Garold Roberts



Beth Zilla, County Clerk