

Phillips County Commissioner
Meeting Minutes¹
March 29, 2024

The board held a work session with Road and Bridge Manager Kevin Scott prior to the meeting.

Call to order

Chairman Terry Hofmeister called the meeting of the Phillips County Commissioners to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 8:00 a.m. at the County Courthouse in the Commissioner meeting room.

County Attendees

Chairman Terry Hofmeister, Commissioners Garold Roberts and Tom Timm, County Clerk Beth Zilla, Administrator/Planner Andrew Nygaard, and Department of Human Services Director Lori Lundgren

Additional Attendees

Brian Urdiales, Janelle Krueger, Jon King, Jessie Salyards, and Steve Starkebaum

Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

None presented.

Approval of Consent Agenda

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

Consent Agenda Items:

- a) Approval of the minutes of the BOCC 03.18.2024 meeting
- b) Approval of March payroll
- c) Approval of invoice list
- d) Acknowledge receipt of Building Permits log
- e) Acknowledge receipt of Event Center/BOC Pavilion rentals

Public Comments

Brian Urdiales, candidate for House District 63, introduced himself to the board.

Appointments

The board met with CSU Extension Agent Jessie Salyards for updates from her office.

The board convened as the Board of Human Services at 9:22 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 9:43 a.m.

The board met with Jon King of Tree King to discuss the bid and agreement that he had made with the county for tree trimming and removal at the courthouse and fairgrounds. King requested to cancel the agreement and be compensated for the work already completed.

The board met with Steve Starkebaum to discuss the upcoming Livestock Committee event at the BOC Pavilion and asked the board to waive the fees.

Unfinished Business

The board discussed the roadway occupancy agreement resubmitted by Viaero Fiber Networks, LLC for underground construction of a telecommunications system north along County Road 37 from Section 7, Township 7 North, Range 44 West, then east along County Road 38, realigning with County Road 37, then continuing north to County Road 40, then east to the existing Viaero Wireless tower site at Section 30, Township 9 North, Range 44 West. The project was initially approved on April 17, 2020, but never begun. The board tabled taking action until Road and Bridge Manager Kevin Scott could get further details from Viaero.

Motions/New Business

Hofmeister and Nygaard provided updates on a meeting they attended on March 25 with Sheriff Michael Beard, Emergency Manager Broc Pelle, Communications Center Director Sara Kumm, and Holyoke Volunteer Fire Department Chief Stacy Rueter. The discussion was on communications center dispatch procedures for natural disasters and lightning strikes, and for what call types the Emergency Manager will be contacted. The Comboard will meet and vote on establishing a policy.

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



Roberts moved to approve the request to submit the application for a DOLA Energy/Mineral Impact Assistance Fund Grant to help with the construction of a new storage building for the Road and Bridge department in the southeast part of the county. Timm seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Timm moved to clarify the previous motion from March 8, 2024, to purchase 3.4 acres in the northwest 1/4 of Section 2, Township 6 North, Range 43 West from Randy Kramer for \$35,000. The total purchase price will be \$35,392.02. The purchased land will be the site of a storage building for the Road and Bridge Department, a well, and a septic system. Roberts seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Roberts moved to approve the work order for materials used for second floor office space in the Phillips County courthouse from Junior's Handyman Services in the amount of \$2,500. Timm seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Timm moved to approve paying Tree King \$900 for the removal of a tree and tree stump on the Courthouse lawn and to cancel the remainder of the agreement with Tree King for tree trimming and removal at the courthouse and fairgrounds. Hofmeister seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0 by roll call vote, with Roberts abstaining.

Timm moved to approve Huckleberry Tree Service to trim trees at the fairgrounds for \$12,900 and at the courthouse for \$11,100. Hofmeister seconded the motion. The motion carried 2-0 by roll call vote, with Roberts abstaining.

Timm moved to approve the request from the PC Junior Livestock Committee to waive the fees for their small animal show at the BOC Pavilion on May 3-5, 2024. Roberts seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Timm moved to approve the roadway occupancy agreement submitted by PC Telcom for underground construction of a fiber optic line that will be buried 48" deep and will be in a 1.25" conduit, running 880' south along County Road 37 and boring 60' across County Road 37 from Section 18, Township 7 North, Range 45 West to Section 13, Township 7 North, Range 45 West. Roberts seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Roberts moved to approve the contract for commitment of being an election judge for the contract years 2024-2026, as presented by County Clerk Beth Zilla. Timm seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Roberts moved to approve the request from Road and Bridge Manager Kevin Scott to proceed with the chipseal project on County Road 30 in Haxtun at the quoted price of \$48,662. Timm seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Chairman Hofmeister adjourned the meeting at 10:22 a.m.

Minutes submitted by County Clerk Beth Zilla.

Next meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2024.

Phillips County Commissioners:


Attest:



Tom Timm



Beth Zilla, County Clerk



Terry Hofmeister



Garold Roberts