

Phillips County Commissioner  
Meeting Minutes<sup>1</sup>  
October 31, 2022

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

**Call to order**

Chairman Timm called the meeting of the Phillips County Commissioners to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 8:03 a.m. on October 31, 2022, at the County Courthouse in the Commissioner Meeting room.

**County Attendees**

Chairman Tom Timm, Commissioners Garold Roberts and Terry Hofmeister, County Administrator Laura Schroetlin, Road and Bridge Manager Mike Salyards, Assistant Road and Bridge Manager Kevin Scott, Department of Human Services Director Lori Lundgren, County Clerk Beth Zilla, Emergency Manager Broc Pelle, Veterans Service Officer Jeremy Kilpatrick and Assistant Administrator Andrew Nygaard.

**Additional Attendees**

Janelle Krueger, Andrew Turck, Gary Herr, Amy Bamford, Keith Sagehorn, Pat Heermann, Marc Schlachter, Walt Page, Scott Jacobs, Karrie Jacobs and Jessie Stewart.

**Additions or Corrections to the Agenda**

None presented.

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BOCC - Minutes BETH ZILLA PHILLIPS COUNTY  
REC FEE: 0.00 DOC FEE: TOTAL FEE: 0.00  


**Approval of Consent Agenda**

Roberts made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Hofmeister seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Consent Agenda Items:**

- a) Approval of the minutes of the BOCC 10.18.2022 meeting
- b) Approval of October payroll
- c) Approval of A/P invoice list
- d) Acknowledge receipt of Weldco Farms inspection report
- e) Acknowledge receipt of Seaboard Foods Quarterly Monitoring reports
- f) Acknowledge receipt of HUTF summary
- g) Acknowledge receipt of building permits log
- h) Acknowledge receipt of Event Center/BOC Pavilion rentals

**Public Comments**

Several people spoke about the county's proposed wind energy regulations, including: Amy Bamford, Pat Heermann, Gary Herr, Walt Page, Marc Schlachter and Scott Jacobs. Comments and concerns focused on flicker studies, fire control/prevention, setbacks, decommissioning, bonding, property values, wind flow, moisture patterns, air temperature and transmission lines.

**Appointments**

The board met with Andrew Turck, editor of the Holyoke Enterprise, for the monthly press briefing. Notes from this portion of the meeting were sent to the Haxtun-Fleming Herald.

The board convened as the Board of Human Services at 9:50 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 10:03 a.m.

The board met with Veterans Service Officer Jeremy Kilpatrick for updates from his office.

The board met with County Clerk Beth Zilla, who reported she and commissioners have been invited to an election symposium, sponsored by the Phillips County Election Integrity Project, scheduled for November 13. She also provided updates about staffing the voting service and polling center to comply with state statute.

The board met with Emergency Manager Broc Pelle for updates from his office.

The board met with CSU Extension Agent Jessie Stewart, who provided updates from the Extension office. Stewart informed the board that Trent Hollister has been hired as the new Area Director for CSU Extension Golden Plains.

<sup>1</sup>Minutes prepared by Andrew Nygaard are a summary of discussions, not a verbatim account.

**Unfinished Business**

The board discussed the proposed wind energy regulations for Phillips County and noted that a work session on the topic is scheduled for November 2.

The board discussed HB21-1085 regarding Secure Transportation Licensure.

The board tabled the request for financial support to possibly help create a Haxtun/Holyoke Chamber of Commerce to wait and see what the City of Holyoke and Town of Haxtun do regarding their support.

The board tabled the request from the Holyoke Community Child Care Initiative to provide in-kind assistance from the county. The consensus of the board is that the county will assist with fill dirt and labor, and specifics of the county's in-kind support continue to be worked out with Road and Bridge Manager Mike Salyards.

The board tabled the 2023 BST racing schedule and contract to clarify which county employee(s) will be the sole operator(s) of county equipment used for the events.

**Motions/New Business**

Hofmeister made a motion to authorize Broc Pelle to act as grant administrator and to sign the financial reports for the Emergency Manager. Roberts seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Roberts made a motion to approve the request from County Administrator Laura Schroetlin to move Bill Andrews to GN40 Grade 23 Step 8, effective November 1, 2022. Hofmeister seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Hofmeister made a motion to approve the request from County Clerk Beth Zilla to hire Fred Coutts, Jr. as a part-time election official. Roberts seconded the motion. Motion Carried unanimously.

Roberts made a motion to approve the request from Sheriff Thom Elliott to move Michael Beard to GN40 Grade 30 Step 3, effective November 1, 2022. Hofmeister seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Roberts made a motion to adopt the joint resolution to decline the participation of the District Attorney's office for the Thirteenth Judicial District in the paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program (FAMLI). The joint resolution reads:

**A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF KIT CARSON COUNTY, LOGAN COUNTY, MORGAN COUNTY, PHILLIPS COUNTY, SEDGWICK COUNTY, WASHINGTON COUNTY AND YUMA COUNTY, COLORADO, TO DECLINE THE PARTICIPATION OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE FOR THE THIRTEENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT IN THE PAID FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE INSURANCE PROGRAM (FAMLI) AND DIRECTING THAT NOTICE OF THIS RESOLUTION BE PROVIDED TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE INSURANCE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners of the counties of Kit Carson, Logan, Morgan, Phillips, Sedgwick, Washington and Yuma (the "Counties") have the joint obligation to appropriate funds necessary for the transaction of business by the District Attorney's Office of the Thirteenth Judicial District, as provided in C.R.S. section 20-1-302; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. section 30-11-107(2), the Counties have the authority to make final budget determinations for agencies that are funded by county appropriations, including the District Attorney's Office; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2021, the Colorado General Assembly enacted legislation known as the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act (FAMLI), C.R.S. section 8-13.3-501, et seq., with insurance premiums becoming payable beginning in 2023 and benefits becoming available to employees beginning in 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the Counties have considered the advantages and disadvantages of participating in FAMLI, and the paid time off benefits currently provided to employees of the District Attorney's Office; and

**WHEREAS**, the Counties conclude that the current paid time off benefits provided to employees of the District Attorney's Office enable employees to become self-sufficient in planning for unexpected medical absences; and

**WHEREAS**, District Attorney employees may independently choose to enroll in the FAMLI insurance coverage and pay the insurance premium directly to the Division of Family and Medical Leave Insurance, even if the Counties decline to participate in the FAMLI program on a district-wide basis; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. section 8-13.3-522, a local government may decline to participate in FAMLI by formally notifying the Division of Family and Medical Leave insurance, in writing, and providing the date of the vote and documentation of the local government's decision to decline all participation in the program; and

**WHEREAS**, notice of the business meeting at which this Resolution has been taken up for consideration was provided to employees of the District Attorney's Office as required by state administrative rule, and the comment of employees was invited and taken into consideration.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

1. The Counties, by and through their respective Board of County Commissioners, hereby decline all participation of the District Attorney's Office of the Thirteenth Judicial District in the Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program (FAMLI) and direct staff to provide written notice of this declination by sending a copy of this Resolution to the Division of Family and Medical Leave Insurance.
2. Staff is directed to provide District Attorney employees with written information about their rights to independently participate in the FAMLI program as is required by statute and regulations.
3. The Counties will renew this declination not later than eight years from the date of its adoption, and may elect coverage in the future as provided by statute and regulations.

Hofmeister seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment**

Chairman Timm adjourned the meeting at 11:58 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Andrew Nygaard.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 9, 2022.


Phillips County Commissioners:

Attest:

  
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Tom Timm

  
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Beth Zilla, County Clerk

  
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Terry Hofmeister

  
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Gerald Roberts

