

Phillips County Commissioner
Meeting Minutes¹
July 7, 2023

Call to Order

Chairman Garold Roberts called the meeting of the Phillips County Commissioners to order and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance at 8:00 a.m. on July 7, 2023, at the County Courthouse in the Commissioner meeting room.

County Attendees

Chairman Garold Roberts, Commissioners Terry Hofmeister and Tom Timm, County Clerk Beth Zilla, Landfill Manager Bill Andrews, Road and Bridge Manager Mike Salyards, Assistant Road and Bridge Manager Kevin Scott, County Treasurer Steve Young, County Sheriff Michael Beard and Deputy Administrator/Planner Andrew Nygaard

Additional Attendees

Kathy Secrist, Carolyn Lambert, Erika Johnson, Kevin Johnson, Brandon Beard, Kimberly Ertle-Clark, Holly Ferguson, and Dustin Graves

Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

New Business #9 – County Investment Policy, New Business #10 – Courthouse Sidewalk Project Notice of Award, New Business #11 – Disc Golf Tournament, and New Business #12 – Commissioner Meeting Date Change were added to the agenda. Item E – Acknowledge receipt of the 2023 State Assessed Notice of Valuation, was added to the consent agenda.

Approval of Consent Agenda

Hofmeister made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended. Timm seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda Items:

- a. Approval of the BOCC 06.30.2023. meeting
- b. Approval of invoice list
- c. Approval of Public Trustee 2nd quarter report
- d. Acknowledge receipt of sidewalk project approval letter
- e. Acknowledge receipt of the 2023 State Assessed Notice of Valuation

Public Comments

Kimberly Ertle-Clark, founder of Generation Good Respect, thanked the board for its support of the non-profit organization in the past and informed the board about updates happening with Generation Good Respect.

Appointments

The board met with Mobile Food Pantry volunteers Kathy Secrist, Carolyn Lambert, Erika Johnson, Kevin Johnson, and Brandon Beard with Food Bank of the Rockies. Secrist is leaving the area and the volunteers will work together to take on her role as the coordinator for Phillips County. The board thanked Secrist for all of her hard work and wished her the best in the future.

The board met with Holly Ferguson with Designs by Fergie regarding her design proposal for the Phillips County website. The Commissioners will discuss the proposal more with the employees in the Administration Office, who currently keep the website updated.

The board met with Landfill Manager Bill Andrews to discuss the disposal of freon appliances. Andrews said he found a person in Fort Morgan who will take 30-40 units at a time, charge \$25.00 per unit, and keep the units. Andrews will look further into the stipulations regarding the storage of freon appliances and report back to the board.

The board met with Road and Bridge Manager Salyards, Assistant Road and Bridge Manager Scott, and Viaero Fiber Networks, LLC, representative Dustin Graves to discuss the installation of fiber optic lines along County Road 22 and County Road 7 and the necessary roadway occupancy agreement. Graves said the construction will all be done by Viaero and will not be contracted out. Graves told the board that the lines will be at least three feet deep in the ditch and close to four feet if they are able to do so.

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



The board met with Treasurer Young to discuss the proposed investment policy. The board tabled the matter until the next meeting so a resolution can be made.

Unfinished Business

The board tabled taking action on the NE CO Revolving Loan Fund to receive information from the Phillips County Sheriff's Office regarding excessive force.

Motions/ New Business

The Commissioners indicated that they will not be participating in the November 2023 general election.

Timm made a motion to approve the roadway occupancy agreement submitted by Viaero Fiber Networks LLC for underground construction of a fiber optic line that will be buried 36" deep at minimum, and will be in a conduit, that will run along County Road 22 from Section 8-T7N-R47W to Section 12-T7N-R45W, and along County Road 7 from Section 8-T7N-R47W to Section 22-T7N-R47W. Hofmeister seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Hofmeister made a motion to approve the request from Road and Bridge Manager Mike Salyards to move Harlan Hightower to RB Grade 16 Step 8, effective July 1, 2023. Timm seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The board discussed the proposal from Dylon Lousberg to host a disc golf tournament at Homesteaders' Park on August 27, 2023. In an email that was provided to the board, Lousberg requested the waiving of the \$300 rental fee and to use the proceeds from the tournament as a fundraiser for the course. The board agreed to grant him a 50% discount (\$150) on the rental of Homesteaders' Park for the event and agreed that whatever amount he decides to donate back to the course will be fine.

Nygaard updated the board on the courthouse sidewalk project and provided Chairman Roberts with the Notice of Award letter to sign and send to Simon Contractors for their bid that was accepted on June 16, 2023. Nygaard also updated the board on the estimated timeline for CDOT to begin working on bridge replacements in the county, which is expected to begin in the spring of 2024.

Timm made a motion to change the date of the August 18, 2023, Board of County Commissioners meeting to August 21, 2023. Hofmeister seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

The board met with Clerk Zilla, Sheriff Beard, and Treasurer Young as members of the Personnel Board. Personnel Board members Assessor Doug Kamery and Administrator Laura Schroetlin were absent from the meeting.

Adjournment

Chairman Roberts adjourned the meeting at 11:48 a.m.

Minutes submitted by County Clerk Beth Zilla.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2023.

Phillips County Commissioners:


Garold Roberts

Attest:


Beth Zilla, County Clerk


Terry Hofmeister


Tom Timm