

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SEPTEMBER 19, 2005

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on September 19, 2005 with all three Commissioners present. Chairman Krehbiel called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

Commissioner Roberson advised that Chamber of Commerce booth at the State Fair would attract more interest if there were items to give away or maybe a drawing to sign up for.

The minutes of the September 12, 2005 meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Roberson, seconded by Commissioner Meier. Passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. There was a very complimentary informative article about the Harvey County Solid Waste Facility in the Solid Waste Update, a publication of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The Commissioners complimented the management and staff of our facility and how well it is run.
2. There will be a S.P.I.R.I.T. conference held at the Hotel at Old Town in Wichita on September 22-23, 2005. S.P.I.R.I.T. is a group promoting Highway 54.
3. The KAC meeting will be held November 21-23, 2005. Commissioner Roberson will attend and Commissioner Meier will attend one day.

CITIZEN S'FORUM:

Citizen Ralph Roux asked that the Commission do more to keep the Highway 50 and Old Main intersection open. KDOT has determined that the intersection should be closed and an interchange built at Highway 50 and Anderson. He suggested that putting a stoplight at the intersection would be better than closing it. The intersection is within the city limits and the City of Newton is the entity that is working with KDOT on the solution to the dangerous intersection. The Commission agrees that it would be better to keep the intersection open.

Warrant checks were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Roberson. Passed unanimously.

As provisioned by state statute, a public hearing was held at 10:00 a.m. regarding the 2005 Solid Waste Resolution and 2004 delinquent solid waste fees. Duhaine Waeker, a resident of the City of Newton, attended the hearing, and advised that there is no longer a house at 523 Old Main, and there should not be a solid waste fee for the property. The new owner has never filed a deed for the property and therefore the property is still in Mr. Waeker's name. Commissioner Meier made a motion to remove the solid waste fees, seconded by Commissioner Roberson. Passed unanimously.

Commissioner Roberson made a motion to adopt and authorize the Chairman to sign **Resolution**

No. 2005-24, certifying delinquent 2005 solid waste fees to the Harvey County Clerk to be collected the same manner as taxes. Commissioner Meier seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

Laverne Unruh, also a resident of Newton, attended the hearing to protest what he considered to be double charging for solid waste fees. Mr. Unruh also requested information on how the money is being spent. The Commission explained that the amount charged on the Newton City water bill is for collecting the trash at curbside. The solid waste fee billed on the tax statements is put into a fund to maintain the Harvey County Transfer Station. The Transfer Station is not funded by tax monies.

Proposals to complete a real estate tax foreclosure sale were received from Harvey J. Snapp Law Office in the amount of \$4,500, and Nye and Nye Law Office in the amount of \$7,400. Columbian Title has declined to bid on the title search and abstract completion. Commissioner Meier moved to accept the legal services from Harvey Snapp for the judicial tax foreclosures for \$4,500. Commissioner Roberson seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

Phil Adams, Road & Bridge Supervisor, presented the specs for the purchase of a dump truck and road grader. Commissioner Meier made a motion to approve the specs for bids. Commissioner Roberson seconded the motion. The bids will be opened on October 17 at 10:00 a.m. for the dump truck and 10:15 a.m. for the road grader. Passed unanimously.

Craig Simons reported on the Biocycle Conference they attended in Wisconsin. There is increasing concern about methane gas that is produced by burying trash in landfills. With that in mind, it is a good time to consider the burning of solid waste to create energy as an alternative to transferring trash to another county. Westar seems receptive to the idea and will hopefully offer some good rates. The contract we have with Reno County to transfer trash from Harvey County to be buried in their landfill will be renegotiated next year.

The Commission recessed at 11:15 for the Quad County meeting in Hesston.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 upon a motion by Commissioner Meier, seconded by Commissioner Roberson. Passed unanimously.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chairman

ATTEST:

Member

County Clerk

Member