

**MINUTES OF**  
**BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**September 14, 2009**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on September 14, 2009 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Roberson called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. following the REAP meeting.

**ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:**

1. Commissioner Krehbiel reported on the water board meeting he attended last week. It was also attended by representatives from the City of Wichita in charge of obtaining easements from landowners for the Equus Beds recharge project. Commissioner Krehbiel assured the landowners that Harvey County would do what they could to help them.
2. Commissioner Krehbiel informed the Commission that the eyebrow on the gun range located at the old Harvey County Landfill has collapsed but it will be rebuilt.
3. There have been reports that a private vehicle that has a Harvey County Sheriff's Department logo on it has been seen in and around Hutchinson. Counselor Greg Nye suggested that a letter be written to the owner stating that the emergency vehicle permit that was formerly issued for the vehicle is no longer in effect and it is no longer a law enforcement vehicle.
4. Commissioner Westfall will be out of town and will not be able to attend the Chamber of Commerce breakfast on Friday. Commissioner Roberson plans to attend.
5. Commissioner Westfall has received complaints about the road surface on east 1<sup>st</sup> Street. The road has been ground down and is awaiting a slurry seal that is scheduled to be done this Fall. There will be a pre-construction conference with Ballou Construction this Wednesday.
6. Commissioner Westfall reported on the REAP meeting held this morning. There was discussion held regarding the relations between cities, counties, and water districts when cities grow into rural areas. REAP has proposed changing the language that regulates the processes when this occurs. Under the proposed regulations water districts will get value for their property and their work there.
7. Commissioner Roberson reported on the meeting of the Harvey County Council of Governments held last week. Items discussed included health insurance and budgets. Also discussed were citizen expectations of the emergency training of law enforcement officers, other emergency responders, and teachers.
8. Commissioner Roberson attended the Public Private Partnership breakfast. Hutchinson Community College enrollment is up. The City of Newton reported that there will be two new motels in Newton, the new Motel and Convention Center north of Applebees and a Comfort Inn west of the Red Coach Inn. It was also reported that sewer rates will be increasing by 20% next year. State

Representative Don Schroeder said that revenues for the State were more than expected, but still not good. North Newton was able to maintain a flat budget this year, but the expectation is that it will increase next year. School enrollment in the county has increased this year. The Agricultural program has a lot of enrollment and many of them are from Hesston. Free lunches at the schools have also increased another 10%. The school building projects are progressing well. The Santa Fe School project is scheduled for completion in September. The Chamber of Commerce priorities are to increase membership, increase membership value, and develop a vision for the future of the Chamber.

9. Commissioner Westfall reported that we are in the second year of the wire grant. Harvey County has received several grants including the Hesston College nursing program.
10. The Fairgrounds Development Committee met and had a very productive meeting. Priefert Design will update the design for the September 29 meeting.
11. Commissioner Roberson asked if Harvey County offers any money for township participation in the Kansas Roads Scholar program. The cost of the classes has increased significantly. Although the County does not provide funding for this, it was reported that several township officers do attend.

#### **CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. Although REAP meetings are normally held on the second Monday of each month, the October meeting will be held on October 12 and November 1 instead.
2. Commissioner Roberson will be working in the Newton Area Chamber of Commerce booth on September 17 at the State Fair.
3. Commissioner Roberson will attend a KCAMP meeting on Thursday, September 24.
4. Commissioner Roberson, Commissioner Krehbiel, Craig Simons, Roy Patton, and John Waltner will attend the Kansas Wind & Renewable Energy Conference October 6th and 7th in Topeka.

Minutes of the August 31, 2009 Commission meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. Becky Fields, County Treasurer, informed the Commissioners that the Treasurer's Office and the Driver's License Office will be closed from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday September 19 so employees can attend training at the KCOA Conference.
2. Joyce Truskett, County Clerk, presented a letter of resignation from Michael Strausz, Trustee of Garden Township. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to appoint Shaun Ortman, as recommended by the remaining Garden Township officers, to fulfill the remainder of the term. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
3. Craig Simons presented easements for Alexander and Duane McClure obtained

- for the bridge replacement on west 12th Street. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to approve and authorize the Chairman and officers of the county to sign the easements for construction of drainage for the 12th street bridge. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
4. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to appoint Commissioner Roberson as a voting delegate for KWORC annual conference, and Joyce Truskett as alternate voting delegate. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
  5. The Commissioners were notified by Communities in Schools of Harvey County that they were not awarded the Title V grant to build on the Communities In Schools Strengthening Families program.
  6. Sheriff T. Walton will be attending an FBI program next week in Lawrence. He also reported that he had met with Dr. Morton, Superintendent of U.S.D. #373 regarding a GED program for the Detention Center. She school has supplied the detention center with three new computer CPUs. Sheriff Walton also said that the roof of the Detention Center is leaking badly. The roof is also leaking in the west half of the law enforcement center. The walk in cooler in the Detention Center is also in need of repair.

Warrant checks were approved upon a motion Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

At 11:52 a.m. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 15 minutes to discuss personnel matters. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also in attendance for the session were John Waltner and Counselor Greg Nye. Executive session ended at 12:07 p.m. with no action being taken.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:15 p.m.

The Commission meeting resumed at 1:15 p.m. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 30 minutes to discuss personnel issues with only the three Commissioners present. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Craig Simons joined the session at 1:30 p.m. Executive session ended at 1:45 p.m. with no action being taken. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to go into another executive session for a period of 45 minutes to discuss personnel matters. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. John Waltner was also in attendance. Executive session ended at 2:30 p.m. with no action being taken.

Craig Simons presented a resolution authorizing the funding for improvements to the county courthouse parking lots. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2009-16**, authorizing and providing for improvements to the county courthouse, and providing for the payment of the costs thereof. This motion is made with the provision of inserting an address of the property being purchased and changing the resolution number by the addition of the year 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Marge Roberson, Chairman

ATTEST:

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George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member

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Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

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Ron Krehbiel, Member