

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

August 16, 2010

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on August 16, 2010 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Westfall called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

1. Commissioner Westfall reported that Jason Reynolds has asked the Commission to approve a proclamation for a suicide prevention week from September 5-11, 2010 in Harvey County.
2. Commissioner Westfall attended an LEPC meeting called by Lonnie Boller, Director of Emergency Management, to make sure that the County is in compliance with the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Law.
3. Commissioner Westfall reported to the Commission what was discussed at the Public Partnership meeting. There are plans to hold a first-ever joint meeting of all the school boards in Harvey County.
4. Commissioner Westfall met with representatives from the City of Walton and the Mid-Kansas Coop last week. The Coop has acquired a ten year lease on 40 acres of land owned by the City of Walton to develop a grain storage site. One storage bin has been constructed on the site and they plan to build two more. The storage bins will hold grain from 200 semi trucks. The City of Walton is requesting assistance from the County and the State to rebuild the roads leading to the storage site.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. There will be a Harvey/McPherson County Community Corrections meeting on August 25th at 12:00 p.m.
2. The Local Emergency Planning Committee will meet October 13, 2010.
3. The annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet will be held Thursday, September 23, 2010.

Minutes of the August 9, 2010 Commission meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Roberson, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. The Commission received a thank-you note from the Ron Krehbiel family and also from the Piper Jaffrey Company.
2. John Waltner relayed information to the Commission from Judge Walker regarding lunches charged to the County. Judge Walker explained that workers were brought in from out of county to help with the increased work load caused by state furloughs this spring and summer. The Commission requested that the reimbursement check for the lunches be held for further information. The consensus of the Commission was to pay the reimbursement. Commissioner Westfall stated that Stated that once we approve his budget that he can spend the money any way he wants to. There was a payables item held from last week.

- Commissioner Westfall stated that, as a state employee, court employees may be liable for taxation from the IRS for provided meals. Meals are to be provided only if it is in conjunction with overnight travel.
3. Roy Patton, Superintendent of the Harvey County Solid Waste Facility, explained the new hours that are in effect at the Harvey County Transfer Station. Hours on Monday through Friday will be 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Saturday hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Hours for commercial haulers will be extended to 5:00 p.m. The change in hours will cut down the number of overtime hours for transfer station employees. Notification of the new hours will be listed on all receipts, utility bills, and printed flyers.
 4. Mr. Patton informed the Commission about the mattress recycling program. KSIR in Hutchinson receives one semi load of mattresses every week which are broken down and then distributed for recycling. Harvey County Transfer Station will be accepting bales of cotton and coconut fiber from the mattresses.
 5. Mr. Patton reported that the ICM test burner has not been used for the last several weeks. The area around the burner has been cleaned up after several complaints were received. The contract between ICM and Harvey County is in effect until the first of the year.
 6. John Waltner reminded the Commission that there will be a time scheduled to travel to Hutchinson to view the Stutzman single stream recycling operation.
 7. Chad Frey, director of RSVP, presented a draft of the annual RSVP report to be sent to the State of Kansas. The annual RSVP banquet held in October of every year may be held in Burrton this year. The banquet usually has an attendance of between 150 and 175 and they are checking to make sure the facility in Burrton is large enough.
 8. Scott Davies and Craig Clough updated the commission on the LIDAR project, which is a mapping project approved by the Commission. The USGS office has indicated that FEMA is interested in maps of the western part of the county and would therefore contribute to the cost of the maps. The project will now cover 2/3 of the County for a cost of \$35,000. The cost was originally estimated at \$200,000.
 9. Byron Warta reported that the Kansas Water Authority is very concerned about dams in the State that are 50 years old or older. Inspections of these dams will no longer be done by the State and now the responsibility and liability of the County. The Water Authority is encouraging municipalities to take a serious look at all dams that are 30 years and older. Any construction below existing dams is a liability for the municipality that oversees the dams, which includes watershed dams.
 10. John reminded the Commission that there is a joint City/County meeting scheduled for August 24. Harvey County will host the meeting in the Courthouse Community Room from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
 11. Phil Adams, Road & Bridge Superintendant, thanked the Commissioners for participating in the Old Settlers Parade in Halstead last Saturday. He also thanked Sheriff T. Walton for leading the parade. Mr. Adams also reported that the bridge work is progressing in the County.

12. Sheriff Walton reported that a fatality accident occurred at the Whitewater Railroad crossing on K96 highway. This is the 2nd fatality that has occurred at this location in 2 years. Sheriff Walton has written a letter to the Kansas Department of Transportation to see if the crossing can be marked in a different manner. There was also a near drowning of a five year old child at East Lake on Saturday. A young boy was also burned over the weekend while riding on a lawn mower that caught fire. One of the Sheriff's Deputies was involved in a crash early Sunday morning. The deputy was not injured, but the truck he was driving was heavily damaged.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

There were no citizens present for Citizen's Forum.

At 10:00 a.m. a public hearing was held to discuss the county budget. The budget calls for a mill levy increase of approximately .9 mills compared to the 2009 mill levy. The increase allows the County to fund the economic development commitments that have been made. John Waltner thanked Anthony Swartzendruber and Charlie Summers for their work in the development of the budget. He also praised the Department Heads for their cooperation in trying to keep expenses down. Commissioner Roberson noted prior year's mill levies and stated that the County is committed to trying to keep the mill levy down. In 1995 the County mill levy was 33.89 mills. In 2000 the mill levy was 29.00 mills. In 2009 the county levy was 27.885 mills, which reinforces the commitment to try to keep the mill levy down. Commissioner Krehbiel stated that although he does not agree with all the funding commitments of the County, there are some expenses that now must be shouldered by the County instead of being funded at the State and Federal level. Commissioner Westfall said that many costs have risen, and also cited the funding that now has to come from the County instead of Federal and State funding. The hearing was closed at 10:10 a.m. Commissioner Roberson made a motion to set the mill levy at an estimated rate of 28.775 and adopt the budget as proposed by staff. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Monty Fey, President of the Newton Public Library Board, spoke on behalf of the Library and thanked the Commission for their contribution to the Enlite program.

Commissioner Roberson made a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the certification for the funding appropriated to the Conservation District. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Warrant checks were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Roberson. Also included in the motion was to release the check for meal reimbursements held from last week. Motion passed unanimously.

Commercial Krehbiel made a motion to approve the election payroll for the primary election. Commissioner Roberson seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

John Waltner presented a Neighborhood Stabilization Program, Tier 2 statutory checklist for the environmental statement required for the purchase of a lot to construct another Habitat for

Humanity home. The address of the lot is 314 Glendale Avenue. Commissioner Roberson made a motion to approve the statement and Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Anthony Swartzendruber presented the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program application that is being applied for through the Regional Economic Area Partnership of South Central Kansas. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve and sign the Memorandum of Agreement for the HUD Sustainable Communities Planning Grants Program. Commissioner Roberson seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

The Commission received information from SCKEDD regarding the Home-Owner Rehabilitation Program that is available in Sedgwick County. SCKEDD would like to make the grant program available to Harvey County residents also and so is requesting permission to include Harvey County in the application for grant funding. If a property owner meets the requirements of the program, then they could receive assistance for updates to the property. No more than \$25,000 could be invested in any one property. Without committing a cash funding match for the grant, the County could fulfill the required match by providing sales tax exemptions on purchased materials, or by waiving permit fees. Commissioner Westfall stated that materials purchased for updates performed in Harvey County should be purchased in Harvey County. Commissioner Roberson made a motion to authorize John Waltner to proceed with the application with the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation for the Home-owner Rehabilitation Program application submitted by SCKEDD. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

At 10:55 a.m. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 30 minutes to discuss attorney/client privilege and personnel issues. Commissioner Roberson seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also in attendance for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Counselor Greg Nye, and Joyce Truskett. Executive session ended at 11:25 a.m. with no action being taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

THE BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

George A. "Chip" Westfall, Chairman

ATTEST:

Ron Krehbiel, Member

Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

Marge Roberson, Member