

**MINUTES OF**  
**BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**JOINT CITY/COUNTY MEETING**

**March 25, 2010**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners and the Board of Newton City Commissioners met in the Courthouse Community Room to discuss an interlocal agreement between Harvey County and the City of Newton to jointly develop a new industrial park facility in the City and County, called the Kansas Logistics Park. The meeting was called to order at 11:55 a.m. by Harvey County Chairman Westfall and Mayor Raquel Thiessen.

Bob Myers, Newton City Attorney, presented a brief summary of the final draft of an interlocal agreement by and between the County and the City. The agreement details the description of the property, the acquisition and development of the property, financing of the project improvements, financing options, delegation of project administrator/engineer functions including payment for these services, development of a project oversight committee, timetable of the project, and ownership and maintenance of the property and improvements. The City agrees to finance the extension of a sanitary sewer line to the Park at a cost not to exceed \$3,500,000; to finance the extension of water service lines to the Park at a cost not to exceed \$500,000, subject to expected private assessment or contribution of \$250,000; and finance intersection and roadway improvements at a cost not to exceed \$5,200,000, subject to an expected EDA grant to pay one-half of the cost. The County agrees to pay land acquisition costs not to exceed \$2,900,000; land development costs such as surveying, inspection, testing, platting, and zoning expenses at a cost not to exceed \$30,000; and finance drainage improvements at a cost not to exceed \$400,000.

The City Engineer shall be the delegated Project Administrator and a Project Oversight Committee which includes the City Manager, the County Administrator, and other appointed members shall be designated to advise and direct the Project Administrator. The City and County will share maintenance responsibilities according to specific road locations.

Rich Meister, President of the Economic Development Council, expressed support for the interlocal agreement and the development of the Logistics Park. Support letters have been received from Senator Sam Brownback, William Thornton, Secretary of the Kansas Department of Commerce; Patty Clark, State Director of the Rural Development of the U.S. Department of Agriculture; and Richard K. Boyles, Area Director the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Richard K. Boyle congratulated the City and County on their collaboration to develop and support the Kansas Logistics Park. This is a model that can be used by other rural areas.

Tim Johnson, Assistant Manager of the City of Newton, gave a brief overview of the potential economic impact of the initial development of the Park. The Tindall Corporation should have a

full employment number of 405 employees by 2013 with an estimated impact of \$44,000,000. Jim Heinecke, an independent representative, stated that there is concern from citizens, but citing the success of the Sand Creek Station and other projects, said that citizens should have confidence in the City and the County.

Larry Lynn, a longtime resident of Newton, said that the projections scare him. He is concerned about what will happen for taxpayers 10 or 20 years down the road and we need to be careful about the money we spend. Many folks are struggling to pay taxes. It is important to strive to keep workers in Harvey County and job creation will do that.

Paul Harder, North Newton City Council member, said he appreciates how the two governing bodies have worked together on this. Although this is a large project with large expenses, Tindall is a good company with a good track record, and he believes this project has a good chance of success.

Willis Heck, Vice-Mayor of the City of Newton, expressed appreciation to the City and County staff for all the time that has been put into the project to make it happen. Although there are risks involved, Tindall is a good company and will be a good initial company for the Park. Mr. Heck is still hopeful that the State of Kansas will be able to help with funding for the Park.

Commissioner Roberson echoed the sentiments of the other speakers, stating that it is always good when governing bodies can come together to talk and work in positive directions together. She expressed pride in the two groups and their willingness to not be territorial. It is a great opportunity for all of us.

Commissioner Krehbiel said that although, it is a lot of dollars to develop this Park, we need to take the opportunity and move forward.

Commissioner Westfall stated that this is a development that will affect the entire County. It is important to bring outside money into the County so we don't rely so heavily on the local taxpayer.

Newton City Commissioner Jim Nickel made a motion to approve the interlocal agreement with Harvey County as presented. Commissioner Kenneth Hall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Harvey County Commissioner Marge Roberson made a motion to approve the interlocal agreement with the City of Newton as presented to be effective upon the approval of the Kansas Attorney General. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

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

THE BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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George A. "Chip" Westfall, Chairman

ATTEST:

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Ron Krehbiel, Member

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Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

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Marge Roberson, Member