

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 11, 2011

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on July 11, 2011 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Krehbiel called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. following the REAP meeting.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

1. The County will pay for blood tests for Commissioner Westfall after he tended to a victim of a fall last month outside the courthouse.
2. Commissioner Krehbiel reported on the meeting held with some city leaders with regard to the increase of the EDC dues. The smaller cities of the county support the increase and want to cooperate and continue to be involved with the EDC.
3. Commissioner Krehbiel also talked with the city leaders about the need for more funding for fire and EMS. Most would like to see the funding come from a set mill levy rather than a percentage of an allocation. The current method of funding is an allocation that is divided between the fire districts according to the valuation of the districts. All options will be considered and reviewed. Commissioner Westfall reported that two years ago the Commission had asked the districts for statistical reports from each district, but no information has been received to date.
4. Commissioner Krehbiel received a call regarding a controversial natural gas drilling process known as “fracking.” This process of hydraulic fracturing injects fluids into shale using high pressure which fractures the rock and enables the gas to be released. There are reports of resulting water contamination in areas where fracking has been used and some states have passed bans on the use of the process. If this process is used in Harvey County there is concern about possible contamination of the aquifer. Although this is most likely a Federal or State issue, the Commission agreed that it is an environmental issue that needs to be monitored.
5. Commissioner Krehbiel reported that he received a citizen complaint about the bridge on NW 60th Street, 1/4 mile west of Burmac Road. The bridge had to be barricaded because of a significant hole in the deck. The Road & Bridge Department will try to repair the bridge today. The bridge was inspected and given a good rating by the State of Kansas last year.
6. Sheriff T Walton reported that there have been many fights probably due to the mixture of extreme heat and alcohol. He also reported that there is a possibility of taking on an additional 15 to 17 federal prisoners at the Detention Center.
7. Byron Warta stated that there are 39 wells in Williston, North Dakota that are scheduled to be fracked. There has been an appeal to the State of North Dakota in an attempt to stop the process because of potential water contamination. Commissioner Roberson will also bring this issue to the attention of the Council of Governments.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. John Waltner and Counselor Greg Nye met with the executive director of ResCare regarding their use of the building owned by Harvey County on the ResCare campus. At the current time they are leasing it from the County with no cash payments. The lease is a one year lease renewable each year for five years. The final year of the five year lease will be 2012. The lease will have to be renewed and renegotiated next summer.
2. The Commissioners received information on the increase in the KAC dues.
3. John Waltner reported that Scott Davies, Director of Planning and Zoning, received word that there was a major fish kill at the pond located at Wedgewood Golf Course. Since this is a completely self contained pond, KDHE has chosen not to investigate.
4. Commissioner Roberson made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2011-18**, authorizing the installation of certain stop signs at the intersection of North Meridian and West 72nd Street. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
5. Counselor Greg Nye presented a draft of a new resolution to allow golf carts on certain roads at East and West Parks.
6. John reported that the Neighborhood Stabilization Program is coming to a close. Harvey County received a letter from LeAnn Thurman, stating that they are ready to sign off on the program, providing final information is received on the properties that received the funding. That information has been forwarded and a public hearing will be held on July 25 for the formal closing of the program.

Minutes of the July 5, 2011 Commission meeting were approved and corrected upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Roberson. Motion passed unanimously.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Westfall will attend a meeting with airport engineers and planners on July 12 at 9:00 a.m. to discuss the 20 year plan for the airport.
2. The Commissioners will attend the grand opening of the new Meridian Center on July 21.
3. Commissioner Roberson will attend a KCAMP meeting on August 19 in Wichita.
4. Commissioner Krehbiel will attend a Central Kansas Regional Solid Waste Authority meeting in McPherson on Wednesday, July 20.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$203,047.13 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Roberson. Motion passed unanimously.

Randy Hofmeier, Accountant with Lindburg Vogel Pierce Faris, presented the 2010 Harvey County audit report. Although there are a couple of issues that need to be corrected, the audit process went fairly well. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to accept the audit report as presented. Commissioner Roberson seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

At 12:10 p.m. Commissioner Roberson made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 5 minutes to discuss proprietary issues. Commissioner Westfall 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 12:15 p.m. with no action being taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

THE BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ron Krehbiel, Chairman

ATTEST:

Marge Roberson, Member

Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member