

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

October 10, 2011

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on October 10, 2011 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Krehbiel called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

1. Commissioner Roberson pointed out that there is a very good informative article about New Millennium in the Kansas Journal.
2. Commissioner Westfall reported that Bob McNeill of Newton Township contacted him about a potential drainage problem on Hillside Road south of the Kansas Logistics Park.
3. Commissioner Westfall pointed out that there is a good article in the Governing Magazine regarding decreasing federal funding and the effect on local governments.
4. Commissioner Roberson suggested that information received by Willis Heck at the tax meetings needs to be made available to the public. She will request that he bring some of the information to the Council of Governments meeting to be held on October 12. Commissioner Westfall suggested that Willis needs to possibly hold some public meetings to relay the information.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Westfall will attend a meeting of the Local Emergency Operations Planning Committee on Wednesday, October 12 at 9:00 a.m.
2. The 4-H Achievement Banquet will be held on Saturday, October 15 at the Faith Mennonite Church.

Minutes of the September 26 Commission meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Roberson. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. Sheriff T. Walton reported that the Detention Center is currently housing 97 inmates. There is an opening for a Deputy in the Detention Center which will be filled this week.
2. Counselor Greg Nye reported that there was a constitutional issue with the City of Halstead in the lawsuit filed against both Harvey County and the City of Halstead. The plaintiff is going to remove the issue which will bring the suit back to District Court from Federal Court. It is expected that the suit will then list the City and County together.
3. Counselor Nye also reported that one sexual violent predator case that could have incurred expert charges in excess of \$10,000 has been stipulated to by the defendant, with a cost of \$4,000.

4. Counselor Nye also reported that a decision by the State Unemployment Board in a claim against the Sheriff's office by a former employee has been reversed. The plaintiff will be required to pay back any money he received in unemployment benefits.
5. John Waltner reminded the Commissioners that Wednesday, October 12th is the deadline for early registrations for the KAC meeting.
6. John reported that he was contacted by Dan Romine, who lives south of Halstead and has a shared driveway problem with a neighbor tenant. He has asked for a fence viewing by the Commission. There is a fence that separates the two properties and the contention is that cattle get through an unmaintained fence onto his property. The County will not be involved in the driveway easement issue.
7. John reported that the tower located on North 36th Street, where Kansas Electric is building a facility, is owned by SBA Towers of Boca Raton, Florida.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

Byron Warta reported that the FAA regional office has approved the overlay on main runway at the Newton City/County Airport. However, Congress has not yet appropriated the funding.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$103,912.59 and hand-written checks in the amount of \$1,127.79 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Roberson, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

At 8:30 a.m. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to go into executive session for a period of five minutes to discuss personnel issues. Commissioner Roberson seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also in attendance for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Joyce Truskett, and Counselor Greg Nye. Executive session ended at 8:35 a.m. with no action being taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 a.m.

THE BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Ron Krehbiel, Chairman

ATTEST:

Marge Roberson, Member

Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member