

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

April 2, 2012

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on April 2, 2012 with all three Commissioners present. Chairman Roberson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

1. Anthony Swartzendruber informed the Commissioners that the scheduled Fire District #1 Board meeting scheduled to begin at 10:50 a.m. has been cancelled. It was initially believed that the Board of County Commissioners holds the authority to issue general obligation bonds for the fire district; however, the power to issue bonds was also given to the fire district board when it was formed. The Board members of the fire district will still be here at the scheduled time to discuss the bond issue which will be used to build an addition onto the existing fire station building.
2. Commissioner Westfall attended two REAP meetings last Thursday. He reported that the Sustainability Grant will be voted on by the Sedgwick County Commission at the Wednesday morning meeting. Sedgwick County would be the controlling county for the funds. They are requesting input from other interested county officials. The REAP group also voted to continue the Affordable Airfares Program.
3. Commissioner Roberson reported on an article about inmates visiting relatives via the internet. She suggested that maybe Harvey County could benefit from this type of service.
4. Chairman Roberson also reported that Anthony did an outstanding job teaching the budgeting class sponsored by the Kansas Association of Counties.
5. Commissioner Roberson provided a spreadsheet from Jo Miller, Director of the Health Department, detailing the funding of the Community Health Assessment project. There will be an announcement today from Prairie View informing the public that the Health Department will be providing immunizations for children through Health Ministries.
6. Commissioner Roberson received a call from a citizen regarding hunting and target practice on county property located on the west side of the landfill. No hunting is allowed on County owned land, with the exception of East Lake. The citizen had been told by law enforcement that they could not hunt there. However, there is a deer stand that has been located there for many years. The citizen could not understand why it would be there if there is no hunting allowed. The deer stand should not be there and will be removed.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. There will be a public meeting for Fire District #1 held at Walton Rural Life School on Wednesday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m. to consider general obligation bonds for the construction of an addition for the fire station.

2. The City of Newton will host the annual REAP water meeting at the Meridian Center on May 24 at 8:30 a.m. The Chairman of the water district board is stepping down and they are seeking an elected official to replace him.
3. Commissioner Roberson will attend a KCAMP meeting on May 23rd and 24th in Topeka.
4. There will be a Council of Governments meeting on April 11 at 7:00 a.m.
5. There will be a Local Emergency Planning Commission meeting on April 11 at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes of the March 26, 2012 Commission meeting were corrected and approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. The Commissioners received a copy of a letter from Joe Yager in response to questions from Ro Adams a Chatauqua County citizen, concerned about protecting prairie lands from federal control.
2. Anthony reported that the Sedgwick County Commission will consider official participation in the HUD Sustainability Grant at the Wednesday morning Commission meeting. If they should choose not to participate, another fiscal governing body will have to be named.
3. Skip Cowan with the Health Department received an inquiry about illegal dumping outside the City of Sedgwick. The caller indicated that there is federal money available to help clean up these types of situations. Skip will research this further and report back.
4. Fire Chief Gary Denny's retirement reception will be held this afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00 at Fire Station #3.
5. The inaugural Harvey County Newsletter will be placed on the website and will be published there quarterly.
6. Due to an inquiry regarding the hours for the Solid Waste Department being added to the website, Anthony reported that the hours were already posted there and very easy to access.
7. The Commissioners received the sales tax report for the month of March. Sales tax revenues were down 7.85% and use tax was down 15.48% in comparison to March, 2011. The tax is down 9.41% for the quarter. The cause for the drop is unknown.
8. John Waltner attended a meeting last week about dividing lots in county subdivisions. In addition to John, Jim Runyan, Dan Garber, Counselor Greg Nye, and Gina Bell, Planning & Zoning Director, attended. Mr. Garber has a different interpretation as to the necessary steps to be taken to divide a platted lot. Gina and Counselor Nye will research how other counties proceed with this process.
9. It has been suggested that an employee picnic be planned to be held at the West Park Community Building on the first weekend of June.
10. Jim Meier, Road & Bridge Superintendent, reported that the repair of the dump truck that was damaged is still in progress. He also reported that the men's bathroom at the Road and Bridge Department has been remodeled. They are also

replacing some of the fencing that surrounds the facility, including the replacement of the gate. The Department responded to some fires in the west part of the County, placing some needed barricades. There are some large erosion control projects in process on South Halstead Road, south of SW 72nd St, and West First Street over the Little Arkansas River. There is also a bridge deck replacement project on SW 60th.

11. Sheriff T. Walton reported they finished the first week of doing a quadrant patrol in the County, which went very well. The Detention Center population reached 130 inmates twice during the week; however the population is now down to 116. The fires that occurred in the west part of the County were actually controlled burns that got out of control.
12. The Commissioners received a copy of a letter from Sandra Craig McKenzie offering a legal opinion about the context of proposed legislation concerning commercial and industrial machinery and equipment taxation. The letter was forwarded from the Kansas Association of Counties.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

There were no citizens present for Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$52,539.48 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

At 9:52 a.m. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 8 minutes to discuss personnel issues. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also in attendance for the session were Anthony Swartzendruber, Counselor Greg Nye, and Joyce Truskett. Executive session ended at 10:00 a.m. with no action being taken.

The meeting was recessed for five minutes.

Anthony reported that a hand-written check will need to be printed this week to proceed with the purchase of vehicles ordered for the Sheriff's Department that have now arrived at the dealership.

Roy Patton, Director of Solid Waste, presented the regional solid waste plan for annual approval. There are no changes to the plan this year. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to approve the regional solid waste plan with no changes. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Roy also gave the Commissioners an update on the status of the ICM experimental waste-to-energy gasifier project located at the old Harvey County Landfill. There was a meeting last Monday which included representatives from ICM, Commissioner Krehbiel, Craig Simons, John Waltner and Roy. Water is a major concern for the project because the system requires 100 gallons per minute in order to operate. Several options are being explored to fulfill the water needs, including the installation of a field of cooling tubes, drilling water wells on site, possible use of effluent water from the City of Newton, or using a source for City water and recirculating the water. Funding of the cost of the system is also an issue.

Anthony presented **Resolution No. 2012-9**, requesting the Harvey County Public Building Commission to issue revenue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$1,270,000 for the purpose of paying a portion of the costs to construct runway improvements at the Newton City/County Airport. Kevin Cowan, bond counsel, explained how that the bonds would work. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2012-9. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

The Commission meeting recessed at 10:29 a.m. and Eugene Wendling, President of the Public Building Commission, called the PBC meeting to order. PBC Board members in attendance for the meeting in addition to Mr. Wendling were Byron Motter, Commissioner Westfall, and Richard Denno. Byron Motter made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2011 meeting. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

President Wendling presented **PBC Resolution No. 2012-1**, a resolution of intent to issue bonds to pay a portion of the costs to construct runway improvements at the Newton City/County Airport. Kevin Cowan, bond council, gave a brief explanation of the process, which requires that the resolution be adopted and then published twice in the newspaper. The bond sale will likely occur in late July or early August. Byron Motter made a motion to approve PBC Resolution No. 2012-1. Rich Denno seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

The PBC meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Byron Warta thanked everyone for their efforts to move forward with the reconstruction of the runway at the airport. The approval process has gone well and has been accomplished in a reasonable amount of time.

Discussion was held regarding the proposed expansion of the fire station for Fire District #1. Dean Davis, Evan Johnson, and Merlin Johnson, representatives from Fire District #1; Lonnie Buller, Director of Emergency Management; and Kevin Cowan, Bond Council, participated in the discussion. The Fire District will hold a meeting at the Walton Grade School on Wednesday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m. to pass a resolution to obtain bonds to construct an addition to the current building to make it safer, add storage, and build a community storm shelter. Kevin Cowan explained that the resolution needs to be passed, published once in the newspaper, and if no protests are received within 60 days, the bond sale can proceed. The Fire District is notifying residents in the district by hand delivering a letter to every household. They will also be speaking to the Lions Club, the Walton Township Board, and the Walton City Council. The expansion is expected to cost \$120,000.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

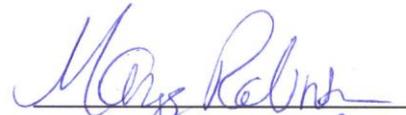
THE BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



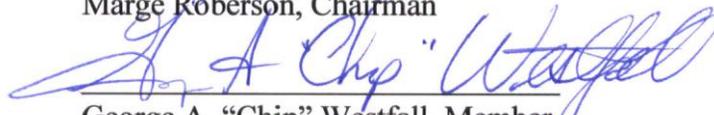
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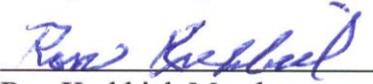
Joyce Truskett, County Clerk



Marge Roberson, Chairman



George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member



Ron Krehbiel, Member