

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 21, 2012

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on May 21, 2012 with all three Commissioners present. Chairman Roberson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

1. Commissioner Krehbiel reported that he has received calls about when large displays for the 4th of July can be permitted and held because of the holiday falling in the middle of the week. Fireworks that can be purchased at a stand will be regulated by the municipalities where the fireworks will be used. They can usually be purchased and used during the 4 or 5 days preceding the 4th. The larger fireworks displays need to be permitted through the Emergency Management Office and can be held at any time through the year.
2. Commissioner Krehbiel reported that the water level of the Little Arkansas River continues to go down.
3. Commissioner Westfall will provide the opening statement and welcome for the REAP Regional Water Conference on Thursday, May 24th at Meridian Center.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. There will be a Kansas Logistics Park Development Authority meeting held on Wednesday, May 23rd Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. at Newton City Hall.

Minutes of the May 14, 2012 Commission meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. The Commissioners received a copy of a proposed lease agreement between WWCP Investments, LLC and the Newton Police Department and Harvey County. Discussion was held about the City and the County co-leasing a property owned by Kevin Wray at 311 S Meridian, Suite B to store emergency vehicles and equipment. John Waltner stated that there was no money budgeted in the 2012 budget for this type of expense. The monthly amount of the rent shall be \$800.00 plus an additional \$121.84 for taxes, \$76.50 for hazard insurance, and an estimated \$120.00 for utilities. Police Chief Jim Daily addressed the Commission to explain the importance of having all emergency equipment stored in a protected area at one location. Some of the equipment that needs to be stored is a 62 foot long mobile command post, a SWAT unit, the old mobile command trailer, emergency communications trailer, meth lab trailer, crime scene trailer, ERT unit, generator, and others. All of the equipment needs to be stored in a secure location that is protected from potential vandalism and some need to be protected from the

elements in a climate controlled environment. Mr. Wray, who was in attendance at the meeting, has agreed to modify the building to accommodate the 62 foot unit. He also stated that since this was not budgeted for, that the rent could possibly be prorated. Commissioner Roberson inquired as to whether the large command post trailer, which is also used in a regional area, could be housed in another location rather than Harvey County. Chief Daily responded that since funds for the trailer were obtained by the City of Newton through a grant from the Department of Homeland Security, the City has taken responsibility for the housing, insurance, etc. Mr. Wray said that a fence around the property would be constructed in a couple of years. Commissioner Westfall commented that this expense was also not included in the proposed 2013 departmental budgets that have been presented to the Commissioners. Commissioner Krehbiel agreed that it was a good idea to locate all the emergency equipment in one location. Chairman Roberson asked the Department Heads involved how much of a priority this really is at a time when County Department Heads have been asked to keep their budgets as flat as possible. Counselor Greg Nye stated that there are some changes that need to be made to the lease agreement clarifying who will actually pay the taxes, insurance, water, electricity, etc; who will take care of the roof; who will do the mowing and snow removal; and what would be classified as “exceptional usage” in terms of water, electricity, and propane. Anthony Swartzendruber said there also needs to be language in the contract regarding the Kansas Cash Basis Law. Chairman Roberson asked Lon Buller, Courtney Becker, and T. Walton each individually if they really believe that this is an important priority to fund. Each answered in the affirmative. Commissioner Westfall stated that the department heads need to determine how this can be funded. The storage space would be 3,712 sq ft. The value of the County owned equipment that needs to be stored is approximately \$180,000 to \$200,000.

2. The Newton City Commission will conduct a public hearing on the matter of a tax abatement for Future Foam who is expanding their facilities in Newton. The hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m. on May 22 during the regular City Commission meeting.
3. John Waltner informed the Commission that David Harder has requested to be appointed to fill the unexpired term on the Planning Commission that occurred after the death of his father, Carroll Harder.
4. John informed the Commission that a letter was received from Heft and Sons. A copy of the letter was forwarded to Paul Ferguson, Poe & Associates Engineer.
5. Following questions from Commissioner Krehbiel regarding the water level of the Little Arkansas River and also the Equus Beds, John called Groundwater Management District #2 and asked if there was concern regarding the water levels. Although one of the monitoring wells shows a decrease, the GMD is not concerned.
6. A proposed oil and gas lease from Harvey County has been received and has been forwarded to Counselor Greg Nye for examination.

7. Byron Warta asked the Commissioners to let him know if there is anything the Commission would like for him to discuss at the EDC meeting to be held later this week.
8. Sheriff T Walton was in Topeka Friday attending a meeting about children in poverty. He also reported that the jail population over the weekend was 130. Because of the public frustration with the new software for the Department of Motor Vehicles, Sheriff Walton has been spending more time checking on the situation at the Treasurer's Office.
9. Jim Meier, Road & Bridge Superintendent, reported that erosion problems at the bridge on West First between Old Settlers and Spring Lake Road have been corrected. The fence surrounding the County Shop has also been replaced. The Department is beginning another erosion repair project on SE 72nd Street and Halstead Road.
10. Anthony reported that Department Heads attended a Manatron demo last week. He also provided information in the Commissioner's packet listing the increase in the KPERS and KPF rates. He also reported that there is currently \$800,000 in LEPP money included in the state budget. The machinery and equipment exemption that was proposed was not included. The budget also includes significant changes in KPERS funding for both employers and employees.
11. Commissioner Westfall reported that there was a conference call between several state Treasurers last Thursday regarding the new MOVRS vehicle registration system. It was reported that there are 4,000 calls to the State from the Treasurer's seeking assistance that have gone unanswered. Commissioner Roberson asked to be kept informed if there are increasing security problems because of the new system.

Margaret Hermstein, Register of Deeds, presented the proposed 2013 budget. She reported a tremendous increase in persons coming in to do research on oil and gas leases because of the fracking movement. The budget includes an increase of \$400 for meeting expenses, \$425 for training expenses, and \$600 for office supplies. She reported that revenues from recording fees are significantly higher. With all the oil and gas researchers, it has been a great advantage to the office that all the records are on imaged files and are easily located and researched. Some discussion was held regarding the Technology Fund budget. The budget contains provisions to replace a computer server if necessary. The funds can be used for data processing, server upgrades, the county website, etc. The Commission will take the proposed budget under advisement.

CITIZEN'S FORUM:

Byron Warta stated that although the emergency vehicles could have been stored at the Newton City/County Airport, it is much more profitable to use the space there for airplane storage.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$88,630.67 and hand-written checks in the amount of \$78.63 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

Courtney Becker, Director of Communications, presented the proposed 2013 budget. The budget includes a capital outlay request of \$1,600 for office chairs and \$1,000 for a new shredder. There are no changes in personnel numbers. The training for the department has been revamped so that new employees train during the morning and then have a chance to work on the console in the afternoon. The supervisory program in the department is working very well. The budget also includes a capital outlay request of \$125,000 for the continued conversion to narrow banding. Combined fund includes an increase in the telephone fund and equipment maintenance fund. Machinery & Equipment capital outlay request of \$125,000 for continued narrow banding conversion. The Commission will take the proposed budget under advisement.

Roy Patton, Director of Solid Waste, presented the proposed 2013 budget. The final closure on the C&D landfill at the old location has begun and will hopefully be completed by the end of the year. Research and development continues with the ICM Company in an effort to implement a workable waste-to-energy program. The post closure costs budgeted for 2013 are approximately \$1,400 lower than what was budgeted for 2012. There are 21 monitoring wells in the post closure program. There will not be a need to budget for debt service for the landfill post closure and after 2013. The Municipal Solid Waste budget includes estimated revenue from small generator hazardous waste fees of \$5,590, up from \$350 in 2012. The budget also includes a capital outlay request for a JCB Backhoe in the amount of \$68,000. The debt service budget includes an increase of over \$5,000. Anthony reminded the Commission that the fund balance requirement is projected at \$92,393, and the 2013 request is \$99,644, and to keep this in perspective when this is discussed. The Commission will take the proposed budget under advisement.

The meeting was recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

Kass Miller, East Park Supervisor, presented the proposed 2013 budget for East Park. The Parks receive money from the Community Assistance Program to help promote fishing. The money cannot be used to pay for the stocking of fish, but it can be used for feeding them. The budget therefore includes a supplemental request form for fish stocking at \$3,850. Also included is a request for \$10,000 to develop a camping area at the head of the horse trail, and \$12,000 to install a coin-operated high pressure, high temperature, boat wash to try to stop the spread of Zebra Mussels. There is a capital outlay request of \$31,000 to purchase a new truck. The Capital Improvement Program for East Lake includes requests for play equipment in the amount of \$27,000 for budget years 2014 and 2015. Commissioner Westfall suggested that staff contact the Central Kansas Communities Foundation and set up a program where donations for the Parks could be received. The Commission will take the proposed budget under advisement.

Shannon Metz, West Park Supervisor, presented the proposed 2013 budget for West Park. It includes increases in electricity of approximately \$5,000, and a natural gas increase of over \$600. Equipment and vehicle maintenance also increased. The budget also includes the purchase of a

truck for \$31,000 and a request for a Kawasaki Mule for \$10,500. Shannon reported that revenues for building rental last year at the park were \$94,000 to \$96,000. The Commission will take the proposed budget under advisement.

Commissioner Roberson left the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Kass presented the proposed 2013 budget for Camp Hawk. The budget includes increases in utilities and fuel. Also included is a capital outlay request of \$1,500 to replace or repair picnic tables, and a request for the purchase of a Massey Ferguson tractor in the amount of \$23,000. There is a supplemental request in the amount of \$1,545 for fish stocking. He reported that Camp Hawk has seen an increase in revenues from building rental, but there is not a lot of camping. The Commissioners will take the proposed budget under advisement.

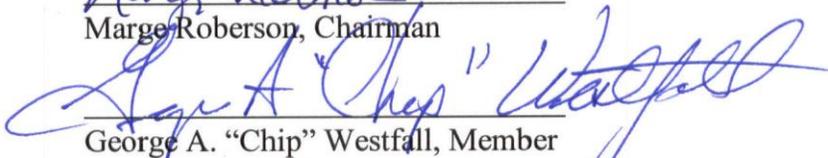
Craig Clough, Appraiser, presented the proposed 2013 budget. He reported that PC tablets that are connected live to the ORION system were purchased in 2011. This enables data collectors to record all data electronically. There are no personnel changes in the budget, but it contains a request of \$23,000 to purchase a vehicle. There is also a request for an increase of \$15,000 in appraisal costs and legal fees pending the protest of the valuation of Agco in Hesston. The Personal Property Division budget contains an increase of approximately \$1,900 and the Mapping Division operations budget is up about \$1,000.

Anthony Swartzendruber reported that the 2012 budget remains on target. He reminded the Commission that Department Heads were asked to keep their operations budget for 2013 flat.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

THE BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Marge Roberson, Chairman


George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member

ATTEST:


Joyce Truskett, County Clerk


Ron Krehbiel, Member

