

MINUTES

HARVEY COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION HARVEY COUNTY BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Harvey County Courthouse

Community Room

June 7, 2016 , 7 p.m.

Members present: Lynne Vigil, Philip Kimerer, Jack Bender, Carol Buller, Duane Miles, Mike Koehn, Pat Wendling and Trinity Muth. Gina Bell and Karen Jacobs

Guests: Wendy Mosiman

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chair Vigil.

- 1. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Kimerer, with a second by Miles. The motion passed unanimously.**
- 2. The motion to approve minutes was made by Miles and seconded by Buller. They were approved unanimously.**
- 3. The guest at the meeting did not wish to speak in public forum.**
4. No executive session was needed.
5. In the administrator update Bell reported that there were a number of challenges in the office at this time. Three of those challenges included building that had been done in the floodway. This is a very serious issue. Bell said one of those was located near Sedgwick and the other two near Halstead. Bell also addressed Bender's request to have an oath. She said she checked with other counties and only two other counties gave their planning commission oaths. She said there is not an oath for non-elected bodies and she did not feel that the oath for elected bodies was appropriate. Bell said she takes oaths very seriously and does not feel swearing to abide by the Kansas Constitution is fitting for the board since most of the board member had not read nor are familiar with what the constitution says. She said she is not comfortable having an oath and will not be giving one.

Bender wanted to state for the record that the reason he asked for the oath was when he joined the planning commission he was administered an oath of office by the previous director. Bell said she is not qualified to issue an oath. That she herself was not sworn in. Her position with the county is a hired position not elected. Bender said the second reason he asked for it was he received training on planning commissions from Wichita State University. During that course they were presented with a briefing and one of the slides said commissions must have an oath. He said this is why he brought up the oath.

6. The board discussed if a meeting in July is necessary. Because the meeting is on July 5, the day after the holiday, Chair Vigil will be unable to attend due to her city council meeting. Bell said she had no applications for July so it would be okay to cancel the July Meeting. The next meeting will be the August 9th meeting. (Moved to August 9 because of primary elections).
7. The board discussed the Bylaw changes. After discussion the board decided to divide the county into three divisions. This would equally distribute the nine member board across the county. As openings come available in each of the divisions, all efforts should be made to spread them out in that district to cover the area equally.

Minor changes were made to the bylaws, mainly punctuation and grammar corrections. Section 2a was added to the by laws which is a recommendation that new board members applications be presented to the board before being taken to the Harvey County Commission. The board would like to view the applications before the members are approved. Discussion about the applicants could be done in executive session to protect the privacy of that individual. Discussion whether reappointments should be decided by the board was also discussed but due to the personal nature it was decided that procedure should stay the same. If there are no openings for the board or director's screening has shown the applicant could be problem on the board, the director will talk to the chair and discuss whether that application should be presented to the board.

8. **Buller made motion to adjourn. Muth seconded. Vote was unanimous to adjourn.**