

**MINUTES OF**  
**BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**June 23, 2014**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in a special work session on June 23, 2014 with all three Commissioners present. Chairman Krehbiel called the session to order at 8:15 a.m.

Gina Bell, Director of Planning and Zoning, presented information on a special use permit application from Espiridion Guevara and Adela Gutierrez to operate a horse racing track on property located in the A-1 Agricultural zoning district. Gina presented several pictures of the track, which has been in existence for some time, without a permit. Discussion was held about conditions at the track, safety issues, sanitation problems, lack of water at the track, and liability issues. Gina reviewed the minutes of the June 3 Regional Planning Commission where the Commission voted to approve the permit on a vote of seven ayes and one nay. The approval was made with a list of several conditions that need to be met by the owners. This item will come before the Board of Commissioners for approval on June 30. Commissioner Westfall suggested that notice be sent to everyone that lives within two miles of the location. Commissioner Hague also requested a record of ambulance calls received from the track in the last several years. There was also concern expressed about food vendors being there with no running water.

Chairman Krehbiel called the regular Board of Harvey County Commissioners meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. All three Commissioners were present.

**ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:**

1. Commissioner Westfall received a call about drainage problems caused by Cottonwood trees at Centennial Park that have grown and blocked the flow of water. This causes water to back up and stand in one of the ball fields there. He was unable to find the area where the problem is but he will attempt to find it again.
2. Commissioner Westfall reported that the Duane Goossen presentation at the Chamber breakfast last Friday was excellent.
3. Counselor Greg Nye requested that a brief executive session be held just before the lunch break.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. There will be a joint City/County Commission meeting held on June 26 in the Courthouse Community Room at 7:00 p.m.
2. The canvass for the USD #460 special mail ballot election will be held at 8:30 a.m. prior to the regular commission meeting.
3. The Commissioners will leave at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 25, to attend the Highway 50 meeting in Cottonwood Falls at the Grand Central Hotel.
4. The County Fair will be held August 1 through the 5<sup>th</sup>.
5. The next LEPC meeting will be held on August 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes of the June 16, 2014 Commission meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously. Chairman Krehbiel stated that although the minutes record the actual discussion held regarding the Little Arkansas River Drainage District, the discussion was based on incorrect information. The clearance of debris from the north side of the bridge on NW 36<sup>th</sup> Street near Harvey County West Park is the responsibility of the county, not the Little Arkansas River Drainage District.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. John Waltner, Administrator, reported that as of June 18, Kim Rowley has resigned as the Director of the Parks Department, citing personal reasons. John and Anthony Swartzendruber met with the Parks staff to make sure that all employees are aware of how the Parks will continue to operate and the continuity of policies.
2. The Commissioners received a copy of a letter from the Kansas Development Finance Authority regarding Project Number 000873 of the Beginning Farmer Program. As a part of this program, the KDFFA will finance a farming operation for Mark and Kristine Klaassen. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to authorize staff to send a letter to the KDFFA in approval of this project's financing to the Klaassens.
3. John reported that there will be an invoice for Harvey County's SCKEDD fee included in this week's warrant checks. The amount of the fee is \$5,896.28.
4. Heidi Huber, Solid Waste Clerk, presented **Resolution No. 2014-17**, setting a service fee for solid waste facilities, assessing the fee on real property owners, and setting the manner of collection of the solid waste fee. The base fee is \$36.00 per residence and \$39.00 for business facilities. Businesses who generate in excess of 3 tons of solid waste shall be charged \$39.00 for the first 3 tons and an additional \$39.00 for every additional 1.2 tons. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to approve the resolution as presented and Commissioner Hague seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
5. Lynnette Redington, Director of the Health Department, and Patrick Mwangi, Executive Assistant, presented the 2015 WIC Local Agency Budget to be submitted to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. The budget request is for \$163,830.69. Commissioner Hague made a motion to submit the 2015 WIC Local Agency Budget request to KDHE and authorize Lynnette and the WIC Coordinator to sign. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
6. Lynnette and Patrick also presented the WIC Local Agency Breast Feeding Peer Counselor Budget. This budget request is for a total of \$7,995. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to submit the 2015 BFPC budget to the KDHE and authorize the appropriate personnel to sign. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
7. Lynnette addressed the Commissioners as the County Board of Health and reported that the remodel at the South Pine Street location for the collaboration of the Health Department, Prairie View, and Health Ministries continues to progress. She informed the Commissioners that there will also be a private pharmacy located in the facility.
8. The Commissioners received a copy of a letter from the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation announcing the award of a 2014 Emergency Solutions Grant. The sub-recipient is the Harvey County Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Task Force. The

- total grant award is \$45,189.00. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to approve the contractual provisions attachment of the award and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
9. Sheriff T. Walton presented a contract between the Board of County Commissioners of Reno County and the Board of County Commissioners of Harvey County to house juvenile detainees in Reno County. Juvenile detainees are no longer under the Juvenile Justice Authority, but are under the Kansas Department of Corrections, Juvenile Services Division. There is also an increase in the compensation for housing. The amount will be \$150.00 per day beginning January 1, 2015. Expenses for medical, mental health, dental services, and medication will be reported to Harvey County when it exceeds \$500. Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve the contract and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
  10. Sheriff Walton gave the Commissioners a copy of the sign that will be posted in the Courthouse to prohibit open carry of weapons.
  11. Kass Miller reported that the Parks had a very busy weekend and most of the new signs for East Park have been installed.
  12. Byron Warta reported that the base work for the construction of the ABI facility at the Newton City/County Airport has been completed. Work continues on the skin for the new hangar. He also reported that there continues to be 24 counties listed in a drought area in the State of Kansas. He reported that the EDC report for January through May indicates an increase in excess of two million for residential construction and an increase of seventeen million in industrial rehab. He also gave an EDC prospect report.
  13. Anthony reported that the bond from 360 Energy Engineers has not yet been received so the work on the courthouse will not begin until that is received.
  14. Jim Meier, Road and Bridge Superintendent, informed the Commissioners that there is a bridge culvert on South West Road that needs to be replaced. This 24 foot long structure, #18-F.4, is one of three fracture-critical structures in the County. It is located .4 miles north of SW 48<sup>th</sup> Street. The three viable replacement options include a cast in-place box at a cost of \$49,280, a precast sectional box, and an aluminized corrugated metal box at a cost of \$47,793. Jim explained the procedures for the installation of each type and the pros and cons of each. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to install an aluminized corrugated metal box at a cost of \$47,793. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

#### **CITIZENS FORUM:**

Bill Toews presented the Commissioners with a letter signed by all of the officers of Alta Township, stating that they are in agreement to waive the \$2,000 Road Impact Fee for Mr. Toews to build a residence on an existing driveway following the split of an existing residential parcel. John had a conversation with one of the township officers last week who said that the impact on the road would be minimal, if any. The wear and tear on the drive is not a concern of the township or the county. Mr. Toews followed the direction of the Commissioners last week and received approval from the township board. Commissioner Westfall stated that he

doesn't like waiving this fee and requested that Mr. Toews agree to pay for damages if something does happen to the road. Following the agreement of Mr. Toews to pay for any such damages, Commissioner Westfall made a motion to waive the road impact fee and place the letter from the township on file. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Commissioner Hague said that anyone who requests a waiver of the fee in the future must agree to pay for any damages to the road.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$144,667.24 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

Joyce Stockham, Executive Director of Midcap, and Lindsey Stansbury presented the 2015 proposed low income assistance budget appropriation for the Mid-Kansas Community Action Program. There are 19 counties that participate in the program which provides financial, rent, and other assistance for clients. Thirty clients were served in the past year. Ms. Stockham and Ms. Stansbury explained how clients are eligible for funds and how the assistance works. The amount of the request for appropriation from the County is \$5,000, which is the same amount appropriated last year. Ms. Stockham expressed appreciation for the funding that has been provided by the County.

Jessie Kaye, Director of Prairie View, Pam Burns, Vice-President for outpatient services, and Susan Clock, Advisory Committee Member. Jessie expressed appreciation for the attendance of the appointed Commissioner to the Advisory Council meetings. Jessie explained the importance of the availability of treatment for mental illness, which directly affects physical illnesses. She also explained the impact of untreated mental illness and substance abuse on the community. The requested appropriation for mental health is \$128,000 which is the same amount appropriated in 2014.

Elizabeth Schmidt, Executive Director of the Harvey/Marion County CDDO, and Marge Roberson, Board Member, presented the proposed 2015 appropriation for the Community Developmental Disability Organization. There are 237 people from Harvey and Marion County who are either receiving, or have applied for services through the CDDO, which is a record number. Discussion was held regarding the changes in state assistance and the proposed consolidation of 27 county-appointed CDDO organizations into 11 existing Aging and Disability Resource Centers. If this happens, Marion County would consolidate in Manhattan, and Harvey County would consolidate in Wichita. The appropriation request for 2015 is \$102,500 which is the same amount requested in 2014.

Kevin Stubbs, Director of the Caring Hands Humane Society, presented the proposed 2015 requested appropriation for the Society. The amount requested is \$8,605 which is the same amount appropriated for 2014. Discussion was held regarding the large number of cats that come into the shelter on a monthly basis. The shelter takes as many as 150 cats per month.

At 11:45 a.m. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss attorney client privilege. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also in attendance for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Counselor Greg Nye, Joyce Truskett, and Sheriff T. Walton. Sheriff Walton left the session at 11:52 a.m. Executive session ended at 11:55 a.m. with no action taken.

The meeting was recessed at 11:55 a.m. to attend the Harvey County Historical Society luncheon and budget proposal. The appropriation requested is \$55,000, which represents an increase of 2.8% from 2014.

The meeting was reconvened at 1:25 p.m. Scott Eckert, Rick Schlender, Ryan Flaming, Susan Jackson, and Deb Smalley attended the meeting for the approval of the Extension Council proposed 2015 budget. The budget, as presented, represents a 6.8% increase, including \$5,000 for a future vehicle purchase, and \$1,200 to cover an increase in insurance. Following the review of the budget, Commissioner Hague requested that the budget be cut by 5%. Commissioner Westfall suggested that the \$5,000 that was appropriated for a future vehicle purchase be removed from the amount requested. Commissioner Hague suggested that an additional \$2,000 be cut from the travel budget. Following additional discussion, Commissioner Westfall made a motion to approve the budget after the removal of \$5,000 from the capital improvement fund for the vehicle purchase and the removal of \$1,500 from the travel fund. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Commissioner Westfall requested that the Extension Council put together a capital improvement plan and line-item budget next year to be consistent with the other county departments.

Kass Miller, presented the proposed 2015 Parks budget. He called attention to the new mission statement and reviewed the accomplishments and for both 2013 and 2014 and goals for 2015. Budget line items were reviewed and discussed. Because mowing at the Parks was subcontracted in 2014, the budget reflects a decrease in mower and tractor maintenance. Capital Improvement requests include \$40,000 for the purchase of a tractor, \$1,000 for the purchase of a computer, \$10,000 for the development of a camping area near the horse trail at East Park, and \$24,000 to install a new shower house/storm shelter at West Park.

Don Gruver, Director of the 911 Communications Department, introduced Molly Redinger as the new Assistant Director of the Communications Department. Don presented the proposed 2015 budget for the Department. He reviewed the 2013 and 2014 accomplishments and the 2014 and 2015 goals and objectives. The primary focus in 2015 will be the construction of the 800 MHz radio network. A technician to support the upkeep of the network and the radios will also be needed. Capital improvement items listed include \$6,500 for the purchase of a copier, \$1,000 for the purchase of a treadmill that attaches to one of the dispatch consoles, and \$14,750 for data processing equipment. Supplemental requests include \$2,700 in increased electricity for additional power requirements, \$59,115 to hire a radio technician, and \$4,000 to purchase and pay for fuel for a used pickup from Emergency Management. The major expenditure for the Department will be the development of the 800 MHz radio upgrade which will require \$3,725,000 to be bonded.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05p.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Ron Krehbiel*

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Ron Krehbiel, Chairperson

*Randy Hague*

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Randy Hague, Member

ATTEST:

*Joyce Truskett*

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Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

*George A. "Chip" Westfall*

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George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member

