

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

**March 24, 2014**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on March 24, 2014 with all three Commissioners present. Chairman Krehbiel called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:**

1. Commissioner Westfall reported that there is a sign that needs to be replaced on South Hillside for southbound traffic just north of SE 24<sup>th</sup>. The sign is very rusted and hard to read. Since this is on a township road, the Road and Bridge Department will contact the township and direct them to replace the sign.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. The Harvey County Home and Garden Show will be held on April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at the National Guard Armory.
2. An LEPC meeting will be held on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m.

Minutes of the March 17, 2014 Commission meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. John Waltner reported on the status of the purchase of the used Grinder from a company in North Carolina. Several modifications have been made to the sale agreement in arrangement of the transportation of the grinder, the wire transfer, and other issues. A representative from Caterpillar will be on site to make sure the grinder is properly hooked up for travel. Once that is completed, the funds will be wired to the seller, and the driver will then begin the trip to Kansas. Once it reaches the Harvey County Transfer Station, the machine will be tested to make sure it functions properly following the transport. The seller has guaranteed that it will be in operating condition when it arrives.
2. The Commissioners discussed a new process for a cement prepared base for roads and parking lots. Andover Concrete has been testing this type of base on a two-mile stretch of road in Sedgwick County and they are planning to extend it to seven miles. The new process costs one-third of what a regular road base costs.
3. The Commissioners received a copy of an e-mail from Karen Smith, Account Manager at Westar Energy. The e-mail is a follow up on the recent power outage that resulted in a several hour work loss in the courthouse. The outage was caused by an equipment failure in an underground feed. Westar is not able to repair the equipment at this time and has suggested that best option for the county is to purchase a stand-by generator. The Westar Green Team will be working with Parks Department staff to trench an area there for the installation of an additional water line.
4. The final reading was heard for the appointments of Libby Albers and Carolyn Schwab to the Parks Advisory Board. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to

- approve the appointments and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
5. The Commissioners received a letter from Janet Cagle, Director of Harvey/McPherson Counties Community Corrections, recommending the appointment of Jennifer Foster, as the 9<sup>th</sup> District Court Administrator to the Advisory Board for the remaining term of Chad Childs, which will end in November of 2014. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to approve the appointment and waive the week waiting period. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
  6. The Commissioners received a recommendation to re-appoint Jack Bender III to the Harvey County Planning Commission. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to waive the week waiting period and re-appoint Mr. Bender to the Planning Commission. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
  7. John presented **Resolution No. 2014-11**, changing the composition of the Fire District No. 1 Board of Trustees and staggering the terms of the trustees to allow for greater continuity of the board. The terms of the trustees shall be three years with the exception of the Fire Chief and the Walton Mayor. Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve the resolution and Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Fire Board members Merlyn Johnson, Evan Johnson, and Dean Davis attended the meeting.
  8. Anthony Swartzendruber gave a report on sales tax collections for the month of January. The report indicates an increase of 3.39% as compared to the same period in 2013.
  9. Anthony informed the Commissioners that representatives from 360 Energy engineers will give an update on the progress of the courthouse energy upgrade project at next week's Commission meeting. The contractors for the project will do a walk-through of the building on March 27.
  10. Roy Patton, Director of Solid Waste, reported that the grinder should be here by Friday. It will be tested when it arrives to make sure it functions properly.
  11. Gina Bell, Director of Planning, Zoning, and Environmental, reported that the secretary for the department has resigned, but the position has been offered to someone else. She also reported that there will be a special Planning Commission meeting held on Tuesday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the horse racing operation south of Halstead. The meeting has been advertised in the local newspaper. The final set of flood maps has been received and will go into effect on August 4, 2014.
  12. Sheriff T. Walton reported that one of the federal prisoners being housed at the Detention Center gave birth last week. She was taken to the hospital and security was provided for the duration of her stay. Arrangements were made for the baby and she has now returned to the Detention Center.
  13. Carol Dilts, Park Ranger, gave the Commissioners a report on the Scout Jamboree held at West Park. The official count was 5,700 who were registered and an additional 4,000 walk-ins. There was an issue where 2 young boys who were not with the scouts were missing for a time. Because of these types of issues, the scouts have requested that the park be closed to the general public next year during the

- Scout Jamboree weekend. The Commissioners requested that the scouts put together a plan for how they would handle the details of the event if the park were closed.
14. Byron Warta gave a report on the progress of the hangar construction at the airport and presented a Harvey County Economic Development Council prospect report for the period of February 19 to March 18, 2014. He gave preliminary information on eleven companies that the EDC has been working with during this time frame.

**CITIZENS FORUM:**

There were no citizens present for Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$84,721.58 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

Lynnette Redington, Health Department Director, introduced Tobias Harkins, who is the new Director of Nursing at the Health Department. Mr. Harkins has an extensive background working as the Health Services Administrator for correctional institutions, working in mental health services, working with mentally challenged adults and occupational therapy, and working with at-risk and troubled youth. Lynnette presented a request that the Commission, as the Harvey County Board of Health, commit \$9,500 in an in-kind match toward the Healthy Harvey Coalition's implementation grant of Year 1 of a 3 year grant. The in-kind match includes \$4,082 in office space, \$360 in computer support and internet, and \$5,058 in salary, benefits, and taxes for the Director. The Health Department also received \$3,000 from the Central Kansas Community Foundation toward the grant. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to approve the in-kind grant match proposal and authorize the chairman to sign. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Lynnette also reported that she had a meeting with Jessie Kaye and Matt Schmidt and they have set a tentative date of mid-July as the target date for all the entities to move into the remodeled building on South Pine Street.

Gina Bell, Director of Planning, Zoning, and Environmental, presented a request for a conditional use permit from the Watchous Development Company/K. Robert Watchous to operate an oil business office and warehouse on property located in the A-1 agricultural zoning district. An original permit was granted in 1985 for an agricultural building with an office. The Company is requesting the permit to build an addition to the building that would approximately double the size of it. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to accept the unanimous recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Commission and approve the conditional use permit. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

At 10:20 a.m. Kim Rowley, Director of Parks, opened bids for fish stocking for East Lake and West Park. There will be two stockings, one on approximately 5/23/14 and one on approximately 7/2/14. Each stocking will include 1,623 pounds of channel catfish at East Park and 975 pounds of Channel Catfish at West Park. Two bids were received as follows:

Wallace Fish Farm, Allen, Kansas	\$7,144.50 per date	\$14,289.00 Total
Harbin Fish Farm, Anthony, Kansas	5,663.64 per date	11,327.28 Total

Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve the low bid from Harbin Fish Farm in the amount of \$11,327.28. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Kim reported that bids for mowing the parks were submitted by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, March 17. Four bids were received as follows:

	<u>West</u>	<u>East</u>	<u>Hawk</u>
Get R Done Mowing	\$3,500	\$8,250	\$2,000
Thach Lawn Care	1,000		
Mike's Lawn Service	1,950	4,125	690
Unruh Mowing	750	1,700	350

Kim met with Steve Unruh of Unruh Mowing and he explained that it is a family business with the mowing being done by family members who are in high school and college. There is very little overhead in the business. They plan to do the mowing with four mowers at a time in each park. Steve Unruh's father will be the crew manager. Mowing will take place Monday through Friday, with no weekends or holidays. There would be approximately 13 mowing cycles for an estimated total cost of \$36,400. Discussion was held comparing contract mowing versus hiring staff and using existing equipment and staff to mow. The contract was also discussed with regards to work comp, attire of mower operators, and the right to cancel the contract if the work is not satisfactory. Make sure that work comp is included. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to accept the low bid from Unruh Mowing to mow the parks for the listed prices. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

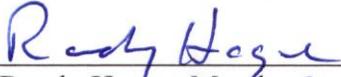
At 10:48 a.m. Commissioner Hague made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 12 minutes to discuss personnel issues. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Courtney Becker, Joyce Truskett, and Counselor Greg Nye. Executive session ended at 11:00 a.m. with no action being taken.

Marianne Eichelberger, Director of the Newton Public Library, gave a 2013 year-end review of the Newton Public Library. She focused especially on the ENLITE program which is funded by the County with monies from the senior mill levy. There are two aides who work with this program providing large print books to seniors in care homes who are 60 years of age or older. The aides worked a combined 11 hours per week and arranged for the delivery of approximately 9,000 items in 2013. The program received \$15,532 in senior mill levy funds which included \$4,967.05 in wages for the aides and \$10,564.95 for the purchase of large print books. Marianne clarified that Library staff are not considered employees of the City of Newton; however they receive health insurance benefits as an outside entity of the City. She expressed appreciation for the funding the library has received from the County. They are researching grants in attempt to get additional funding for the library.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

  
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Ron Krehbiel, Chairperson

  
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Randy Hague, Member

ATTEST:

  
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Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

  
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George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member

