

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

**May 12, 2014**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on May 12, 2014 with all three Commissioners present. Chairman Krehbiel called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:**

1. Commissioner Hague reported that there was a lot of good information presented at the KCCA meeting last week. Commissioner Westfall said that the presentation by Duane Goossen on the state budget, the state funding system, and school funding was very good.
2. Commissioner Westfall was in Walton last week and spoke with Barry Wentz, the new Walton Mayor. He is anxious for Walton to get active with the Council of Governments and the EDC. He spoke very positively about the Road & Bridge Department. Jim Meier, Road and Bridge Superintendent, reported that Mr. Wentz bought lunch for the Road and Bridge crew that was working in Walton last week.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. The Council of Governments meeting scheduled for May 14 has been rescheduled to Thursday, May 22 at the Sedgwick Senior Center at 6:00 p.m.
2. Commissioner Westfall will attend a REAP Legislative meeting in Wichita on June 4 at 12:00 p.m.
3. The Groundbreaking for ABI will be held at the Newton City/County Airport on Thursday, May 15 at 3:30 p.m.
4. A NIMS Training will be held on May 21 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the Training Room at the Law Enforcement Center.

Minutes of the May 5, 2014 Commission meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. John Waltner reported that the Chamber of Commerce cookout held last Friday night at the Armory was very good.
2. John reported that Governor Brownback and other dignitaries will attend the groundbreaking for ABI on Thursday, May 15. The development agreement was approved by the Newton City Commission last Friday. The bonds will be issued by the City and will then contract with the EDC to lease the building to ABI. The EDC will hold a special meeting today to approve the contract.
3. John, Jeremy Hill, Keith Lawing, and Bernie Koch will be the featured speakers at the Council of Government meeting held on May 22. They will discuss economic development and the importance of the Council of Governments and collaboration. John will give an update on regionalism.
4. John reiterated that the KCCA meeting was very positive. Following the presentation there by Duane Goosen, John called him and invited him to come to

Harvey County and make the presentation here. He has agreed and is now planning to make the presentation at a Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting, hopefully in July, and again at Bethel College in the fall. This will include not only Bethel College students, but Hutchinson Community College students and some high school students.

5. The GVL Poly open house will be held this Friday, May 16, in Hesston from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. John Carder, former Hesston City Manager, is now the plant manager for GVL. There will be a ribbon cutting at 5:30.
6. Lynnette Redington, Director of the Health Department, addressed the Commission as the County Board of Health and reported that the Kansas Health Foundation has awarded two grants to Harvey County. One is a three-year Healthy Communities Initiative Grant in the amount of \$25,000 for each of three years. This will be used in conjunction with the Healthy Harvey Coalition to create policy change in Newton and North Newton as a Master Bike Plan is created. The second grant awarded is a two-year Healthy Living Grant in the amount of \$58,900 for healthier school concessions. In the first year of this grant, healthy food options will be offered at school sponsored concessions, with signage and calorie counts added to menu boards. In the second year of the grant, the project will be replicated at another school district in Harvey County.
7. Lynnette also reported that state law requires health departments to perform school inspections. Because Harvey County does not have staff to perform these inspections, she has talked with Reno County about contracting with their sanitarian to perform inspections for the 19 public and private schools in Harvey County for the 2014-2015 school year.
8. Lynnette provided information to the Commissioners about Kansas Health Homes. This is a Medicaid program funded with federal funds, administered by the state. The four goals of Kansas for this program are as follows:
  - To reduce utilization associated with avoidable (preventable) inpatient stays
  - Improve management of chronic conditions
  - Improve care coordination
  - Improve transitions of care between primary care providers and inpatient facilities

The Health Department will serve as a subcontractor for health promotion and possible care coordination services. The program begins in July of this year.

9. Lynnette reported that the Family Planning Program will close at 5:00 p.m. on June 27. Notices have been sent to clients and have been posted per grant requirements. She said the move to the Pine Street location is still estimated to occur in mid-July. The Health Department will be located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the building. She said that the department will be going out into the community more, checking immunizations at day care centers, etc.
10. There will be a memorial at the monument at the Law Enforcement Center at 11:45 a.m. today in honor of National Police Week. A noon lunch will be provided in the LEC Training Room.

11. Sheriff T. Walton reported that there was a suicide in Harvey County last week. The Sheriff's Office Suicide Intervention Team was at the scene to provide resources for remaining family. He also reported that the VFW provided a dinner last Saturday for 911 first responders. There have been two burn permit violations that have been filed with the County Attorney for prosecution. There is a \$500 fine for each violation.
12. Jim Meier reported that the Road and Bridge crew has made good progress on the patching on East First Street and they should be able to finish by the end of the week. John said the City of Newton had requested that First Street be opened for the groundbreaking scheduled at the Airport at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday. Jim will make sure that the road is opened before 3:00 p.m. Jim also reported that a pre-construction meeting will be held with Dustrol on May 30.
13. Jim presented an agreement with BNSF for a crossing improvement on South Essex Heights Road one mile east of Halstead. Gates and lights will be placed at the crossing. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to approve project No. 40X-285601 to place gates and lights at the crossing on South Essex Heights Road, and authorize the chairman to sign. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
14. Byron said steel workers were working early this morning on the new hangar at the airport. Work is scheduled to be completed by June 15, 2014. He will attend a Kansas Water Authority Meeting in Garden City next Wednesday and Thursday.
15. Kim Rowley, Director of Parks, reported that she and Carol Dilts, West Park employee, traveled to Channel 12 in Wichita last Friday to promote the nature programs that will be held at the Parks this summer. Carol took her owl for the segment. The first program was held at East Park last Saturday and there were more than 30 people that attended. The same program will be presented at West Park during the Memorial Day weekend. The waterline project at West Park will begin this coming Thursday and will continue through Friday.
16. Anthony Swartzendruber reminded the Commissioners that budget presentations will begin on May 27 and continue through June 23. He will begin on the 27<sup>th</sup> by presenting an overview of the process and then the Sheriff's budget and four others will be presented.

**CITIZENS FORUM:**

Allen Short attended the meeting to observe. He was invited to attend the presentation that will be made this summer by Duane Goossen.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$168,412.68 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

The Commission took a 12 minute break and reconvened at 10:15 a.m.

Jaci Reimer, EDC Representative, presented an interlocal agreement for a proposed funding plan for the Harvey County EDC for budget years 2015-2017. Allen Schrag and Ray Penner, EDC Board Members also attended. The EDC Board is presenting the interlocal funding agreement to all parties involved including the Board of Harvey County Commissioners, and the cities of Burrton,

Halstead, Hesston, Newton, North Newton, Sedgwick, and Walton. The proposal requests base funding from each entity as follows:

Harvey County	\$115,000.00
City of Burrton	7,000.00
City of Halstead	18,000.00
City of Hesston	36,000.00
City of Newton	133,000.00
City of North Newton	10,000.00
City of Sedgwick	12,000.00
City of Walton	1,500.00

In addition to base funding, the EDC would receive 3% of the additional 1% county-wide sales tax distributions to each entity. This could mean a 5% increase for county funding over the next three years. Commissioner Hague expressed concern about this increase. Jaci explained that this proposal is a step towards becoming a unified group in Harvey County working together for the benefit of all. The additional funding would enable the EDC to hire an additional person to aggressively recruit business to this area. Commissioner Westfall stated that he liked the proposal because it locks down funding issues for three years. He recognized that the increase is difficult because it is a change, but he feels that this is a step in the right direction. Allen Schrag stated how important it is for the EDC to have someone to make cold calls, citing the success of landing ABI, which was the result of a cold call by Mickey Fornaro-Dean, Director of the EDC. Anthony said the change will simplify the budgeting process for EDC. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to approve and enter into the interlocal agreement to fund the EDC program for the years of 2015, 2016, and 2017. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. John said that a great deal of the credit for this proposal goes to Jaci in trying to bring some clarity and reason to the funding for the EDC.

At 10:49 a.m. Commissioner Hague made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 40 minutes to discuss personnel matters and attorney client privilege. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Linda Kientz, Fire Chief Mark Willis, Sheriff T. Walton, Joyce Truskett, and Counselor Greg Nye. Executive session ended at 11:30 a.m. with no action being taken. Attorney/client privilege was not discussed during the session.

At 11:30 a.m. Commissioner Hague made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss attorney/client privilege. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also in attendance for the Session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Joyce Truskett, and Counselor Greg Nye. Executive session ended at 11:40 with no action being taken.

Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve a contract for the purchase of 31.239 acres of land, at a cost of \$235,224, for the purpose of extending the flight path for the Newton City/County Airport. This is subject to the additional approval of the Newton City Commission. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

*Ron Krehbiel*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Krehbiel, Chairperson

*Randy Hague*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Hague, Member

ATTEST:

*Joyce Truskett*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

*George A. "Chip" Westfall*

\_\_\_\_\_  
George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member

