

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
JOINT CITY/COUNTY MEETING

November 10, 2014

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners and Newton City Commissioners met in special session on November 10, 2014 to discuss the findings of the SWOT analysis of the Kansas Logistics Park. County Commission Chairman Ron Krehbiel and Newton City Mayor Leroy Koehn called the meeting to order at 12:20 p.m. in the meeting room of Meridian Center. County Commissioners Krehbiel, Westfall, and Hague were in attendance and City Commissioners Koehn, Thiessen, Davis, Smyth, and Nickel were also in attendance.

John Waltner, Kansas Logistics Park Development Authority Chairman, introduced Mickey Fornaro-Dean, Director of Harvey County EDC, and Troy Carlson, Consultant with Initiatives Inc, to present the results of a regional study to determine the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of the Kansas Logistics Park.

Troy Carlson stated that the purpose of the study was to gather regional private sector input on the KLP and this was done by interviewing 26 people representing 14 companies in this region. Those companies included Kroger, Cargill, Spirit, Red Guard, WB Enterprises, Legg Company, and others. Some of the strengths identified were as follows:

- There is a market demand for the KLP
- It has a strategic location with one-day access to major markets
- It has the necessary rail and highway assets
- It is well positioned to address the looming truck crisis
- The Newell Travel Center is located here which maximizes haul distance in one day
- The KLP's proximity to Wichita is an asset and Wichita is not a competitor

The major weakness identified at the KLP is that it lacks a laydown/staging site and a warehouse facility with a common dock.

In moving forward with the development of the KLP, it was suggested that a warehouse with a common dock be established and find a professional third party to operate it. A trucking firm that would be willing to service it would also need to be identified. A laydown site for container consolidation and staging would also need to be developed.

Discussion ensued.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Ron Krehbiel, Chairperson



Randy Hague, Member

ATTEST:



Joyce Truskett, County Clerk



George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member

