

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

**February 9, 2015**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on February 9, 2015 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Hague called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:**

1. Commissioner Krehbiel attended the Little Arkansas Watershed meeting last Thursday.
2. Commissioner Krehbiel received a letter from Janet Cagle, Community Corrections, informing him that her staff is being reduced by two ISO's.
3. The Commissioners discussed the decision by Sedgwick County to withdraw from REAP. Commissioner Westfall stated that the member fees for Sedgwick County are paid and a refund likely will not be issued by REAP.
4. Commissioner Hague stated that he and Commissioner Westfall along with John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber and Rick Piepho attended the KAC legislative reception last week in Topeka. Commissioner Hague expressed concerns about the 2016 State budget and the cuts that will be required.
5. Commissioner Westfall reported that he was informed during the REAP legislative update call last week that the Republican Party is split into at least 3 factions in the Kansas Legislature.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. Commissioner Westfall is scheduled to attend the Aviation Commission meeting on Feb. 23.
2. The tour of the KCLP will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>.
3. The County Commission meeting next week will be on Tuesday, Feb 17<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes of the February 2, 2015 Commission regular meeting were approved with two corrections upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. John Waltner, Administrator, reported that one of the topics to be discussed at the Farm Bureau breakfast on Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the EPA water plan report.
2. John stated that a vacancy still exists on the EDC board for a Harvey County representative. Commissioner Westfall thought it would be best to have a representative on the board from the eastern part of the county. He stated that Melinda Budde would be willing to serve. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to appoint Melinda Budde, as a Harvey County representative on the EDC Board. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
3. John distributed copies of the proposed new county logo with the revisions requested. The Commissioners agreed that they liked option 2 the best, but would like to see more options for the colors of the logo.

4. Sheriff T. Walton reported that the energy upgrades in the detention center are mostly completed and functioning properly after some issues were resolved with the plumbing fixtures and the HVAC system.
5. Sheriff Walton stated that he has requested more notice from the courts for prisoner transports. He also reported that his department assisted Butler County and the Secret Service in capturing a suspect.
6. Rick Piepho, County Clerk, reported that the ballots for the USD 460 LOB election were mailed last week.
7. Anthony Swartzendruber updated the commission on the status of the courthouse construction. The window frames have been installed on the west side of the courthouse and work has begun on the HVAC systems on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

#### **CITIZENS FORUM:**

Danny Andrew, 4605 S. Ridge Rd. expressed concerns about the condition of the roads and ditches on SW 36<sup>th</sup> St. and SW 48<sup>th</sup> St. west of Ridge Rd. He said that the condition of SW 36<sup>th</sup> St. from Ridge Rd into Halstead is very bad and that the ditches on SW 48<sup>th</sup> St. west of Ridge Rd. need to be deeper to allow better runoff. The commissioners informed him that those roads are maintained by the townships and that he should contact them, but they would also mention the situation to the appropriate township officers.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$488,917.94 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

Jim Meier, Road & Bridge Superintendent, and MKEC representatives Keith Ayotte and Steve Franks presented proposed advertisement for bid forms for two different projects. The two projects are part of the 2015 Contracted Pavement Improvement Plan. The first project is for 19.50 miles of Hot-in-Place Recycle (HIPR) with mastic seal on sections of four different roads. The second project is for 1.53 miles of Hot Mix Asphalt (1.5" overlay) on SW 14<sup>th</sup> St. The bids include alternate pricing for projects in the City of Sedgwick to be paid for by the City of Sedgwick. The bids will be due March 6. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to authorize the two Advertisement for Bid forms to be sent including the alternate pricing for the City of Sedgwick projects. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

MKEC representatives Keith Ayotte and Steve Franks presented the findings of the preliminary drainage review for the S. Prairie Lake Rd. channel crossing in Lake Township near sections 33 & 34. They reported that a culvert is silted in and the road is impassable after a rain, but that it would be very costly and difficult to build a structure large enough to eliminate the problem. The commissioners agreed that the report should be presented to the Lake Township officers.

Westar Energy representatives Karen Smith and Mike Schlicher presented proposed solutions to prevent power outages in the courthouse area like the one that occurred on Feb. 5. This is the third such outage in about 18 months, each lasting about 5 hours. They explained that condensation has been occurring in the splice for the connection to the Library which caused the complete circuit to trip, leaving the Library, 1<sup>st</sup> Bank, the Law Enforcement Center and the Courthouse without power. The splice is currently an underground connection requiring a crew from Wichita to do the repairs. They proposed replacing the line to the Library and moving the splice to the nearby above ground box. This

would require a scheduled outage of approximately 8 hours during the night or on a weekend when it is the most convenient. Anthony expressed concerns that the 911 communications center in the Law Enforcement Center is a 24/7 operation and even though they have backup power they would be without heat or cooling during the outage. Karen stated that reliability is paramount to the Westar Energy desire to provide excellent service and that their engineers are working on a longer term solution.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



ATTEST:

*Rick Piepho*  
Rick Piepho, County Clerk

*Randy Hague*  
Randy Hague, Chairperson

*Ron Krohbiel*  
Ron Krohbiel, Member

*George A. "Chip" Westfall*  
George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member