

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

**February 23, 2015**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on February 23, 2015 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Hague called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

At 8:35 a.m. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 25 minutes to discuss attorney/client privilege. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Counselor Greg Nye and Rick Piepho. Executive session ended at 9:00 a.m. with no action being taken.

**ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:**

There were no items added to the agenda.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. Commissioner Westfall is scheduled to attend a REAP legislative committee meeting on Thursday, Feb. 26 at 11:30 a.m. in Wichita.

Minutes of the February 17, 2015 Commission regular meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. John Waltner, Administrator, stated that HPB (Hayden Tower) has submitted two lease agreements for the 800 Mhz tower sites. The lease agreements still need to be reviewed by counsel. Counselor Greg Nye will review the agreements and propose corrections as needed.
2. John reminded the commissioners about the Air Quality Leadership Summit on March 5 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Botanica in Wichita.
3. Lynnette Redington, Director of the Health Department, reported that the Health Department received a \$10,000 grant from the CDC through KDHE to research and select software for an electronic health records system. This is in addition to the \$50,000 in the CIP budget for this year to purchase and implement an electronic health record system for the Health Department.
4. Becky Fields, Treasurer, presented a memo from the KS Division of Vehicles notifying counties that they will be sending renewal postcards instead of letters. Becky is concerned that there may not be enough information on the postcards to process renewals in-person. The postcard encourages online renewals and directs customers to a website for more information. She indicated that Harvey County might want to create and send renewal letters at an unknown additional cost to the county. The commissioners agreed that more information is needed before making a decision. They were upset that the State of Kansas is effectively transferring these costs to the counties. Becky will contact the Division of Vehicles to get a sample postcard and explore how difficult it would be to create letters and estimate the costs.

5. Craig Clough, Appraiser, reported valuation notices will be mailed on Feb. 27 and that a special phone line (283-8347) is setup for appeals. He stated that total valuations are up 3.2% with valuations not including new construction up 2.6%. He also stated that rural valuations are up 5.4% and residential valuations are up 2.6%. The commissioners discussed with Craig the potential impact of the proposed changes by the legislature to farm property appraisals.
6. John presented a recommendation from Prairie View to appoint Anita Koehn to the Harvey County Advisory Committee to Prairie View replacing Kerry Grosch. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to waive the second reading and appoint Anita Koehn to the Harvey County Advisory Committee to Prairie View for a three year term. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
7. Kass Miller, Director of Parks, presented the 2015 Harvey County Parks Schedule of Events.
8. Roy Patton, Solid Waste Superintendent, reported that he has been allowed to return to work with light duty after his surgery. He also stated that he will retire on April 30 after 31 years with the county.
9. Byron Warta distributed a Harvey County EDC prospect report. He reported that there were two prospect visits to the KLP with three more scheduled for this week.
10. Sheriff T. Walton reported inmate population in the detention center is increasing on the weekends. He said that the detention center capacity is still down some beds due to construction and upgrades, but they are working to make them available again.
11. Lon Buller, Emergency Management Director, distributed copies of the 2015 LEPC meeting schedule.
12. Anthony Swartzendruber stated that one of the bills to watch in the legislature is HB 2296 which would require an election to issue PBC bonds.

#### **CITIZENS FORUM:**

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$69,953.99 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

Lori Kessler, CDRR & Healthy Harvey Coalition Coordinator, reported the progress of the Bicycle Master Plan being conducted in cooperation with the ReNewton Project. She stated that surveys have been conducted, goals established and public meetings have been held. They are planning to have a first draft of the plan completed by April 15, with a final plan adoption date of May 20.

Anthony presented an analysis of courthouse fire alarm replacement proposals. Three companies submitted proposals. The costs of the system are to be paid from proceeds available from Bond Resolution 2012-16. Each company was provided with building plans and the opportunity to visit the courthouse to analyze the needs and propose a system to meet code requirements with estimated costs. The proposed costs from the three different vendors are; \$60,543.56 from Protection One, \$55,800.00 from Kansas Electric and \$48,995.00 from Kaye Electric. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to waive the normal bidding process and accept the proposal from Kaye Electric for \$48,995.00 pending approval by the Fire Marshall. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Rex Yohn, Noxious Weed Director, introduced the new weed technician Adam Evans. Rex presented the Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Report required by KSA 2-1316. The report shows the 2014 budget and fund balances for the Noxious Weed Fund along with treatment summaries. He also presented the 2015 Harvey County Annual Noxious Weed Management Plan which is the same as the plan used for 2014. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve the 2015 Harvey County Annual Noxious Weed Management Plan as printed. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

At 11:35 a.m. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel and privileged information. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Counselor Greg Nye and Rick Piepho. Executive session ended at 11:50 a.m. with no action being taken.

Counselor Greg Nye distributed copies, given to him by County Treasurer, Becky Fields, of an AG opinion from Jan. 21, 2015 stating that the county treasurer has the authority to fund employee positions exclusively or partially working on statutorily imposed state duties without complying with a county commission's pay plan. Employee pay for state duties could be paid from the Treasurer's special motor vehicle fund. The commissioners briefly discussed the opinion.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



ATTEST:

*Rick Piepho*  
Rick Piepho, County Clerk

*Randy Hague*  
Randy Hague, Chairperson

*Ron Krehbiel*  
Ron Krehbiel, Member

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