

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 13, 2015

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on July 13, 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 asked Counselor Nye for an update after his research regarding setbacks for crops at intersections. He is concerned about the safety of residents at intersections on county and township roads due to the height of the corn in the fields obstructing the visibility of cross traffic. Counselor Nye reported that there are statutes regarding hedgerows and structures, but there is no statutory authority for the trimming of crops unless they are in the right of way.
2. Commissioners Krehbiel and Westfall reported the receipt of calls from residents regarding the condition of SW 84th St. west of Halstead Rd. The crushed concrete material that was used to fill potholes on the road contained metal which is causing some flat tires. John Waltner stated that after viewing the site and discussing it with the Road & Bridge department, they determined to discontinue the use of the material and run a magnetic device over the road to try to remove the metal from the road. They will also contract Terry Jacob to grade the road using the magnetic device that he invented.
3. Commissioner Westfall reported that KSN ran a story regarding the ruling by the District Court Chief Judge to not allow any weapons on the 2nd floor of the Harvey County Courthouse despite the policy set by the Commission allowing conceal carry in the rest of the building. The Commission policy follows State law. He is concerned about the possible liability issues to the county.
4. Commissioner Westfall also added clarification to an article in the Wichita Eagle regarding the condition of the east side of the Law Enforcement Center which is occupied by the City of Newton Police Department. He stated that the building is owned and maintained by the County, but the City owns the furniture and pays half of all expenses for the building. The County is aware that some upgrades need to be made to that portion of the building, but they are not included in the County or City budgets at this time especially with the uncertainty about the future occupation of the building by the City.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. The 4H picnic is scheduled for July 21 at Athletic Park.
2. Commissioner Westfall reported that he has been invited to speak about county governance at the Newton Professional Business Women meeting on July 27.

Minutes of the July 6 Commission regular meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. John Waltner reported that he and Commissioner Westfall attended the BREG meeting last Friday in Derby. He reported that it was an interesting and informative meeting that

- focuses on and targets economic clusters in the multi-county region.
2. John presented a recommendation for appointment to the Harvey/Marion County CDDO for Racquel Thiesen. The CDDO recommends appointing Racquel to fill the vacant Parent/Guardian position vacated upon the resignation by Kristi Berning in April. The appointment is for a three-year term to July 2018. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to waive the second reading and appoint Racquel Thiesen to the Harvey/Marion County CDDO and authorize the chair to sign. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
 3. John reported that the improvements to the front lawn of the courthouse are continuing, but were delayed due to the weather last week. He also reported that the west half of the north parking lot will be restriped and reopened this week.
 4. John presented a letter that was sent to the Kansas Housing Resources Corporation requesting the assignment of SCKEDD as the administrator for weatherization services in Harvey County.
 5. Craig Clough, County Appraiser, presented a consulting agreement with McCully & Associates. Craig stated that this is a renewal of the agreement that has existed for a number of years to provide consultation services to the Appraiser's Office. The fee for these services increased by \$500 per year to \$28,000 per year and is included in the departmental budget. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to waive the purchasing policy and approve the consulting agreement McCully & Associates. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
 6. Gary Denny, Emergency Management Director, reported that there are 11 applicants for the FEMA public assistance project from the flooding event. Eight of the applicants are townships and 2 are Harvey County departments.
 7. Gina Bell, Planning & Zoning Director, reported that last month four total permits were issued, but that three have been issued so far this month. Commissioner Hague asked if county permitting is required for the North Newton to Hesston sewer line. Gina replied that no County permits are required for exempt entities.
 8. Becky Fields, Treasurer, stated that a suggestion was made to waive the out-of-county Driver's License fees for County employees that reside in other counties. The commissioners agreed to discuss and possibly include the waiver when the resolution for fees is presented in the future.
 9. Anthony Swartzendruber clarified that the budget documents distributed last week are only a proposed budget, not the final version.

CITIZENS FORUM:

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$87,426.63 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

Anthony presented three proposed personnel manual changes; 1) verbiage in section 4.4(B & C) regarding following the Compensation and Classification policy with funding adopted in the budget by the County Commission, 2) verbiage in section 6.16 regarding changes to the weapons policy to comply with changes in Kansas law allowing conceal carry without a license, 3) adding section 8.1(D) stating that employees must work on their last day of employment. Commissioner Krehbiel made a

motion to approve the revisions to the Harvey County Personnel Handbook effective July 13, 2015. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

The commissioners discussed possible dates for the annual employee picnic. Sunday, September 27 and Sunday, October 4 were suggested as the best possible dates. Administration will ask for feedback from the departments to determine which date to schedule.

The meeting recessed at 10:45 a.m. to attend the Quad County meeting at the new Correctional Facility in Hutchinson.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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