

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 2, 2015

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on March 2, 2015 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Hague called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

1. Commissioner Westfall attended a couple of legislative update meetings last week. He stated that no legislation has been introduced to address the state budget shortfall, but the main questions to legislators involved school finance, guns, elections and agriculture ground taxation. He also stated that substantial increases in insurance premiums could result from the proposed firearm legislation.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Krehbiel received an invitation to the SCKACE (South Central Kansas Association of Commissioners & Engineers) meeting on Thursday, April 2 in Hutchinson.

Minutes of the February 23, 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, submitted a sample resolution and support letter for the development of U.S Bicycle Route 76. U.S Bicycle Route 76 passes east and west through Harvey County. Financial support is not being requested at this time. The commissioners agreed that a resolution and letter of support should be drafted and submitted for approval at a future meeting.
2. John reported that the commissioners have been invited to two water meetings. The first is an educational symposium at Dyck Arboretum of the Plains in North Newton on Saturday, March 7 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The second is a public input meeting for setting regional water supply goals for the Equus Beds/Walnut River Basin region on Monday, March 9 at 7:00 p.m. in Hutchinson.

The results of the special mail ballot election held on February 24, 2015 were presented by Rick Piepho, Election Officer. The election question requested the district be allowed to raise their Local Option Budget percentage by 2%. There were 2,670 ballots mailed to residents of the school district, and 1109 were returned. This represents a 41.54% turnout. Zero ballots were identified as provisional ballots. Four ballots were voided during counting due to being defaced or unmarked.

Commissioner Westfall made a motion to certify the USD #460 LOB election with the final vote tally as follows:

Yes	767
No	338

Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS (continued):

3. Lynnette Redington, Director of the Health Department, reported that the Health Department and the Healthy Harvey Coalition are applying for a Spreading Community through Learning and Evaluation (SCALE) grant for \$60,000 (plus \$8,000 for travel) for a 20 month period beginning May 1, 2015. She stated that there are no matching funds requirements with this grant and feels that it would be a great fit with the goals and priorities established in the Community Health Assessment. The commissioners agreed that she should submit a grant application.
4. John presented three color options for the final logo design for the new Harvey County logo. Each version of the logo would consist of 2 colors; option 1 = blue (PMS 301) & lime green (PMS 583), option 2 = blue (PMS 301) & orange (PMS 7563), option 3 = dark blue (PMS 2955) & light blue (PMS 7688). Heidi Huber did an informal survey of department heads prior to the meeting and they overwhelmingly favored option 1. The commissioners agreed that option 1 (blue & green) was the best choice and that implementation should proceed.
5. Kass Miller, Director of Parks, reported that well house 1 at West Park is having issues. Rick Piepho & Kass reported that a cell phone booster has been purchased and Kass is in the process of getting it installed at East Lake Volunteer Hall. The booster is being installed to eliminate the communication issues that occur when Volunteer Hall is being used on election days as a polling place, but it will also be helpful for anyone using the facility.
6. Jim Meier, Road and Bridge Superintendent, stated that crews were out over the weekend to plow and treat the county roads.
7. Anthony Swartzendruber reported on the status of HB 2296 which would require an election to issue PBC bonds. He stated that testimony was received on the bill in the House Federal and State Affairs committee, which is an exempt committee.
8. Anthony presented the February sales and compensating use tax collections report. He reported that collections are up 25.96% over last year, he cautioned that this increase is probably not a trend.
9. Rick Piepho, County Clerk & Election Officer, reported that the deadline to register to vote for the April 7 election is 7 p.m. on March 17. He also stated that in-person advance voting will begin on March 24 in the courthouse community room.

CITIZENS FORUM:

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$120,345.77 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

Janet Cagle, Director of Harvey/McPherson County Community Corrections, submitted a folder of information to request funding to retain a position that is no longer funded by the State of Kansas. The commissioners tabled the discussion until next week due to personnel information included in the folder that is not public record. Janet will return next week with a revised proposal.

At 10:45 a.m. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 30 minutes to discuss attorney-client privilege. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, and Counselor Greg Nye. At 11:15 a.m. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to extend the executive session for a period of 15 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, and Counselor Greg Nye. Executive session ended at 11:30 a.m. with no action being taken.

Counselor Greg Nye and John reported that revisions have been made to the proposed lease agreements with HBP (Hayden Tower) for the 800 MHz tower sites. The lease agreements have been reviewed by counsel and some changes were proposed. Counselor Greg Nye stated that the provisions for payment of attorney fees should be removed, but otherwise the agreements were acceptable. The commissioners briefly discussed the opinion. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to authorize the administrator to sign the lease agreements with HBP with revisions and approval of counsel. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously

The meeting was recessed at 11:35 p.m. until 1:00 p.m.

Chairman Hague called the meeting back to order at 1:00 p.m.

At 1:03 p.m. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 42 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Linda Kientz, and Anthony Swartzendruber. Executive session ended at 1:45 p.m. with no action being taken.

At 1:48 p.m. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 52 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Linda Kientz, and Anthony Swartzendruber. Executive session ended at 2:40 p.m. with no action being taken.

At 3:00 p.m. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 50 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Linda Kientz, and Anthony Swartzendruber. Executive session ended at 3:50 p.m. with no action being taken.

At 4:00 p.m. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 40 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Linda Kientz, and Anthony Swartzendruber. Executive session ended at 4:40 p.m. with no action being taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 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