

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 23, 2015

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on March 23, 2015 with commissioners Hague and Krehbiel present. Commissioner Westfall was absent. Chairman Hague called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

There were no items added to the agenda.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

There were no items added to the calendar.

Minutes of the March 16, 2015 Commission regular meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. John Waltner, Administrator, stated that the funeral for Commissioner Westfall's mother who passed away last Wednesday night will be held tomorrow, March 24, at 10:00 a.m. at the Presbyterian Church in Halstead. After the burial a light lunch will be served at the Halstead American Legion. Commissioner Hague and Commissioner Krehbiel are planning to attend.
2. John reported that the retirement celebration for Parks Department employee Lloyd Stoddard will be held at noon on March 27 at East Park.
3. John stated that Anthony, Dave and he have talked to the contractor concerning issues and plans for the west lawn of the courthouse. More grading is to be done along with tree trimming and possible removal of some of the trees. Staff recommends planting Bermuda grass because it is easier to maintain and requires less watering. The commissioners agreed that Bermuda grass should be planted.
4. John presented some information provided by Stafford County regarding taxation of low-producing oil wells. The proposed amendment to current statutes would remove the tax exemption from low-producing oil wells (2.0 to 5 barrels per day) if the price per barrel of oil exceeds \$50 per barrel as determined by the Property Valuation Department. The commissioners agreed to draft a letter of support for the proposed changes.
5. John presented a Proclamation for National Work Zone Safety Awareness Week, March 23-27, 2015. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to proclaim March 23-27, 2015 as National Work Zone Safety Awareness Week and thereby call upon everyone in Harvey County to help save lives in highway construction work zones by spreading these important messages throughout our communities. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
6. Lynnette Redington, Director of the Health Department, stated that the grant has been received and work has begun for the implementation of an electronic health records system. The electronic health record system must be in operational by October 1, 2015.

7. Anthony Swartzendruber reported on the status of courthouse upgrades. He stated that the old boiler system has been completely shut down and drained, windows are being replaced on the south side of the building and HVAC work continues on the 2nd floor.
8. Rick Piepho, County Clerk, reported that SB 171 is on the Kansas House calendar for today, but it is below the line. He also stated that many County Clerks throughout the state are reporting that their representatives are planning to vote no when it comes to a vote of the committee of the whole.

CITIZENS FORUM:

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$124,255.48 and hand written checks in the amount of \$25,000 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

Marianne Eichelberger, Library Director, presented the Newton Public Library 2014 Year in Review. The report showed patronage figures, items available, programs and services provided and 2014 receipts and expenditures. She specifically reported on and answered questions about the ENLITE program which is partially funded through the Harvey County Senior Mill Levy. The ENLITE program delivers large print books to seniors in the area.

Lisa Bartel, Health and Wellness Coordinator, presented a high level summary of the 2014 Harvey County Employee Wellness Program. She stated that 116 employees participated in the 2014 biometric screening. She reported on all of the wellness programs offered for employees throughout the year and the participation in each. Lisa also reported on the results of the 2015 biometric screening. There were 107 participants with the top 4 risk factors being; nutrition, stress, weight and blood pressure.

Rex Yohn, Harvey County Weed Director, presented the proposed invitation to bidders for herbicides for noxious weed control. The invitation to bid is for 3 different chemicals in various container sizes for 1,381 total gallons. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to authorize and send the invitation to bidders for herbicides for noxious weed control. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

At 11:05 a.m. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 20 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel. Commissioner Hague 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 11:25 a.m. with no action being taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



ATTEST:

Rick Piepho
Rick Piepho, County Clerk

Randy Hague
Randy Hague, Chairperson

Ron Krehbiel
Ron Krehbiel, Member

Absent
George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member