

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

May 26, 2015

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on May 26, 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 and Commissioner Westfall reported that they were contacted by a few residents that expressed concerns about the conditions of some county roads after the recent rainfall events.
2. Commissioner Westfall also reported that lobbyists and legislative analysts are predicting that the Kansas Legislature may be in session through the first week of June.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Krehbiel announced that the Halstead Firefighter Fundraiser event will be held on June 6 at 4 p.m.
2. Commissioner Krehbiel also reported that the Judicial Selection Committee, that he is a member of, will meet on July 21 and on July 28.

Minutes of the May 18 Commission regular meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. John Waltner presented a recommendation for appointment to the Harvey County Parks Advisory Board for Carol Buller. This is a reappointment; she previously served on the Board from April 2005 to April 2014. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to waive the second reading and appoint Carol Buller to the Harvey County Parks Advisory Board for the June 2015 to June 2018 term and authorize the chair to sign. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
2. John presented the Kansas Aviation Impact Study flyer done by KDOT. The study shows the total impact to the local economy from the Newton City/County Airport (EWK) is 440 total jobs, \$16.7 million total payroll and \$56.9 million total output.
3. John reported that he received a rate increase letter from Reno County Solid Waste. The letter states that the fees that Harvey County pays to dump municipal solid waste at their facility will increase by \$.75 per ton to \$31.75 per ton total.
4. John presented a letter from MKEC Engineering, Inc. regarding the Lake Township Drainage Review.
5. Jim Meier, Road and Bridge Superintendent, reported that they placed quite a few barricades to close roads due to high water from the recent storms and that they are evaluating what repairs will need to be done after the water recedes. He reported that asphalt patching has been put on hold due to the conditions of the roads that would be used to bypass the roads being patched, the commissioners agreed that the patching work should be suspended until the roads dry out. Jim also stated that the new tractor has been received and they have begun mowing.

6. Kass Miller, Director of Parks, reported that the Parks were not as busy over the weekend as they would normally be on the Memorial Day holiday weekend due to the inclement weather. He stated that the NOA reports that the river level is going down.
7. Anthony Swartzendruber reported that he is monitoring the activities of Legislature in regards to concerns over the impact to the budget.
8. Rick Piepho, County Clerk, reported that the elections bill that moves the municipal elections now held in the spring of odd numbered years to the fall of odd numbered years has passed both houses and will now go to the Governor for a signature.

CITIZENS FORUM:

Ray Classen, 610 Bluestem St., North Newton reported that on May 19 he was treated disrespectfully by Appraiser, Craig Clough. He stated that on March 3 he requested a hearing to appeal his valuation, but was never contacted regarding the hearing. He reported that when he returned on May 19 to check on when the hearing would take place, he was not treated in a professional manner. According to County policy, the issue will be investigated by the Administrator.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$167,817.96 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

Anthony gave an overview of the budget process and reminded the Commissioners, that as they hear and review the budgets for each of the departments, to consider the priorities of the county and how to fund them. The mission of Harvey County is to provide our citizens with beneficial, essential, public services in a professional, courteous and fiscally responsible manner. The schedule for budget presentations, work session, public hearing, and adoption was reviewed with the Commissioners. The budget hearing will be held on August 3 and the budget is scheduled to be adopted on August 10.

Gina Bell, Planning, Zoning & Environmental Director, presented the proposed 2016 budget for Planning, Zoning, and Environmental. There are no significant increases in the proposed budget which includes a supplemental request to increase the budget for training & travel which is a priority to maintain certifications and the ability to assist citizens. Also included is a supplemental request to increase the budget for the Planning Commission due to the increase in the number of meetings. She suggested a possible rate increase for permit applications or possibly reducing the number of Planning Commission members from 15 down to 7 to reduce the expenses. The commissioners agreed that the commission should be downsized. Her proposed budget also included a CIP request of \$400 for a scanner.

Becky Opland, Treasurer, presented the proposed 2016 budget for the Treasurer's Office. The budget contains a supplemental request to restore \$650 to Driver's License General Fund for training and travel due to scheduled changes to the State driver's license system. Her proposed budget also included a CIP request of \$1,800 for a printer and filing cabinet. The commissioners suggested that she look into possibly increasing the Driver's License fee for Harvey County residents from \$3 to \$5. Becky discussed the upcoming tag renewal notice change from a letter to a postcard. She stated that due to the estimated cost to the county of \$24,000 per year to send detailed renewal letters that Harvey County will participate in the postcard renewal program and not send letters. She stated that because of the lack of detail on the postcard, lines will probably be longer and customer frustration will increase.

LeeAnn Daniels, Data Processing Director, presented the proposed 2016 Budget for the Data Processing Department. She stated that the internet provider costs have been removed from her budget and added to the telephone costs of each department. She reported that the budget includes increased costs of maintenance contracts on equipment. The budget includes a supplemental request for \$60,876 to add one full-time employee to replace the ¼ person that was lost at the beginning of 2015. This would add a second person to the department to help resolve issues better and quicker. Also included is a capital outlay request of \$43,500 for the purchase of a switch, server, NAS Unit Drive and a 10GB switch.

Rich Hanley, Director of Department on Aging, presented the 2016 proposed budgets for the Elderly Services Program fund and the Elderly Services Transportation fund. Karen Kaufman assisted with the budget presentation. Rich stated that the department met the requested targets and has no supplemental requests. Rich stated that the Council on Aging recommended reducing the ENLITE budget by \$2,400 and increasing the Newton Meals on Wheels budget by \$2,400. Karen reported that the State of Kansas is changing the number of Coordinated Transportation Districts from 12 to 7; the changes are scheduled to take effect July 1, 2015. These changes could impose more expense to the county.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:00 noon.

The meeting reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

Rick Piepho, County Clerk, presented the proposed 2016 Clerk and Elections budgets. He reported on the savings that are obtained by the internal programming and printing of ballots versus contracting the services from a provider. He reported that the total savings for the one election held in 2015 are about \$7,900 and that the total savings for the elections held in 2014 were about \$26,000. He stated that most counties in Kansas pay to contract their ballot programming and printing. He also reported that he has received five more pollbook computers from another county at no charge. He stated that the budget includes adding to an equipment reserve fund for the future replacement of aging voting equipment instead of the CIP plan to begin replacing individual machines in 2015. He reported that the Ivotronic voting machines currently being used are at least 10 years old and are due to be replaced, but he has not seen suitable replacement technology yet. Rick stated that the department met the requested targets and has no supplemental requests. The Elections budget contains a capital outlay request of \$1,500 to customize the interior of the delivery trailer. The Clerk Technology Fund budget contains a capital outlay request of \$1,000 to replace one computer.

Anthony presented the proposed 2016 Administration budget. Anthony stated that the department met the requested target and has no supplemental requests. The Administration budget contains a capital outlay request of \$2,400 to replace two computers.

Anthony presented the proposed 2016 County Commission budget. Anthony stated that the department met the requested target and has no supplemental requests.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Randy Hague
Randy Hague, Chairperson

Ron Krenbiel
Ron Krenbiel, Member

ATTEST:

Carmen Reims, Deputy Clerk
Rick Piepho, County Clerk

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