

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

**October 26, 2015**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on October 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 reported that he attended the open house event at CD Custom Enterprises last Friday. He stated that he was impressed with the facility and operations.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. Commissioner Westfall stated that the City/County Airport Commission will not meet in November or December and that the next meeting will be held in January 2016.

Minutes of the October 19 Commission regular meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. John Waltner, Administrator, reported that the scale at the transfer station was recently inspected and tested for certification. The scale failed the testing, but a temporary extension of the certification was granted to allow for the replacement of the scale.
2. John reported that he attended the SWANA conference near Topeka last week along with Rollin Schmidt, Solid Waste Director. He stated that they met with KDHE officials about the permitting of the C & D extension to the top of the closed landfill.
3. Gary Denny, Emergency Management Director, reported that the tabletop exercise for the City of Halstead and USD 440 that was held last week went well and that exercises with the City of Hesston and USD 460 are scheduled for next week. Gary also reported that the avian flu workshop hosted by his department last Wednesday was informative. He reported that there are four turkey farms in Harvey County and that they routinely conduct testing.
4. Lynnette Redington, Health Department Director, reported to the commission in their capacity as the Harvey County Board of Health that the flu vaccination program is on hold waiting for more vaccine. She stated that this week is red ribbon week for youth drug abuse awareness.
5. Don Gruver, Communications Director, reported that the tower projects for the 800 MHz radio system are on track and that the radios for the system are currently being programmed.
6. Anthony Swartzendruber, Assistant Administrator & Finance Director, presented copies of the KCAMP renewal agreement with the updated list of insured equipment. Anthony stated that the commissioners should review the information, but that no action was required by the commission. He also distributed copies of the 2016 adopted budget for Harvey County.
7. Don presented a proposed resolution to establish alarm connection and monitoring fees. He stated that the resolution would set the one time alarm connection fee at \$100 and

set the alarm monitoring fee at \$250 per year for all users to support the cost of alarm service. He reported that the current monitoring fees are set at \$120 per year for residential systems and \$180 per year for commercial customers. The commissioners discussed possibly adding penalty fees for false alarms, but tabled the discussion pending more research. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2015-20**, establishing an alarm connection fee and monthly alarm monitoring fees effective January 1, 2016. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. The resolution will be published in the Newton Kansan.

**CITIZENS FORUM:**

Newton resident Byron Warta agreed with the need for the increase, but suggested that the alarm fee increase that was just passed be phased in over 2 years instead of more than doubling the fee to residential customers in one year. The commissioners replied that the new rate is still less than alarm monitoring fees charged by other providers.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$610,659.99 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

Matt Schmidt, Executive Director of Health Ministries, invited the commissioners to the Open House and Ribbon Cutting for the new Halstead Clinic at 128 N Main St., Halstead. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, October 28 from 5-6 p.m. with the ribbon cutting ceremony at 5:15 p.m.

Lynnette Redington, presented the 2015 Kansas Kids Count report measuring how kids are doing across more than 20 indicators of health, education and economic success. The report showed that the figures for Harvey County mostly follow the state averages and rates. Some of the improvements in Harvey County and the State of Kansas included the all-time low of 5.5% of Kansas children without health insurance. The notable improvements in Harvey County are the increased availability of Head Start spaces; more pregnant woman receiving prenatal care, up 1.27% to 87.4%, higher than the state rating of 82%; and reduced youth tobacco use and binge drinking figures.

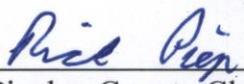
The meeting was recessed at 10:35 a.m. to travel to visit the new 800 MHz tower sites and bridge construction sites. Commissioner Krehbiel did not attend the site visits.

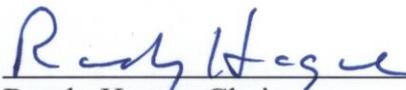
The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

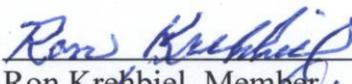
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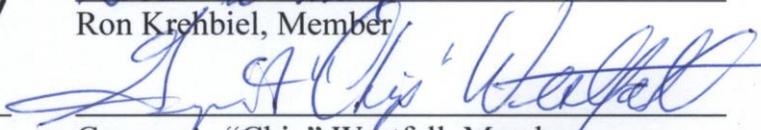


ATTEST:

  
Rick Piepho, County Clerk

  
Randy Hague, Chairperson

  
Ron Krehbiel, Member

  
George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member