

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL SESSION WITH SANDCREEK WATERSHED
April 7, 2016

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in a special session on April 7, 2016 during the Sandcreek Watershed Joint District #68 Board of Directors regular meeting. Chairman Westfall called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the USDA Service Center Conference Room. All three commissioners were in attendance along with Sandcreek Watershed (SCW) board members.

Tom Cowan, SCW Chairman, called the Sandcreek Watershed Joint District #68 Board of Directors regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and some regular board business was conducted including the reading of the minutes from the previous board meeting.

Tom presented a brief history of Sandcreek Watershed. He stated that the organization of SCW began in the 1960's to control flooding in the City of Newton. The General Plan was adopted and SCW was officially organized in 1973. SCW has built and maintains a total of 10 dams with the first dam built in 1976 and the last one built in 2000.

Herb Graves, State Association of Kansas Watersheds (SAKW) Executive Director, presented information regarding landowner rights and easements. He distributed copies of a Landowner Bill of Rights prepared by SAKW.

Tom Cowan and SCW Board member Bill Hamm requested notification from the county when building permits are issued in SCW easement areas. A discussion was held regarding structures built in easement areas including providing map files to Harvey County Planning & Zoning Director Gina Bell. SCW board members requested permission to communicate and work with Gina to improve the notification process when a permit is requested in a watershed easement. The commissioners agreed that some changes to the process for issuing building permits in easement areas should be explored and that the SCW board and County Administration should work with Planning & Zoning to resolve the issue.

The meeting of the County Commission was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.; the SCW meeting continued.

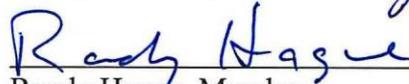
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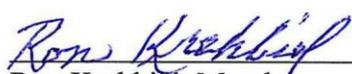


ATTEST:


Rick Piepho, County Clerk


George A. "Chip" Westfall, Chairperson


Randy Hague, Member


Ron Krehbiel, Member