

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

**January 19, 2016**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on January 19, 2016 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Westfall called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:**

1. Commissioner Krehbiel questioned who makes the final decision on the changes to KAR 5-1-1 & 5-12-1 being requested to allow the City of Wichita to draw to bedrock from the Equus Beds. He suggests requesting REAP involvement in the process and Harvey County hosting a meeting in the future to present and discuss the issues with local water users and residents.
2. Commissioner Westfall suggested adding the proposed detention center inmate fee increase to the agenda for the next meeting of the Council of Governments and notifying the affected agencies of the meeting to discuss the proposed increase.
3. Commissioner Westfall expressed concerns regarding the tax lid. He suggests all the commissioners speak with local legislators regarding their opposition to the legislation.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. Commissioner Westfall is scheduled to attend the REAP quarterly membership meeting on Thursday, January 28 at 11:45 a.m. in Wichita.

Minutes of the January 11 Commission regular meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. John Waltner, Administrator, reported that he was informed by Don Gruver, Communications Director, that 911 user fees were increased by \$.07 to \$.60 per phone per month by the State of Kansas with the passage of KAR 132-1-1 effective October 2, 2015. The increase will help to offset the increased expense for the NG911 system.
2. John reported that some damage was incurred during the last ice storm to the new 800 MHz system additions on the tower at Camp Hawk. The damage was caused by chunks of ice falling off the tower from above the new equipment. He reported that Motorola still owns the system so the repairs should be their responsibility, but he wanted the commission to be aware of the situation and suggests that the county explore options to prevent similar damage in the future.
3. John stated that the Harvey County Farm Bureau invited the commissioners to a breakfast meeting on February 16 at 7:00 a.m. at the Breadbasket.
4. Lynnette Redington, Health Department Director, requested support of efforts by the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments (KALHD) to encourage the legislature to support expanded Medicaid in Kansas. The commissioners are supportive of efforts to convince the legislature to change the statutes regarding expanded Medicaid, even though they do not expect any change will be made. They suggest that a formal resolution be considered at a date later in the legislative session.

5. John presented copies of a letter and renewal agreement from Kansas WorkforceONE. The Chief Elected Official Board Agreement is due to be executed and returned prior to June 30, 2016. There was some discussion concerning which Workforce area Harvey County should be assigned to.
6. John stated that he was informed by Parks Department personnel that the Boy Scouts Trappers Rendezvous event held at West Park over the weekend went well.
7. John presented a Recommendation for Appointment to re-appoint Bob Nattier to the Harvey County Public Building Commission (PBC) for the term of July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2018. He also stated that the position on the PBC held by Gene Wendling has expired. Commissioner Hague recommended a person to fill the position. The commission will consider filling the position at a later date. Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve the appointment of Bob Nattier and authorize the chair to sign. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
8. John presented a Recommendation for Appointment to re-appoint George Krievins to the City/County Aviation Commission for the term of January 19, 2016 to January 19, 2019. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve the appointment and authorize the chair to sign. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
9. John and Counselor Greg Nye presented proposed Findings of the Board of County Commissioners under KSA 12-520c for consideration in the matter of the proposed annexation by the City of Newton of property located in the county adjacent to the airport. Approval by the county commission is required by statute for annexation of land that is not adjoining the city. Resolution No. G-1150 was adopted by the City of Newton on January 12, 2016 requesting the commission consider the proposed annexation of a portion of the Southwest Quarter of Section 1, Township 23 South, Range 1 East of the 6<sup>th</sup> P.M. Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve the Findings of the Board of County Commissioners under KSA 12-520c as presented. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
10. Anthony Swartzendruber, Assistant Administrator & Finance Director, explained the proposed revisions to the tax lid in Senate Bill 316. The bill would move up the effective date of the tax lid affecting cities and counties to July 1, 2016 instead of January 1, 2018. It would also remove a number of exemptions. He expressed concerns about preparing the budget and funding future projects and expenses.

**CITIZENS FORUM:**

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$87,418.89 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

Lynnette Redington, Health Department Director, presented a Grant Agreement from the Kansas Health Foundation for \$10,000 for the Harvey County Farm & Food Council. This grant will help fund their establishment and marketing. Commissioner Hague made a motion to accept the grant and to authorize the chairman to sign the agreement. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

ICM representatives, Jon Orr, Bert Bennett and Debbie Harding presented information about their proposal to utilize a site at the Harvey County C & D landfill to operate a mobile gasifier demonstration unit. They are requesting permission to use the same site for one year as was previously used by them for a larger gasifier. The mobile gasifier can process 10 to 25 tons per day of chipped wood feedstock to create biochar for use as fertilizer. The unit will be able to process some of the construction and demolition material received by the landfill. Other feedstock material will be transported in from outside the county. A lease agreement will need to be drafted and executed. ICM will be responsible for all permitting and insurance for the operation of the unit. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to authorize ICM to use the site for a period of one year pending appropriate permitting and legal agreements. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

At 10:40 a.m. Commissioner Hague made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 20 minutes to discuss privileged communication with attorney concerning threatened litigation and non-elected personnel. Commissioner Krehbiel 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 11:00 a.m. with no action being taken.

Commissioner Westfall requested a report of the year in review similar to the report that was prepared in the past. He also requested that administration prepare a report of the potential impact to the County of the tax lid.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



ATTEST:

*Rick Piepho*  
Rick Piepho, County Clerk

*George A. "Chip" Westfall*  
George A. "Chip" Westfall, Chairperson

*Randy Hague*  
Randy Hague, Member

*Ron Krehbiel*  
Ron Krehbiel, Member