

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
July 18, 2016

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on July 18, 2016 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Westfall called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

1. Commissioner Westfall passed around a copy of the annual report for REAP that he received for the other commissioners to review.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. The Republican Party Ice Cream Social is scheduled for July 21 at 6:30 p.m. at Athletic Park.
2. The Harvey County Fair is scheduled for August 5 through August 9 with the parade to be held on August 6.

Minutes of the July 11 Commission regular meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously. Minutes of the July 14 Commission special meeting were approved, with one correction noted by Commissioner Krehbiel, upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. John Waltner, Administrator, reported that he has agreed to serve as a member of the Prairie View Board of Directors; his term starts next month.
2. John presented copies of a map of the planned detours during the box culvert replacement project on Oliver Rd. near the Airport.
3. Commissioner Westfall reported that a pilot who was based at the Newton City/County Airport was killed in a plane crash over the weekend. He expressed sympathies to the family on behalf of the commission.
4. Jan Jones, Executive Director of Harvey County DV/SA Task Force & Safe House, reported on the status and schedule of discussion with the Office of Victims of Crime (OVC) for participation in Victims of Violence Act recovery programs available from the State or Federal government for the shooting events in Newton & Hesston. She reported that a consultant from the OVC met with agencies and departments affected by the shooting events in Newton & Hesston. The OVC coordinator has prepared a needs analysis which identified 300 primary victims from the Excel Industries event who are eligible for compensation. Jan stated that she will be applying for a grant to establish programs and training for victims and staff or first responders to prepare for possible future events.
5. John reminded the commissioners that the Harvey County/Wichita Regional Economic Development presentation is scheduled for tomorrow July 19 from 3-4:30 p.m. at the Meridian Center in Newton.
6. John reported that a REAP board meeting is scheduled for 12:00 noon on July 21 at WSU.
7. John stated that SCKEDD representatives are scheduled to explain the details or advantages of county membership to the commission at next week's meeting.

8. John presented copies of the agreement with Ex Cat Construction for the concrete work to be done by them for the new bathroom facility at West Park.
9. John reported that a dedication ceremony for the Memorial Garden at East Park is scheduled for July 22. The remains of six indigent individuals will be interred.
10. Gary Denny, Emergency Management Director, reported that the next active shooter focus group meeting is scheduled for August 3. He also reported that FEMA public assistance will probably not be available for the July 4th weekend rain and flooding events due to the thresholds not being met.
11. Derrick Richling, Parks Operations Supervisor, introduced Adam Curtis, a new employee that began working this morning. He also reported that there has been Pokemon Go activity at West Park.
12. Jim Meier, Road & Bridge Superintendent, reported that APAC has completed the contracted overlay work on 96th and on East Lake Rd. and they are working on the overlay of the concrete portion of NW 36th.
13. Anthony Swartzendruber, Finance Director, reported that the draft of the 2017 budget will be presented at next week's commission meeting and that the public hearing for the 2017 budget is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on August 8.
14. Rick Piepho, County Clerk & Election Officer, reported that in-person early voting for all Harvey County residents will begin tomorrow in the courthouse community room and will be available 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each weekday July 19 thru 29 and will be open on Saturday, July 30 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Monday August 1 from 8 a.m. to noon.

CITIZENS FORUM:

Newton resident Ron Eggert addressed the commission to state that he and his wife love the amenities and services that the city and county provide. He suggested that the commission keep the upcoming tax lid in mind while making budget decisions for the 2017 budget. He stated that there is a current need in the Sheriff's office and the Police Department for pay increases and facility repairs or upgrades. He suggested possibly increasing the mill levy this year because in future years there will not be much flexibility in budget preparation without a vote of the residents. He stated that as a taxpayer he would prefer to have a tax increase as opposed to possibly losing amenities and services.

Jason Mitchell, Harvey County Republican Party Chairman, invited the commissioners to the Republican Party Ice Cream Social scheduled for 6:30 p.m. on July 21 at Athletic Park.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$63,082.50 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

Don Gruver, Communications Director, presented a proposed Request for Proposal (RFP) for a VHF Paging Repeater. He reported that this RFP is for the replacement of the repeater at Zimmerdale which is part of the VHF backup radio system. The RFP also includes an option to remove the other repeaters throughout the county that are no longer being used. He stated that funds are available in the budget for this request. Responses for this RFP are due by 4:00 p.m. on August 12 and will be opened on August 15. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to proceed with distributing the RFP for the VHF Paging Repeater. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Don presented a proposed Request for Proposal (RFP) for replacement of the Dispatch Center HVAC system. He reported that this RFP is for the replacement of the Dispatch Center HVAC system.

Responses for this RFP are due by 4:00 p.m. on August 12 and will be opened on August 15. Commissioner Hague made a motion to proceed with distributing the RFP for the Dispatch Center HVAC system. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Don requested approval to purchase a used 2009 Fouts Bros. Diesel Rescue Truck from Reno Township Fire Department in rural Leavenworth County Kansas to replace the current communications vehicle which is an old ambulance that was converted for use as a mobile communications vehicle. The cost of this used vehicle is \$30,000. He reported that the replacement of communications vehicle is included in the CIP budget for 2017, but funds are available in this year's budget for this purchase. He stated that he has been contacted by one county who is interested in purchasing the old communications vehicle. Commissioner Hague made a motion to waive the purchasing policy and purchase the 2009 Fouts Bros. Diesel Rescue Truck from Reno Township Fire Department for \$30,000. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

A discussion was held with Alta Township officers Ken Stucky and Kelton Pitts regarding repairs to the township roads due to the replacement of the bridge on Burmac Rd. in Alta Township in 2014. There has been an ongoing disagreement about the payment of the costs to repair the roads in the township that were used by vehicles as a detour around the construction site while the road was closed. The county verbally agreed prior to beginning the project to provide some road materials to the township to help keep the roads maintained. Due to State and Federal requirements for roads used as detours, no detour was defined by the county during the 6 months the bridge was closed in 2014. Vehicles used a lot of different routes on the township roads to get around the construction site which caused damage to the roads maintained by the township. Alta Township did not contact the county to request road materials, but kept the township roads maintained throughout the project utilizing funds that were reserved for a tree removal project. Alta Township submitted an invoice for \$14,905.41 for materials and maintenance of 12 miles of township roads used by vehicles during the project. The invoice was not paid by the county, but the county offered to haul 50 tons of road material to the township yard and assist with some tree removal; the offer was not accepted by the township officers. Ken suggested the county pay their road material supplier an undetermined amount that they could use as a credit for future material needs. After a lengthy discussion was held to discuss different options to resolve the conflict Commissioner Hague made a motion to offer 130 tons (5 loads of about 26 tons each) of road material to be hauled by the Harvey County Road & Bridge Department from their yard to the Alta Township yard. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed. Commissioner Krehbiel abstained from the vote. Chairman Westfall set a September 1 deadline for Alta Township officials to respond to the offer.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 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