

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

**June 13, 2016**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on June 13, 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 expressed concerns about debris building up against the bridge pilings in some of the waterways in the western part of the county.
2. Commissioner Hague reported that about 50 people were killed in Orlando, Florida over the weekend in the worst mass shooting event in US history.
3. Commissioner Westfall reported that he was informed that some county employees are parking in the south parking lot closest to the courthouse that should be reserved for customer and visitor use only.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. The quarterly joint meeting with the Newton City Commission is scheduled for Thursday, June 16 at 4:00 p.m. in the courthouse community room.

Minutes of the June 6 Commission regular meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. Kass Miller, Director of Parks, and Derrick Richling, Parks Operations Supervisor, presented estimates that were received from three contractors for the concrete work for the new bathroom facility at West Park. All three contractors received copies of the engineering specifications that were prepared by the county engineer, MKEC. Vogts Parga submitted an estimate for \$12,512.00 total; Preferred Builders submitted an estimate for \$11,590.00 total; and Ex Cat Construction submitted an estimate for \$6,111.55 total. All three contractors estimated completing the work within 2-3 weeks. Commissioner Hague made a motion to award the contract to Ex Cat Construction for \$6,111.55 total cost if MKEC agrees that the contractor will meet all of their required specifications. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
2. Gary Denny, Emergency Management Director, reported that a Declaration of Emergency was made last week for the rain and flooding event in late May. He stated that the state and local thresholds have been met to apply for FEMA public assistance. All entities that want to participate need to submit a claim by June 23.
3. ICM representative, Jon Orr, presented updated information about the mobile gasifier demonstration unit installed at a site at the Harvey County C & D landfill. He reported that the first 24 hour test was conducted last week. The mobile gasifier processed 12 to 14 tons of chipped wood feedstock to create about 1.5 tons of biochar for use as a soil additive. He passed around a sample of the biochar that was created. He stated that about 90% of the original biomass feedstock can be converted to energy with the other 10% remaining as biochar.

**CITIZENS FORUM:**

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$131,795.89 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

At 9:52 a.m. Commissioner Hague made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 8 minutes to discuss privileged communication with legal counsel. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Counselor Greg Nye and Rick Piepho. Executive session ended at 10:00 a.m. with no action being taken.

Dwayne Roux, Josh Budde and Dana Stahl presented the 2017 proposed budget and appropriation request for the Harvey County Conservation District. They reported on the 2015-2016 activities and community involvement statistics and the goals for 2016-2017. Josh stated that since 2009 the appropriation has been \$16,065 per year. They are requesting an additional \$3,935 appropriation for the increased costs of the school outreach program and other expenses.

Martha Gartner, Gary Lanier and many other representatives presented the 2017 proposed budget for the Harvey County Extension Council for consideration. They reported that in 2016 they back up to full staffing with the recent hiring of two extension agents. They are requesting a slight increase over last year to fund increases in maintenance, travel and employee costs. The commission must take action on the budget within 10 days of presentation with a July 15 final deadline for approval of their budget. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve the Harvey County Extension Council 2017 budget for \$340,611. The motion also authorizes the chair to sign the budget. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Rich Hanley, Director of Department on Aging, presented the 2017 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 work of the Council on Aging members is greatly appreciated. He stated that in 2017 he plans to concentrate on adding or expanding services for the elderly residents of Harvey County. Rich stated that the department met the requested targets and has no supplemental requests. Karen reported that the Elderly Services Transportation department is mostly funded with KDOT grants and passenger fees. She reported that the department provided 13,515 trips with their vehicles covering 70,451 miles in the past year.

Jim Meier, Road & Bridge Superintendent, presented the proposed 2017 budget for the Road & Bridge department. He also presented a map of the proposed 2017 projects that includes contracted paved road improvements and unsurfaced road improvements. The budget includes \$2,059,441 in the CIP budget for the scheduled road improvements and the replacement of bridge C-21.1 just east of S. Kansas Ave. on SE 84<sup>th</sup> St. It also includes a new CIP request for \$75,000 for unsurfaced road improvements. He stated that the proposed budget for operations is basically the same as last year. He presented a map of all pavement improvements from 2011 through 2017 showing that over 68% of the paved surfaces will be new at the end of 2017.

Former Solid Waste Director, Howard Harvey came in to visit with the commissioners.

The meeting was recessed at 12:00 noon for lunch.

The meeting reconvened at 1:05 p.m.

John Waltner, County Administrator, and Anthony Swartzendruber, Assistant Administrator & Finance Director, presented the proposed 2017 budget for the Courthouse General department. The budget includes an increase for Airport debt payments related to the drainage project. The budget includes 2017 CIP requests for \$300,000 to replace/upgrade the current tax/financial management/records/HR software computer system. The last upgrade to the system was done in 2007. John suggested adding an employee to the maintenance staff.

The meeting was moved to the jury room on the second floor at 1:45 p.m.

Jennifer Foster, 9<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Court Administrator, met the commissioners in the jury room and a discussion was held regarding the remodeling project and the options available. Jennifer recommended not including the ADA conversion of the restrooms due to the costs and the amount of space that will be lost in the room.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.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