

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

**May 23, 2016**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on May 23, 2016 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Westfall called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:**

There were no items added to the agenda.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. The annual EDC dinner is scheduled for Thursday, May 26. John Waltner has RSVP'd for the commissioners and their spouses. The social hour is at Goerz Hall at 5:30 p.m.
2. Hesston Mennonite Church is hosting a recognition ceremony on Wednesday, May 25 at 6:30 p.m. to recognize and thank those involved in the February 25 shooting incident. Participants will gather at 6:15 p.m.

Minutes of the May 16 Commission regular meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. Jami Lawless, Prairie View, Inc., presented a request for a \$3,000 appropriation from the Local Alcoholic Liquor Fund. Prairie View, Inc. was awarded \$3,000 last year from the fund and they are requesting the same amount this year to help support their outpatient substance abuse treatment program in the Newton office. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to appropriate \$3,000 to Prairie View, Inc. from the Local Alcoholic Liquor Fund. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

**CITIZENS FORUM:**

Tony Wheeler, Walton resident, reported concerns regarding East Park regulations. Due to mobility issues, he would like to be allowed to drive his golf cart on the jetties. There was also a question regarding the legality of throwing nets to catch shad and transferring live fish. Kass Miller, Park Director, gave Mr. Wheeler a copy of the park regulations. Commissioner Westfall encouraged him to attend the next Park Board meeting on June 20. Kass will also let Mr. Wheeler know the time and place of the June 20 meeting.

Bob Myers, Interim Newton City Manager, presented a proposed agreement for the Newton City/County Airport Drainage and Stormwater Quality Project. He asked the commissioners to consider both the agreement regarding sharing cost for the drainage project and the restrictive covenants that apply to the reserve. The improvements consist of the construction of a drainage detention and stormwater quality structure and also the replacement, construction and installation of a reinforced concrete box culvert under North Oliver Street. The parties would agree that the City of Newton will oversee and manage the construction of the improvements. The County will reimburse to the City the County's share of the costs of acquiring the Project Land, \$264,500, over a five year term. The City will finance the total cost of the improvements, which shall not exceed \$722,000. The bonds

will be structured so as to be payable over a period of 20 years. Each of the parties will be responsible for the payment of one-half of each of the payment obligations. After some discussion regarding the terms of the agreement, Commissioner Hague made a motion to proceed as Administration suggested and sign the agreement. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS (continued):**

2. John Waltner, County Administrator, noted that a letter has been sent to the Newton Township regarding the North Oliver Road closure for the project to replace an existing box culvert under North Oliver Road near the Newton City-County Airport. The City of Newton is providing a recommended detour.
3. John Waltner reported that he is speaking at the Work Well Conference on May 24 in Hutchinson. There are also several members of Harvey County Wellness Team attending.
4. Gary Denny, Emergency Management Director, submitted a letter to FEMA last week. The purpose of the letter was to appeal FEMA's decision to exclude Harvey County from FMAG eligibility for the Burrton fire. He will keep the commission updated. He stated that the Incident Command System class for USD 373 staff is being held on May 24. There is a focus group meeting on June 1 at 9:00 a.m.
5. Kass Miller stated that the parks are getting ready for a busy and wet weekend. Commissioner Krehbiel suggested getting port-a-potties to place on the east side of the river at West Park for the coming weekend. Kass will order them. Kass also stated that the bait shop's hours have been extended and that another fish stocking will take place before next weekend. Other upcoming activities include Outdoor Adventures, a nature educational series, which starts on June 3. The series will culminate with an award ceremony and a group campout. The Commissioners requested the schedule of events be placed on the Harvey County website.
6. Byron Warta, Harvey County EDC representative, reported that March unemployment was 3.8%. Three companies in Harvey County are doing expansion work which should create 75 new jobs.
7. Gina Bell, Planning & Zoning Director, stated that she will be attending a US Army Corps class on flood proofing in Eldorado this Thursday.
8. Anthony Swartzendruber, Assistant Administrator & Finance Director, handed out completed copies of the 2015 Audit. There were no budget or cash violations. Anthony will be doing a presentation next week regarding the audit results.
9. Greg Nye, County Counselor, reported that he is working on two petitions for tax foreclosure.
10. Rick Piepho, County Clerk, sent a letter to the county and the cities regarding the estimated cost to conduct a mail ballot election, should it be necessary due to the tax lid going into effect January 1, 2017.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$246,754.76 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

At 10:05 a.m., Rollin Schmidt, Solid Waste Director, and Anthony opened bids for the purchase of a new 2015 or 2016 roll-off trailer. Bid requests were sent to three dealerships and bids were received from each dealership as follows:

Item Number	Qty	Description	Ruble Truck Sales	Dragon Products, Ltd.	Benlee
1	1	New 2015 or 2016 Roll-Off Trailer	\$ 41,000	\$ 45,500	\$ 42,995
		Year:	2017	2016	2016
		Make:	Pitbull	Dragon	Benlee
		Model:	PB26	ST6	TASMDS26S
		Hours/Miles	New	New	New
		Warranty Provided:	3 year on frame 1 year on cylinders	1 year	3 year on frame 1 year on cylinders
		Delivery Cost:	\$ -	\$ 2,450	\$ 1,950
		Delivery Time:	10 days	30 days	10 days
		<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 41,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 47,950.00</b>	<b>\$ 44,945.00</b>

The Commissioners decided to allow staff some time to review the bids and asked Rollin to present a recommendation at next week's meeting.

Anthony gave an overview of the 2017 budget process and reminded the Commissioners that as they hear and review the budget for each of the departments, to consider the priorities of the county and how to fund them. The mission of Harvey County is to provide our citizens with beneficial, essential, public services in a professional, courteous and fiscally responsible manner. The schedule for the budget presentations, work session, public hearing, and adoption was reviewed with the Commissioners. The budget hearing will be held on August 8 and the budget is scheduled to be adopted on August 15.

LeeAnn Daniels, Data Processing Director and Brianna Dull, Data Processing Technician, presented the proposed 2017 Budget for the Data Processing Department. The budget includes a supplemental request of \$13,558 to cover the increased costs of equipment maintenance agreements and \$1,320 for a yearly subscription to TeamSupport, a helpdesk solution that would allow the IT Department to create and log helpdesk tickets from the county users in a central location. Also included is a capital outlay request of \$36,700 for the purchase of a computer, a switch, a backup server, a server & a NAS Unit Drive. John commended Brianna on her work in the Data Processing Department.

Becky Opland, Treasurer, presented the proposed 2017 budget for the Treasurer's Office. There are no significant changes to the budget. Becky stated that overtime is being reduced by not accepting customers as late in the day. The budget includes a supplemental request of \$886 for increased costs in postal services of printing and mailing tax statements. There is also a supplemental request for \$1,200 in the Driver's License Division to restore funding for travel and training. The state is rolling out new changes to the driver's license software and training will likely be required.

Gina Bell, Planning, Zoning & Environmental Director, presented the proposed 2017 budget for Planning, Zoning & Environmental. Due to the decreased number of members on the Planning Commission, the budget for Planning & Zoning Commission has been decreased. There was some discussion on paying mileage for the commission members. The last Comprehensive Plan was adopted in 2001 and the statistics need updating. Gina is hoping to have a new plan done in 2021, following the 2020 census.

Jennifer Foster and LDeena Jones presented the proposed 2017 budget for District Court and Court Services. The budget includes a supplemental request of \$6,000 to supplement the judicial salary of Magistrate Judge, Stephen Hilgers. The budget includes CIP requests of \$61,500 for computer equipment, painting the hallways, a door access control system, court services entry remodel, carpet replacement and a court security camera system. Jennifer stated that it is a priority to secure access doors to restricted areas of the court and to secure the entry area of the Court Services office.

The meeting recessed at 11:50 a.m. for travel to the Harvey County Historical Society for a luncheon meeting and budget presentation.

The meeting reconvened at 12:05 p.m. at the Harvey County Historical Society.

Debra Hiebert, Executive Director, presented the 2017 proposed budget and appropriation request for the Harvey County Historical Society. She reported on the 2015-16 activities and statistics and the goals for 2016-17. They are requesting an increase of \$2,500 over last year, for a total appropriation of \$57,500.

The meeting was recessed at 12:55 p.m. to return to the courthouse.

The meeting reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

Craig Clough, Appraiser, presented the proposed 2017 budget for the Appraiser's Office. The proposed budget for the Real Estate Division includes \$2,600 for the purchase of two new computers. The GIS Division budget also contains a CIP project for \$60,000 to fly aerial photography. This project will update the County's current aerial photography last flown in 2006. The commissioners requested Craig to speak with other counties and cities to see if they are also interested in having aerial photography done at the same time to possibly lower the cost.

Rex Yohn, Noxious Weed Director, presented the proposed 2017 Noxious Weed budget. The proposed budget includes a capital outlay request of \$7,000 for a spray mapping and logging system to be used on two county trucks and two county ATVs. The project would enable the Noxious Weed Department to have a detailed and accurate record of the application of herbicides on all county owned right-of-ways, along with applications made on privately owned properties.

Anthony presented the proposed 2017 County Commission budget. There are no supplemental requests.

At 2:15 p.m. Commissioner Hague made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss confidential matters involving economic development. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Counselor Greg Nye and Carmen Reimer, Deputy Clerk. Executive session ended at 2:25 p.m. with no action being taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



  
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George A. "Chip" Westfall, Chairperson

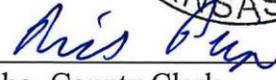
  
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Randy Hague, Member

  
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Ron Krehbiel, Member

ATTEST:

  
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Rick Piepho, County Clerk