

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

September 12, 2016

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on September 12, 2016 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Westfall called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

1. Commissioner Hague questioned the current status of recycling and separation operations at the landfill after hearing reports of inactivity in the recycling building. John Waltner, Administrator, explained the separation process and offered some possible reasons for the inactivity, but he will check with landfill staff and report his findings.
2. Commissioner Westfall stated that he was contacted by Highland Township officials who expressed appreciation and compliments to the county for the HIP work done on Dutch Avenue. He also asked about the status of repairing some bumps that appeared on S. Halstead Rd. after HIP work was completed. John stated that the Road & Bridge department has contacted the contractor about the situation and they are researching and exploring possible solutions.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Hague is scheduled to attend the Council of Governments meeting on Wed., September 14. The topic for the meeting is ERT and Drug Task Force funding.
2. The Chamber breakfast is scheduled for Friday, September 16. Commissioner Westfall will be unable to attend, but Commissioner Krehbiel may be able to attend in his place.
3. The Sedgwick Fall Festival is scheduled for September 17.

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

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. John reminded the commissioners of the meeting that has been scheduled for Tuesday, October 4 at noon for the Commissioners, Sheriff, County Attorney and District Court Judge to discuss juvenile detention costs and procedures.
2. John reported that the employee picnic has been scheduled for Sunday, September 25 at East Park Volunteer Hall from 4 p.m. to dusk.
3. John invited the commissioners to attend a ribbon cutting and reception for the new Health Ministries clinic at Newton Medical Center on October 5 from 4-6 p.m.
4. John stated that nominations for KCAMP board members are due soon and asked if the commissioners would like to submit a nominee. The commissioners replied that they are happy with their current representative and did not want to submit a new nominee.
5. John reported that Deb Hamm, USD 373 Superintendent, contacted him regarding a school bus getting stuck on Chisholm Ln. in Darlington Township. He explained some of the history of this road that the county was involved in repairing and improving in the past. He stated that the township officials have been contacted and they are working on repairing and maintaining the road to prevent further issues with the school buses.

6. John presented the value engineering proposal for the contract awarded to Bridges, Inc. for the replacement of bridge Q-16.9 on Dutch Ave. just east of Hesston. The submitted proposal reduces the total project cost to \$698,863.75, with the redesigned abutments, while maintaining the original timeline of 70 days to complete the project. The original bid was \$997,187.50 utilizing the originally specified abutment design. Commissioner Hague asked how much would be charged for additional engineering fees for MKEC to make the changes and create the final plans for the bridge after they engineered and created the original specifications that they suggested as a cheaper alternative to a conventional bridge structure. John replied that he has not received an estimate of the additional engineering costs. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to accept the Value Engineering proposal from Bridges, Inc. for a total cost of \$698,863.75 as presented and authorize MKEC to produce the final plans and contracts. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
7. Brian Palmer, Newton City/County Airport Manager, reported that an aerobatic competition was held over the weekend that included the U.S. Air Force glider team.
8. Gary Denny, Emergency Management Director, reported that more rain is forecasted for this week after multiple heavy rain events in the past week.
9. Derrick Richling, Parks Operations Supervisor, reported that some areas in the parks were briefly closed due to flooding over the weekend. He also stated that the archery tournament that was scheduled at East Park was postponed due to flooding of the course area. Commissioner Hague suggested that Parks staff should research the costs to contract the work needed to complete the recently erected restroom/bathhouse facility at West Park. Commissioner Krehbiel presented a list of issues to be addressed at West Park.
10. Anthony Swartzendruber, Assistant Administrator & Finance Director, reported that staff is still reviewing features and contracts for the proposed new financial system, but will be ready to present recommendations to the commission soon.
11. Rick Piepho, County Clerk, reported that his office is now offering Federal Duck Stamps for sale in addition to the Kansas Fish & Game license and boat registration services they have been providing. Now customers purchasing hunting licenses in the Clerk's office will not have to go to another location to get their Federal Duck Stamps.

CITIZENS FORUM:

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$62,896.24 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

John presented drafts of two separate resolutions to authorize the sale of county properties. John explained that one of the resolutions is to authorize the sale of the approximately 40 acre property owned by the county which is currently being used as a county park known as Camp Hawk. He gave a brief history of how the property was acquired by the county back in the mid 1970's and became a county park. He also stated that with two other larger county parks with more amenities, this park is no longer needed. The proceeds from the sale of this park would be deposited into a special Harvey County Parks fund to be used for improvements that directly affect park patrons, at the other two parks. John explained that other resolution is to authorize the sale of the 105' by 200' property owned

by the county which is located at 700 E. 14th St., Newton. A commercial building occupies most of the lot. He gave a brief history of how the property was acquired by the county for use by a non-profit organization that no longer exists. He also stated that the county is the landlord for the building which is now occupied by ResCare Inc. who also occupy adjacent property and buildings. The county receives about \$24,000 per year in rent from ResCare for the building. John expressed the opinion that the county should not be in the business of renting and maintaining commercial properties. The commissioners instructed John to proceed with preparing and presenting formal resolutions to the commission.

At 10:30 a.m. Commissioner Hague made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 15 minutes to discuss confidential matters with legal counsel. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Brian Palmer, Counselor Greg Nye and Rick Piepho. At 10:45 a.m. Commissioner Hague made a motion to extend the executive session for a period of 10 minutes to discuss confidential matters with legal counsel with the same attendees present. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Executive session ended at 10:55 a.m. with no action being taken.

The meeting was recessed at 10:55 a.m. The commissioners left to attend the Quad County Meeting in Wichita.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 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