

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

July 28, 2008

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on July 28, 2008 with all three Commissioners present. Chairman Krehbiel called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

There were no items added to the agenda.

Minutes of the July 21, 2008 meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Roberson, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. Willis Heck, designated representative for the Highway 50 Association, updated the Commission on the progress of the association. The group meets every other month and is scheduled to meet again in September. Each member of the group has identified the needs of their respective areas. The Federal Highway Trust Fund is in need of funds and the group has contacted Congress to see if funding can be supplied for 2009. Congress has tried twice to put money in the fund, but it failed to pass the House of Representatives. If the funding doesn't happen soon, many of the proposed projects will have to be delayed. The group agrees there should be a permanent schedule to replenish funds. There is a proposal to increase the gas tax from 18 cents a gallon to 28 cents a gallon to replenish the fund. There is a study in Oregon which would require drivers to pay into the road fund each time they fill up with gasoline. The amount paid would be based on how many miles were driven and where they were driven. There is opposition to this because people don't like to be tracked where they are driving. There is also much concern about emission controls and there is continuing research and new technology with regard to road safety.
2. Craig Simons reported that receipts from state gas tax are down significantly for first half of this year. The State distributes this money and it goes into the Road & Bridge Fund to be used in maintenance of Harvey County Roads. Because of high fuel costs, people have chosen not to drive as much which reduces the amount of money received from gas taxes. There is concern about how road maintenance is going to be funded as more & more people drive hybrid vehicles which run partially on electricity instead of gasoline.
3. Roy Patton, Superintendent of Solid Waste, gave the Commissioners a comparison between 2007 mowing expenses and what has been spent on the mowing service for the Transfer Station already in 2008. To this date \$3,600 has been spent in 2008 compared to \$4,200 for all of 2007. Mr. Patton also presented bids from Hale's Sales for a Hustler Super Z 25 HP, 72" deck for the price of \$8774.22; Dave's Sales for the same model for the price of \$8,499; and Heartland Sales for a 30 HP Grizzly 72" deck for the price of \$8,500. Purchasing a mower would enable mowing to be done during working hours by

existing transfer station personnel. Commissioner Roberson made a motion to authorize Mr. Patton to purchase a Hustler Super Z 72" deck for the quoted price of \$8,499 from Dave's Sales in Hesston. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Greg Nye, Harvey County Counselor, gave the Commissioners copies of letters sent to Michael and Shirley Weber and Mark and Candy Sizelove with regard to eminent domain proceedings for property on Ridge Road acquired for the replacement of two bridges. The County has asked Mr. Weber to pay back \$620 of the original settlement, but has allowed \$200 for the replacement of a fence. The amount Mr. Weber would have to pay back would be \$420. The original award given to Mr. Sizelove was \$6,000 plus \$500 for a temporary easement. The County is asking that Mr. Sizelove return \$500 from the original settlement and \$500 for the temporary easement. Mr. Sizelove would be responsible for replacing a peach tree and stump removal. The County will await the property owner's decisions.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

August 7, 2:00 p.m. – Floodplain Management public hearing
August 5, 12:00 p.m. - Public Building Commission 12:00
August 16, 9:00 p.m. – Wings of Remembrance Ice Cream Social
August 9, 10:00 a.m. – Halstead Old Settler's Parade

Jeanie Flaming, Director of Transportation, presented the contract renewal for O.T. Cab, Inc. and Harvey County. The last price increase for the cab company was in December of 2007; however, there may be an increase in the future. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to accept and approve the agreement with OT Cab, Inc. Commissioner Roberson seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

CITIZENS FORUM:

There were no citizens present for Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Roberson, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

Phil Adams presented **Resolution No. 2008-16** establishing speed limits on North Burmac Road between NW 60th and NW 72nd streets in the area one-fourth of a mile north and one fourth of a mile south of the bridge spanning the Little Arkansas River. The resolution was approved upon a motion by Commissioner Roberson, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

Rita Flickinger, Health Department Director, updated the Commissioners regarding the development of the Community Child Care Center. The Child Care Center, which is located on the campus of Newton Medical Center, has been owned and managed by Newton Medical Center until now. However, the hospital had sent out information to parents stating that the rates would have to be raised significantly. This became a community concern because of the limited

availability of child care. A group of concerned leaders has been able to put a plan together to manage and staff the center as a community child care center. The center will continue to be staffed by Bright Horizons and the administration of the center will change in September or October.

Craig Simons and Phil Adams met with 2 representatives from KDOT with regard to who has the maintenance responsibility for the bridge over the Little Arkansas River. KDOT is making an offer to have the County take over the maintenance of K-89. KDOT has made a proposal to repair the bridge and give the county enough money to maintain the road and the bridge for 20 years. More research will have to be done to determine the legal issues involved.

The Commission will meet for a special budget session on Wednesday, July 30 at 8:00 a.m.

Commissioner Westfall moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m. Commissioner Roberson seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chairman

ATTEST:

Member

County Clerk

Member