

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

**February 2, 2009**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on February 2, 2009 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Roberson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:**

1. The Commission discussed the organization and membership of the Fairgrounds Development Committee.
2. John Waltner and Commissioner Westfall attended a webinar, sponsored by the REAP organization, which discussed the Federal Stimulus package and how the monies will be appropriated. There will be money available for Amtrak, ocean ports, and highways. The governor will be distributing the money for highways. Harvey County needs to make sure that any plans for road or bridge projects be ready to go within the next 30 days. There are three bridge projects that need to be made priority, the Halstead Bridge, Kansas Ave. bridge, and the Burmac Road bridge. There will also be money available to airports. Commissioner Westfall reported that a bill has been introduced which will require any airport that allows airplanes that weigh 12,500 lbs or more to land have security checks. This would affect 320 airports in the United States.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. The annual Harvey County Conservation District dinner and meeting will be held on Monday, February 9. Commissioners Krehbiel and Westfall and spouses and Chairman Roberson will attend.
2. The Harvey County Fairgrounds Development Committee will meet on February 17 at 7:00 p.m. in the Commission room.
3. The annual Township meeting will be held this evening at 6:30 p.m. at the Harvey County Shop.

Minutes of the January 26, 2009 Commission meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. Craig presented information on employees who want to retire and then be rehired in the same position. Employees must wait 30 days after retirement to go back to work for any Retirement System employer. The County would be required to pay the same employer share to KPERS as they pay for other employees, which is a little over 5% for 2009. However, under KPERS rules, the employee cannot earn more than \$20,000 annually. If a KPERS retiree from another entity becomes a Harvey County employee, the employer share for KPERS is 12.13% for 2009, and there is no annual salary limit. The Commission will continue discussion on

- this issue at a later time.
2. The Commission discussed the Harvey County Employee Health and Wellness program for 2009. In 2008, employees were required to have a physical which included certain blood tests. Employees were also required to attend a Health Fair sponsored by the County. There were four employees who chose not to participate in the program and there were two additional employees who did not meet the requirements in a timely manner. The requirement for an employee physical will be continued in 2009, with the possibility of a health fair.
  3. The Commission received a copy of an article printed in the Wichita Eagle regarding Proposition K that is being developed in the Kansas Legislature. This proposition would automate the property-appraisal process and limit property valuation increases to 2 percent a year.

**CITIZENS FORUM:**

There were no citizens present for Citizen's Forum.

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

Lonnie Buller, Director of Emergency Management, made a recommendation that the Commission approve a burn ban for Harvey County. Strong winds are predicted to occur later in the week, and coupled with the dry conditions, present a significant risk of fire. Mr. Buller will present the paperwork for the ban later in the meeting.

Bob Cheney, Noxious Weed Director, presented the annual report for the Noxious Weed Department. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to approve the 2008 Noxious Weed Eradication report. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

There were no bids received for a 2008 or 2009 pickup for the Noxious Weed Department. Seven companies were sent bid letters. Mr. Cheney will call the potential bidders to see why they did not bid.

Lloyd Stoddard, Ranger at Harvey County West Park, presented three bids for the purchase of a Kawasaki Mule with trailer hitch for Harvey County West Park. The amount budgeted for this purchase is \$6,930.00. The bids are as follows:

Mid-America Powersports, Wichita	\$6,631.80
Ely's, Hutchinson	6,600.00
Dan's Cycle, Hesston	6,320.75

Commissioner Westfall made a motion to authorize the Parks Department to purchase the Kawasaki Mule from Dan's Cycle in the amount of \$6,320.75. With the remaining \$609.25 the Department is authorized to purchase a Kenwood 7180-H 2-way radio. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Scott Davies, Director of Planning & Zoning, presented the proposed Comprehensive Plan for the future growth of the City of Sedgwick. Keith DeHaven, Mayor, and Jacki Reimer, Administrator, expounded on the plan. The planning commission reviewed the plan at their December meeting but did not vote to recommend or deny approval, but found the plan favorable. The Commissioners also voiced support and acceptance of the plan as presented.

Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to go into executive session at 11:15 a.m. for a period of 30 minutes to discuss legal matters. Greg Nye, County Counselor; Roy Patton, Director of Solid Waste; and John Waltner, Special Projects Director, were also in attendance. Executive session ended at 11:45 a.m. with no action being taken.

Commissioner Westfall made a motion to authorize Craig Simons to contact Steve Racoosin of Bio-Gold, and offer them an opportunity of mutual release of the contract and if that is not successful, then authorize legal counsel to proceed with notice of default. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Lonnie Buller presented the paperwork to authorize a burn ban for Harvey County. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve the burn ban which begins today, February 2 and ends February 9, 2009. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

The Commission recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

Chairman Roberson adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

#### BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Marge Roberson, Chairman

ATTEST:

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George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member

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Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

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Ron Krehbiel, Member