

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

June 24, 2013

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on June 24, 2013 with all three Commissioners present. Chairman Westfall called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

1. Commissioner Krehbiel reported that the employee picnic held yesterday at West Park went very well.
2. Commissioner Westfall attended a meeting last week and reported that Barby Jobe from the Wichita Chamber of Commerce Governmental Affairs Division, announced that the Federal Government has changed the makeup of the Metropolitan Statistical Area. Anthony stated that the February 2013 report states that Kingman County is now being added to the group.
3. John Waltner, Administrator, requested a brief executive session sometime later in the day.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. Commissioner Hague, John Waltner, and Gina Bell will attend the Quad-County meeting in El Dorado on June 25th.
2. A special budget work session will be held immediately following the regular Commission meeting on July 1st. Another special budget meeting will be held on July 16 beginning at 8:00 a.m.
3. The budget will be finalized on August 12th.

Minutes of the June 17 Commission meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. John Waltner reported that the Appraiser's Office is currently undergoing some renovations including fresh paint in the office.
2. John reported that Bob Cheney, Noxious Weed Director, received a complaint from a property owner on SW 60th Street. The owner had planted some very small trees in the right-of-way that had become obscured by tall grass growing around them. Not realizing they were there, the Noxious Weed Department sprayed the right-of-way and the trees were damaged or destroyed.
3. Consultants will be here on the 8th of July to make a report to the Commission on what needs to be done to the courthouse building to address issues with the aging HVAC system, and other problems that have occurred with the deterioration of other building systems.
4. John reported that Gina Bell, Director of Planning & Zoning, continues to discuss some issues with the owner of a horse racing track south of Halstead. County planning and zoning regulations require that this type of operation be permitted, but at the current time it is not. Another racing event is scheduled there for July 6th.

5. John received a phone call from Doug King of North Carolina, developer of a waste-to-energy solid waste disposal system, has contacted John about submitting a proposal to the county. Although the county currently does not generate the 160 tons of waste per day that is required for the system to work, Mr. King wants to continue the discussion. The ICM experimental gasifier at the old landfill site is in the process of being dismantled.
6. It was reported that the Health Department has applied for and been approved to receive a small grant in the amount of \$2,700 to assemble a group of volunteers to assist with the distribution of pharmaceuticals in the event of a major disaster or emergency in the County.
7. John informed the Commission that Kass Miller, East Lake Supervisor, reported that there was a near drowning at East Lake last night about 7:45 p.m. A child was swimming and went underwater. When others noticed her missing, they were able to locate her and she was pulled from the water. Staff called 911 and she was treated and transferred by ambulance to Newton Medical Center.
8. John reported that he has talked to Jaci Reimer, Sedgwick City Administrator, about being the designee of an elected official to serve on the SKEDD Board. Jaci would replace Keith DeHaven, who recently passed away. She has spoken with the City Commissioners and received their approval to fill the position.
9. Mary Spires has submitted her letter of resignation as the RSVP Coordinator. She has accepted another position in the State of Missouri.
10. There have been some reports of insurance companies dropping coverage for government clients because of the new laws concerning concealed-carry in governmental buildings. KCAMP insurance, who insures Harvey County, will continue to insure the County.
11. Heidi Huber, Solid Waste Clerk, introduced Jerek Shoemaker, who will be assisting her assigning the proper solid waste fees for industrial and commercial businesses in Harvey County. Heidi also presented a recommendation to set the 2013 residential solid waste fee at \$36.00, which is the same amount that was charged in 2012. Roy Patton, Director of Solid Waste, agrees with the recommendation. Commissioner Hague asked how this compares to fees charged in the surrounding counties. John said it varies greatly and each county does it differently. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2013-12**, setting a service fee for solid waste facilities, assessing the fee on real property owners. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
12. Gina Bell, Planning & Zoning Director, presented a resolution to change the zoning classification for a property located at 4906 N Hesston Road. The property is currently being used as a residence but is classified as commercial. Proper notice of the change of zoning request has been given and no comments or objections were received. The Planning Commission approved the change upon a unanimous vote. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve **Resolution 2013-11**, changing the zoning classification of certain land. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
13. The Commissioners received a recommendation for the appointment of John Reed to the Harvey County Regional Planning Commission as the representative from the City of Walton. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to waive the second reading,

- approve the appointment and authorize the chairman to sign. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
14. Courtney Becker presented an Access Agreement between Hutchinson Community College and Harvey County. HCC maintains and operates an emergency communication dispatch training facility and the Department of Homeland Security South Central Homeland Security Region has granted money to purchase back-up emergency communication equipment to be located in the HCC Dispatch Center. As recommended by KCAMP insurance, changes were made in Section 3(B) of the agreement to protect the County from insurance liability. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve the agreement with the recommended changes. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
 15. Becky Opland, County Treasurer, requested that the fees for out-of-county driver's license renewals be changed from \$8.00 to \$20.00. The out-of-county drivers renewing their driver's licenses in Harvey County has dramatically increased. Commissioner Hague made a motion to give the County Treasurer the authority to increase the fees for out-of-county driver's licenses to \$20.00. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. The fees will go into effect on Tuesday, June 25. The other counties that surround Sedgwick County are also planning to increase their fees to \$20.00.
 16. John presented an agreement between the BNSF Railway, the County, and the Secretary of transportation of the State of Kansas, for Project No. 40 X-2796-01, STP-X279 (601), to construct and maintain crossing gates at the intersection of the railway and SW 48th Street. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve Project No. 40 X-2796-01, DOT NO. 009213R and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
 17. Anthony Swartzendruber presented the year to date sales tax collections. Collections for the month of June were up 2.76%, collections for the second quarter were down .71%, and year-to-date collections were up 3.02%.
 18. Anthony reported that the Health Department received word from the State of Kansas that the grant funding the department will be receiving has increased by about 2%. There is a significant increase in the Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Grant funding; however there is a decrease in four other grant funds.
 19. Counselor Greg Nye reported that a letter has been sent to the State Attorney General giving notice of six month exemption from the requirement that publicly owned buildings may only restrict license concealed carry when adequate security measures are present. During the ensuing six months, the County will make a decision as to how to secure the county-owned buildings.
 20. Sheriff T. Walton reported that the department had a very busy weekend. He also reported that another deputy was hospitalized with heart problems. Although the kilowatt usage at the Detention Center decreased, the electric bill for the month of May is up \$1,000 because of an increase per kilowatt hour. Sheriff Walton is recommending the Commissioners pass a resolution increasing the rate for state prisoners be increased from \$55.00 to \$65.00 per day.
 21. Byron Warta reported that although we have received some badly needed rains, the drought is not over. He stated that as an EDC representative, he receives information from the EDC on a monthly basis. He will start making copies of the information for

- the Commissioners if they would like to see it. He also reported the airport runway project is ahead of schedule, with a scheduled completion date of August 2.
22. Gina Bell reminded the Commissioners that there is a FEMA meeting scheduled for July 24th at the Halstead City Offices to look at new FEMA flood maps.

CITIZEN'S FORUM

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$115,099.44 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

Dwayne Roux, President of the Harvey County Conservation District, presented the proposed 2014 budget for the Conservation District. The requested appropriation from the county is \$17,000 in comparison to \$16,065 requested in 2012. The Commission will take the proposed budget under advisement.

Elizabeth Schmidt, Director of the Harvey/Marion County CDDO presented the proposed 2014 budget to the Commissioners. Ms. Schmidt thanked the Commissioners for the financial appropriation provided by the county since the CDDO Board was formed. Although there are reductions in revenues due to the implementation of the new KanCare system, the appropriation requested from the county is \$102,500, which is the same as the 2012 appropriation. The Commission will take the proposed budget under advisement.

Lucas Moody and Lindsey Stansbury presented information on the Mid-Kansas Community Action Program (MID-KCAP) which provides assistance to low-income clients. To date in 2013, there are 28 individuals that have been provided with housing assistance to help prevent homelessness. MID-KCAP receives 5-7 requests per day for housing assistance. Approximately 50% of those families follow through for services. 11.1% of the population in Harvey County can qualify for assistance. The amount of the appropriation requested for the 2014 budget year is \$5,000 which is the same amount requested for 2013. The Commissioners will take the request under advisement.

Mickey Fornaro-Dean, Director of the Harvey County EDC, presented the 2014 proposed budget. Also attending for the presentation were Dan Heinze, Larry Williams, and Byron Warta. Ms. Dean gave the Commission an overall view of the work of the EDC and reported several initiatives they are working on. There are staff changes in the office with the addition of Billie Wilson. The EDC now has a new logo and is in the process of redesigning the websites for both the EDC and the Kansas Logistics Park. She reported on several events that have occurred over the past year and several that are being planned including a healthcare seminar and a workshop for Harvey County business and industry. The funding requested for the 2014 budget year is \$133,139 as compared to \$128,886 in 2013, which translates to a 3.3% increase. Commissioner Krehbiel said that although he supports economic development, he is not in favor of granting an increase. Larry Williams stated that he has been involved in Economic Development for several years, and some economic development projects go well and others don't. However, it is important to have an active strong economic development organization.

Dan Heintz also expressed the importance of economic development partners and the relationships that are built with them. It is important to keep the EDC strong. The Commissioners will take the proposed budget under advisement.

Robert Myers, Newton City Attorney, presented a memorandum of understanding with the Port of Kansas City. There are no financial commitments involved for the County. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to allow the Kansas Logistics Park Development Committee to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Port of Kansas City. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Jessie Kaye, Executive Director of Prairie View, and Pam Burns, Vice-President of Out-Patient Services, gave a presentation to the Commissioners, citing several actual cases, of the need for mental health services in the County. The examples are representative of the level of distress that people in the county experience every day. Information was presented on the challenges of the new KanCare System and the progress of the new Community Health Center, which is collaboration between Prairie View, Health Ministries, and the Harvey County Health Department. The proposed appropriation for mental health is \$128,000 as compared to \$125,000 in 2013. The Commission will take the proposed budget under advisement.

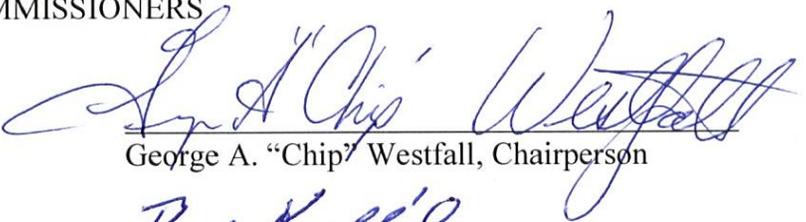
Rich Hanley, Director of the Department on Aging, and Karen Kaufman, Transportation Coordinator, presented the proposed 2014 budget for the department. They have 8 federal grants plus a United Way Grant that they receive. Rich went through the budget in detail and explained the provider standards that have been developed for all the Senior Centers in the County. They were adopted by the Department on Aging Council on May 9, 2013. The amount requested for 2014 for the Elderly Services Coordinator Program, and the amount requested for the RSVP program remains at \$23,261. The amount requested for the Elderly Services Program is \$117,839 as compared to \$120,666 in 2013. Several of the senior centers are projected to receive different amounts based on the provider standards. Commissioner Krehbiel questioned why the amount apportioned to the Newton Senior Center would be reduced and the amount received by the Hesston Senior Center would be increased. The amounts each center would receive were determined by how well the centers meet the needs of seniors as put forth by the provider standards that were adopted. Karen Kaufman explained the Transportation budget which requests \$177,289 compared to a request of \$155,244 for 2013. Kathy Swartzenberger, Director of the Newton Senior Center, protested the appropriation decrease for the Newton Senior Center. Robert Carlton, Advisory Council member, stated that the new standards were developed after extensive evaluation on what could be done to better serve the elderly population. The standards provide accountability for each of the senior centers, encouraging them to try to prioritize the needs. The budget also includes a decrease in the amount of funding for the ENLITE program, which is administered by the Newton Public Library, and provides large print books. Tina Payne, Director of the Harvey County United Way, addressed the Commission and offered that United Way provides some of the funding for the Newton Area Senior Center, Hesston Senior Center, Meals on Wheels, and RSVP. She encouraged the Commissioners to consider the United Way an active funding partner. Mary Ann Eichelberger, Director of the Newton Public Library, and Ann Eaton, Supervisor of the ENLITE program, also attended the meeting to hear the budget presentation. Mary Ann stated that they serve a part of the population that the senior centers cannot serve. Most of the folks that use the ENLITE program are

not able to attend senior centers. Usage of the ENLITE program has increased by 4% in the past year. The Commissioners will take the proposed budget under advisement.

At 2:35 p.m. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 5 minutes to discuss attorney/client privilege and personnel issues. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also in attendance for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Counselor Greg Nye, and Joyce Truskett. Anthony left the session after 3 minutes. Executive session ended at 2:40 p.m. with no action being taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George A. "Chip" Westfall, Chairperson


Ron Krehbiel, Member


Randy Hague, Member

ATTEST:


Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

