

**MINUTES OF**  
**BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**September 3, 2013**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on September 3, 2013 with all three Commissioners present. Chairman Westfall called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:**

1. Referring to a newspaper article that compared the debt of Reno and Harvey Counties, Commissioner Krehbiel clarified the amounts spent by Harvey County to develop new fairgrounds. Seventy Six acres of land was purchased, architectural plans were produced, and a feasibility study was done by the Center for Business Development and Research. The project is now on hold.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. Commissioner Hague will attend the Kansas State Chamber of Commerce meeting on Friday, September 6 in Wichita.
2. John Waltner may attend the transportation summit that will be held on September 5<sup>th</sup> in Emporia.
3. With the exception of the Council of Governments meeting on Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, Commissioner Hague will not be available from September 10<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> during business hours.
4. A joint meeting with the City of Newton Commissioners and the Harvey County EDC Executive Board will be held on September 16 at 11:00 in the Courthouse Community Room.

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. A Department Head meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11. Allison McFarland will make a presentation on working with Millennials. The Commissioners are invited to attend.
2. Lynnette Redington, Director of the Harvey County Health Department, has invited the Commissioners to attend a dinner meeting on September 26<sup>th</sup> which will include information on the role of County Commissioners in the public health process.”
3. Reservations have been made for the Commissioners to attend the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet on September 12<sup>th</sup>.
4. Sheriff T. Walton will submit a contract for food service at the Detention Center at next week’s meeting. Work is also being done on a contract for medical services.
5. The Commissioners received a schedule of five meetings to be held with regard to the South Central Kansas Prosperity Plan. One of the meetings will be held in Newton on Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at the Carriage Factory. The remaining four meetings will be held in Reno, Sedgwick, Sumner, and Butler Counties.

6. John reported that he and Anthony Swartzendruber drove to East Lake last week to see how the storm cleanup there was progressing. He stated that the Road and Bridge Department has done an outstanding job and have made a great deal of progress. Although there is more work to be done, a great deal of progress has been made and the area looks much better than it did after the storm. The Commissioners thanked Jim Meier, Road & Bridge Superintendent.
7. John reported that retired Fire Chief, Gary Denny, has agreed to work with Lonnie Buller, Director of Emergency Management, to plan and organize an exercise in November.
8. John requested a brief executive session to discuss non-elected personnel issues at the end of the Commission meeting.
9. Lonnie Buller reported that a meeting was held by FEMA Representatives and representatives from the Division of Emergency Management to discuss the preliminary damage assessment following the flooding that occurred last month. Twenty one agencies attended. It is believed that the county will be able to meet the threshold for all the agencies to receive assistance. One township has not reported any damage, but they still have an opportunity to do so.
10. Sheriff T. Walton reported that Harvey County did not send any personnel to Butler County following the shooting of a deputy there.
11. Byron Warta reported that the runway project at the Newton City/County Airport is now complete and the runway is open and functioning well. He invited everyone to attend a regional aerobatic competition that will be held there this coming Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. He also stated that an article in the Newton Kansan grossly overstated the cost of the runway renovations, and the details of the project were misstated. He requested that the correct information be obtained from the Airport Manager and printed in the paper.
12. The Commissioners received a copy of the minutes of the Walnut Basin Advisory Committee held on June 19<sup>th</sup>. Byron reported that there continues to be discussion and issues with the regional water supply problem.
13. Jim Meier reported that the Road & Bridge Department continues to work at East Park removing trees and cleaning up debris. They are also patching at various locations around the county. He asked about the status of the road closure on Osage Road. Counselor Nye will consult with Butler County to see if all property owners have been notified and what the next step should be. Jim reported that the Purple Wave Auction, where three pieces of equipment are being sold, will close on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup>.
14. Anthony presented the sales tax report for the month of August. Collections were down 6.72% compared to the same period in 2012; however collections are still 2.44% higher for the year-to-date. Anthony also provided an article to the Commissioners about what other states are doing following the presentation of the newly redrawn FEMA flood maps.
15. The publication notice "To those unknown defendants" in the tax foreclosure sale is set for a deadline of September 11, 2013 in which to respond. Thereafter, a journal entry will be circulated for approval by various parties of record, to be filed in early November.

16. The Commissioners received an invitation from Jessie Kaye, Executive Director of Prairie View, to attend a meeting on September 27 regarding the evolution of healthcare reform in Kansas.

**CITIZENS FORUM:**

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$55,428.43 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

Courtney Becker, Director of Communications, presented a timeline for the 800 MHz Radio Project. The timeline includes preparation of a grant request for a Firefighters Grant to be submitted during the month of September in addition to an educational meeting with the Council of Governments in October. A meeting with KDOT and Motorola will take place during the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of this year. The site identification process will begin as soon as possible and funding from Homeland Security will also be explored.

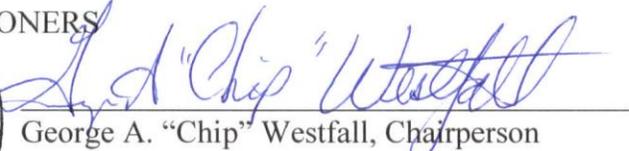
At 10:15 a.m. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel issues. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also in attendance for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Counselor Greg Nye, and Joyce Truskett, County Clerk. Executive session ended at 10:30 a.m. with no action being taken.

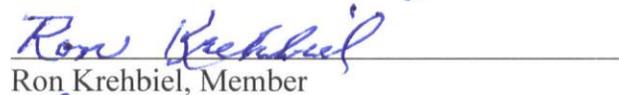
At 10:30 a.m. Commissioner Hague made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 15 minutes to discuss non-elected personnel issues. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also in attendance for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Counselor Greg Nye, and Joyce Truskett, County Clerk. Executive session ended at 10:45 a.m. with no action being taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

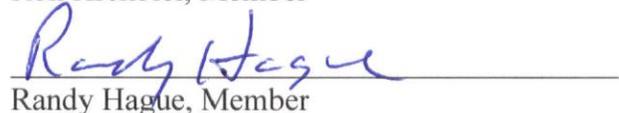


  
George A. "Chip" Westfall, Chairperson

  
Ron Krehbiel, Member

ATTEST:

  
Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

  
Randy Hague, Member