

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

December 30, 2013

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on December 30, 2013 with all three Commissioners present. Chairman Westfall called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

1. Commissioner Hague commended the Road and Bridge Department for doing a good job on road clean up after the snow and ice storm. A citizen reported that Harvey County Roads were in better condition than some of the other surrounding counties.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. The REAP South Central Kansas Legislative Committee will hold a meeting on January 9 at 4:15 p.m. at the Wichita Technical College-NCAT Campus.
2. A Council of Governments meeting will be held January 8 at 7:00 a.m. at the Breadbasket. The County school districts will share concerns about issues that may impact taxes.

Minutes of the December 23 Commission meeting were corrected and approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

3. The Commissioners signed a letter to be sent to Senator Carolyn McGinn expressing opposition to the proposed legislation to eliminate the mortgage registration fee. John Waltner expressed his appreciation that Chad Frey, Editor of the Newton Kansan, was willing to write a story about this pending legislation.
4. The Commissioners signed a letter to be sent to the Harvey County Farm Bureau in support of the K DFA loan program for beginning farmers.
5. John reported that implementation of a component of KanCare that affects persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities has been delayed. KanCare is the Kansas privatized Medicaid system. Advocates for the developmentally disabled are very concerned about the effects of those persons being included in the KanCare system.
6. John explained a drainage problem that is occurring at the Health Department causing significant ice build up on the street adjacent to the building. The sump pump line will be cleared in an effort to divert some of the water to an existing drain.
7. A leak occurred at the Detention Center last week. The leak was inside an interior wall. A pressure relief valve will be installed to prevent this from reoccurring.
8. The new commercial vehicle registration system will be implemented in the Motor Vehicle Department on January 1.
9. Jim Meier, Road and Bridge Superintendent, reported that staff was called to work on December 20th, 21st, and 23rd to clear roads. He said there are still some employees on vacation.

10. Sheriff T. Walton reported that a fatality occurred on I-135 early Saturday morning. He also reported that they are working on vehicle bids and are considering all-wheel drive vehicles.
11. Jim Meier requested that the annual Township Dinner be scheduled for Monday, February 10th at 6:30 p.m.
12. Anthony Swartzendruber presented the sales tax figures for December, 2013. Year to date figures are up 2.25% for the county. A billing of \$114,000 for work comp insurance premiums for 2014 has been received. This is down from a premium of \$134,190 for 2013. At the end of each year claims are audited and the premium is then adjusted either up or down. KCAMP premiums have also been received and reflect an increase of about 4.3% or \$6,000.
13. Willis Heck, Harvey County representative to the Highway 50 Organization, asked the Commission if they would be supportive of the Association advocating for a four-lane to be constructed between Newton and Emporia. KDOT has stated that they will not construct a four-lane to the Colorado line, but would be willing to improve the road with extended and additional passing lanes. This would be an item for the next 10-year plan. The Commission expressed support for this request.
14. The advertising banner for the “Spring into Action” program was presented to the Commissioners. The program was introduced by RSVP Coordinator, Dawn Warrington, at last week’s Commission meeting.

CITIZENS FORUM:

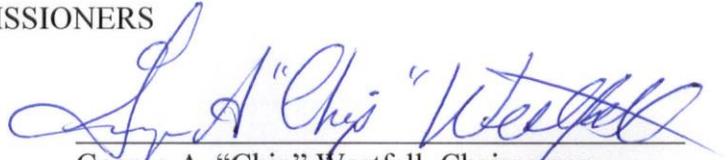
There were no items presented during Citizen’s Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$224,628.73 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

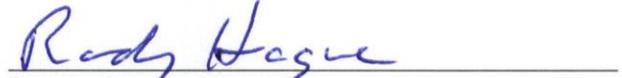
Counselor Greg Nye and Margaret Hermstein, Register of Deeds, presented a contract for surveyor services, appointing three licensed land surveyors. The surveyors listed are Dan Garber of Garber Surveying, Lloyd Dorzweiler of Alpha Land Survey, and any licensed land surveyor with Ruggles and Bohm. Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve the contract with a clarification on page 2, paragraph 3, adding language of “county surveyor.” Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George A. "Chip" Westfall, Chairperson


Ron Krehbiel, Member


Randy Hague, Member

ATTEST:


Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

