

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

November 12, 2013

Chairman Westfall called the regular meeting of the Board of Harvey County Commissioners to order at 9:00 a.m. All three Commissioners were present.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

1. Commissioner Krehbiel reported that the camp hosts at West Park have painted and caulked the windows at the shelter house. They would also like to paint the walls and the ceiling. He suggested that paint be provided for them to finish the project.
2. The South Central Kansas Parks Meeting will be held at the West Park Community Building beginning at 10:00 a.m. on November 13th.
3. Commissioner Hague reported that he continues to receive calls from citizens regarding the 40-acre rule. John Waltner stated that this will be the main topic of discussion at the Planning Commission meeting. He also suggested that the Commissioners might like to schedule a work session to discuss the rule. Commissioner Westfall requested a report on how many building permits have been issued for land parcels that contain fewer than 40 acres. The work session will not be scheduled until the results of the report are in.
4. Chairman Westfall asked whether there are any plans to do a media release about waterfowl hunting at East Lake. John said that could be done and there could also be an advertisement placed in the Newton Kansan.
5. Chairman Westfall received a call from the New York Times who is preparing a story on how the changes in state tax laws are affecting the operation of counties, cities, and school districts.
6. Chairman Westfall commended Jim Meier, Road & Bridge Superintendent, and his staff for hauling 125 tons of salt for the City of Newton to use to de-ice streets.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. The Commissioners and spouses will attend the Planning & Zoning Appreciation Dinner on Tuesday, November 26 at the Warkentin House at 6:00 p.m.
2. The Commissioners and spouses will attend the Extension Council annual dinner and meeting on Tuesday, November 19th at 6:30 p.m. in the Courthouse Community Room.
3. The annual meeting of the Public Building Commission will be held on January 7th. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for 12:00 p.m. The meeting will include the election of PBC officers and the adoption of a bond resolution.
4. A REAP Legislative Summit will be held on Friday, December 6th at Terradyne Country Club in Wichita. The summit will begin at 10:30 a.m. Chairman Westfall is requesting that a representative from each entity give a report on issues specific to them. Commissioner Hague will give the report for Harvey County.

Minutes of the November 4 Commission meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. John reported that he and Anthony Swartzendruber met with a representative of the state Conservation Improvement Program last week regarding the upgrade of energy systems within the courthouse. 360 Energy Engineers has made the decision to participate in the conservation program. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign an agreement with 360 Energy Engineers to proceed with an Investment Grade Audit. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. The audit process will begin on Thursday, November 14th with 360 Energy engineers, state representatives from the FCIP Program, and administration and maintenance staff.
2. The Commissioners received a copy of a communication from the Kansas Bankers Association regarding their intent to introduce legislation during the 2014 legislative session to eliminate the mortgage registration fee. Bernie Koch, lobbyist, will discuss the issue at the Council of Governments meeting tomorrow.
3. Commissioner Westfall requested information on the number and amount of commercial vehicle registrations that are subject to the new commercial vehicle fee. The fee is charged when commercial vehicles are registered in the Treasurer's Office.
4. John updated the Commissioners on the lawsuit filed against the State of Kansas regarding monies being withdrawn from the Oil and Gas Valuation Depletion Trust Fund. To date, Harvey County has paid \$31.24 to participate in the lawsuit.
5. Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2013-21**, requesting a waiver from GAAP reporting in the preparation of Harvey County Comprehensive financial statements and reports in accordance with K.S.A. 75-1120a(c)(1). Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
6. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve **Resolution No. 2013-22** to transfer funds from the Road and Bridge Fund to the Special Highway Improvement Fund. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
7. Counselor Greg Nye informed the Commission that he will be absent from the meeting for a period of 15 minutes beginning at 10:00 a.m.
8. The Commissioners received a copy of the Governor's directive to develop a 50-Year Vision for the Future of Water in Kansas. The directive was announced at the Governor's Conference on the Future of Water. Byron Warta also reported that all of the major oil companies that had come to Kansas to do horizontal drilling have apparently left the southern area of the state. Some smaller companies continue to do some drilling on leases that were relinquished. Because drilling companies are not required to report results of drilling to the state, Byron suggested keeping a close eye on new drilling in the county.
9. Jim Meier reported that two employees from the Road & Bridge Department attended a snow and ice removal class last week.
10. Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve revised **Resolution 2013-20**, stating that certain equipment is no longer required for use by the county and is authorized to be sold. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

11. Anthony informed the Commission that he is working on a county debt management policy. He will present it to the Commissioners at the next meeting.
12. The Commissioners received a copy of the list of state holidays for the 2014 year. The county holidays are typically set to follow the state list. A resolution listing the county holidays for 2014 will be presented at a future Commission meeting.

CITIZENS FORUM:

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$1,342,207.38 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Krehbiel, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

John Waltner presented a mutual release between Poe & Associates and Harvey County to discontinue an agreement for professional engineering services. John reported that he, Anthony, Roy Patton, Jim Meier, and Counselor Greg Nye met with two representatives of Poe & Associates last week. Three projects that are currently in progress with Poe and Associates were identified. They are the Burmac Bridge, the Landfill Closure, and the Hesston Bridge. Each of the projects will be reviewed and a determination will be made of how to proceed in finishing the projects. Discussion was held regarding the replacement of a county appointed engineer, and whether it would be possible to subcontract a county engineer from a nearby county. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to authorize Jim Meier to send requests for proposals to request bids for a new engineering firm to provide engineering services for the county. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. This search will be done as expediently as possible.

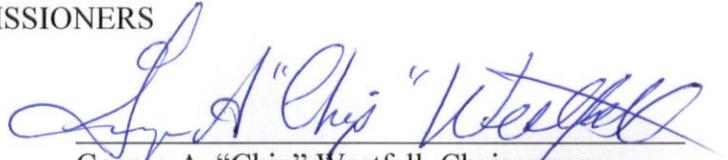
John presented a recommendation from staff to offer the position of Director of Harvey County Parks to Kimberley Rowley, who has an extensive background as Director of Parks in the State of Iowa. Discussion was held regarding the requirements of the position and what will be expected of the new director. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to offer the position of Director of Parks to Ms. Rowley. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. If she accepts the position, she will begin employment on December 9th.

Counselor Greg Nye gave an overview of the tax foreclosure sale that was held November 8th in the Courthouse Community Room. The Sheriff conducted the auction which originally contained 99 causes, 36 of which were vacant lots in the Wheatridge Addition. The sale of three causes was delayed for various reasons and will be held for sale at a later time. There were 53 causes that were either sold at the sale or the owners paid the taxes prior to the sale. Counselor Nye explained that title insurance companies will not write title insurance for one year following the sale unless a quit-claim document is signed by the prior owner. Harvey County purchased 30 lots in the Wheatridge Addition, which cannot be resold for six months. The motion to confirm the tax foreclosure sale will be heard in court on November 25th.

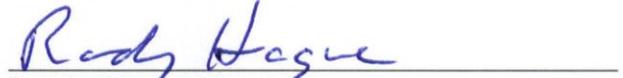
The Commissioners left at 11:05 a.m. to tour the lots in the Wheatridge Addition that are now owned by Harvey County.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 a.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


George A. "Chip" Westfall, Chairperson


Ron Krehbiel, Member


Randy Hague, Member

ATTEST:


Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

