

MINUTES OF
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

November 17, 2014

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on November 17, 2014 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Krehbiel called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:

There were no items added to the agenda.

CALENDAR ITEMS:

1. The annual Harvey County Extension Council meeting and dinner will be held on Tuesday, November 25 at 6:30 p.m. at Trinity Heights Methodist Church. The location was incorrectly and listed on the calendar as the Courthouse Community Room.
2. The Local Emergency Planning Commission will meet in the Law Enforcement Center Training Room on Wednesday, December 10 at 9:00 a.m.
3. Farm Bureau will sponsor a legislative forum at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 11 at the Water's Edge Restaurant in Hesston.
4. Great West Financial Group, new advisors for the Voya Deferred Compensation Program for the State of Kansas will hold meetings with Harvey County employees on Tuesday, December 2 at 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. to explain changes in the plan.

Minutes of the November 10, 2014 Commission meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously. Minutes of the November 10 Election Canvass were corrected and approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously. The minutes of the November 10, 2014 joint City/County Commission meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

1. John Waltner, Administrator, reminded the Commissioners that there will be a Park Board meeting held this evening at 7:00 p.m. at Volunteer Hall at East Lake.
2. The Harvey County Republican Party will meet this evening at 7:00 p.m. to nominate a new County Clerk, following the resignation of Joyce Truskett. Ms. Truskett's last day as County Clerk will be December 19.
3. The monthly Chamber of Commerce breakfast meeting will be held at 7:00 a.m. on Friday, November 21 at the Meridian Center. Troy Carlson of Initiatives Inc. and Mickey Fornaro-Dean will present the findings of the SWOT study done for the Kansas Logistics Park.
4. John reported that progress continues on the 800 MHz radio project. Don Gruver, Director of 911 Communications, has identified some options for tower locations. More details will be provided at the next Commission meeting.
5. The Commissioners are invited to a lunch meeting with Prairie View at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 19.

6. John received an e-mail message from Senator Carolyn McGinn, who forwarded a request from the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission, requesting a letter of support for regional passenger rail service. John drafted a letter reiterating the Commissioner's support of this service.
7. There will be an Aviation Commission meeting held later this afternoon. John presented a list of items that will be brought up for discussion and requested that the Commissioners note additional discussion items, if any.
8. The Commissioners received a copy of the Judicial State holidays for the year of 2015. Harvey County takes these holidays into account before the list of county holidays is set. Since Christmas falls on Friday in 2015, the state set both December 24 and December 25 as holidays.
9. Kass Miller, Director of Parks, reported that a camper that was being stored at West Park was broken into and someone had been living in it. The RV owner will be notified by the Sheriff's Office. Kass also reported that the new full time maintenance person, Jerry Howell, began work today. He also informed the Commissioners that park personnel were performing a controlled burn at East Park last Thursday and the wind picked up and the fire got out of control and spread into a hay field.
10. Gina Bell, Director of Planning and Zoning, updated the Commission on the horse racing track south of Halstead. The owners of the track had been given a list of safety and sanitary conditions that required correction. Some items on the list have been taken care of and others have not. Some items have not been done properly and will need to be corrected. The owners will be at next week's Commission meeting to discuss what needs to be done.
11. Lynnette Redington, Director of the Health Department, reported on the development of the Newton City Master Bike Plan, which is being funded by a \$50,000 grant from tobacco companies. Lynnette also informed the Commission that one case of pertussis has been reported in the county.
12. Byron Warta reported that he attended the Governor's Water Conference last Thursday and Friday. There are 16 or 17 of the priorities listed in the Governor's Fifty Year Water Plan that have been implemented. One of the speaker's at the conference reported that only 5% of the earthquakes occurring in Kansas are caused by fracking.
13. Sheriff T. Walton displayed a sample body camera that will be worn by a couple of deputies on a trial basis. The cameras will record all of the officers movements throughout their shift. Some law enforcement agencies are purchasing the cameras to record what happens during a confrontation of any kind. The cameras cost about \$850 each. The Sheriff also reported that there were many traffic slide-offs over the weekend with the first snow of the season. One semi burned following a slide-off. He also reported that the department spent most of last week assisting with an investigation in North Newton, where several arrests were made.
14. Counselor Greg Nye reported that he attended a County Counselor's meeting last Thursday.
15. Anthony Swartzendruber reported that work continues in the basement of the courthouse. The replacement of the windows should begin this week. One of the boilers is now functioning in the Detention Center.

16. Roy Patton, Director of Solid Waste, reported that in October the Kansas Department of Agriculture inspected the scales at the Transfer Station and determined that they needed to be upgraded to accommodate today's regulations. Roy stated that those upgrades have now been completed.

CITIZENS FORUM:

Dana Shiflett attended the meeting to discuss the proposed changes to the Law Enforcement Center. The Commissioners explained that it is the Newton Police Department that is proposing an expansion.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$880,911.73 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

A lease agreement between and by Prairie View, Inc. and Harvey County was presented for the lease of space for the County Health Department in the newly renovated building at 215 S Pine. Counselor Greg Nye and Lynnette Redington reviewed the specifics of the lease, including who would be responsible for necessary repairs or replacement of equipment, such as heating and air conditioning; and the pro-ration of utility costs, including sewer, water, and gas; rent payments. Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve and enter into the lease agreement by and between Prairie View Inc. and the Harvey County Health Department, to approve the Addendum to the Lease Agreement, and authorize the Chairman to sign. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. John expressed his appreciation to Lynnette and Counselor Nye for their hard work in finalizing this contract.

The Commissioners held discussion on replacement of the Director of the Noxious Weed Department. Bob Cheney, the current Director, is retiring on December 19.

Discussion was held regarding the 800 MHz radio project and how to fund it.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Ron Krehbiel

Ron Krehbiel, Chairperson

Randy Hague

Randy Hague, Member

ATTEST:

Joyce Truskett

Joyce Truskett, County Clerk

George A. "Chip" Westfall

George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member