

**MINUTES OF**  
**BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

**May 31, 2016**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on May 31, 2016 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 he has been contacted by some residents in his district regarding some possible fence issues and vacated or unimproved roads. Greg Nye, County Counselor, will explore the issue.
2. Commissioner Krehbiel also reported that the western part of the county is very wet and some areas are flooded following the rains last week.
3. Commissioner Westfall reported that he was honored to represent the county at the ceremony held last Wednesday night in Hesston to recognize and thank those involved in the February 25 shooting incident.
4. Commissioner Westfall reported that one of the roads at West Park that is near the river is close to being washed out. He stated that the road may need to be moved further from the river bank in the future.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. The second meeting of the active shooter focus group will be held June 1 at 8:30 a.m.

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

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. Bob Myers, Interim Newton City Manager, and Suzanne Loomis, Newton City Engineer/Director of Public Works presented the final plans and specifications for the Newton City/County Airport Drainage and Stormwater Quality Project. Suzanne reported that a full detour of the section of Oliver Rd. for 60 days will be required during the construction; she has contacted Newton Township regarding the use of Hillside Rd. and 12<sup>th</sup> St. for the detour. The plans and specifications have already been approved by the Newton City Commission to be sent to contractors for bids which will be due June 25. Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve final plans and specifications for the Newton City/County Airport Drainage and Stormwater Quality Project and proceed with posting the invitation to bidders. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
2. John Waltner, County Administrator, reported that he will be out of the office June 1-9.
3. Rollin Schmidt, Solid Waste Director, reviewed the bids opened last week for the purchase of a new 2015 or 2016 roll-off trailer. He stated that he contacted the low bidder who did not provide a delivery cost and they stated that there is no charge for delivery. He recommends purchasing the trailer from the low bidder, Ruble Truck Sales. Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve the purchase of the 2017 Pitbull PB26 roll-off trailer from Ruble Truck Sales for \$41,000.00 total delivered cost. Commissioner Krehbiel seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.
4. John distributed copies of estimated costs, prepared by the County Clerk, for each City and the County to conduct a mail ballot election if needed.

5. John reported that some grants may be available from the federal government as a result of the recent meetings with the Office for Victims of Crime.
6. Scott Eckert, Harvey County Extension Agent, introduced Anne Pitts who was recently hired as a Family and Consumer Science Agent. She is a KSU graduate.
7. Gary Denny, Emergency Management Director, reported that the Little Arkansas River exceeded flood stage in the Alta Mills area and near Halstead, but there have not been any issues reported.
8. Jim Meier, Road & Bridge Superintendent, reported that his department was busy over the weekend placing barricades due to flooding. He also reported that he and John are contacting the contractor for the North Newton to Hesston sewer line project regarding the height of the clean outs in the right-of-way along the Hesston Rd. Prior to beginning construction the contractor agreed that the cleanouts would not stand above ground level, but the current height of the cleanouts is above ground level causing a possible hazard for vehicles and issues with mowing.
9. Derrick Richling, Parks Operations Supervisor, stated that the parks were busy over the holiday weekend, but some areas at East Park and at West Park had to be closed due to flooding. He stated that all areas are open now. He reported that some vehicles that went around the barricades are still stuck.
10. Anthony Swartzendruber, Assistant Administrator & Finance Director, reported that he is compiling a list of all damages from the hail storm last Thursday; at least 16 vehicles and the bait shop at West Park received storm damage. He also reported that sales tax collections are up for the month compared to last year.

#### **CITIZENS FORUM:**

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$100,951.03 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Krehbiel. Motion passed unanimously.

The appropriation request hearing for Caring Hands Humane Society scheduled for 10 a.m. was postponed due to the absence of a representative.

Gary Denny presented the proposed 2017 budget for the Emergency Management Department. The budget includes supplemental requests for \$480 for a MIFI or mobile internet connection, \$3,500 for an ICS/EOC interface course and \$5,000 to create a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The budget includes 2017 CIP requests for \$4,000 for an additional 800 MHz radio. He gave an overview of 2015 accomplishments and statistics, current 2016 projects and goals for 2017 including expansion of their presence on social media. Gary also distributed copies of the 2016-2018 Harvey County Training and Exercise Plan.

Kevin Stubbs, Caring Hands Humane Society, Executive Director, presented the 2017 appropriation request. Caring Hands Humane Society is requesting an appropriation for 2017 of \$9,000. The request is for the same amount as the appropriation awarded for 2016.

Sandy Frazier, Newton Saddle Club, presented the 2017 appropriation request. The Newton Saddle Club is requesting an appropriation for 2017 of \$3,000. The request is for the same amount as the appropriation awarded for 2016.

Harvey County Free Fair board members presented the 2017 appropriation request. Harvey County Free Fair is requesting an appropriation for 2017 of \$24,500. The request is for the same amount as the appropriation awarded for 2016. They are also requesting a supplemental request for \$20,420 for capital improvements for the buildings and grounds.

The presentation of the budget for the Administration department was postponed to the end of the budget presentations due to time constraints.

Don Gruver, Director of 911 Communications Department, presented the proposed 2017 budget for the department and the 911 fund. He reviewed the 2015 accomplishments and the 2016 and 2017 goals and objectives. He reported that earlier this year they were able to get the 800 MHz radio project fully operational. They were also involved in the active shooter event and the wildfire event this year. He reported that the goal for 2017 is to migrate to the statewide Next-Gen 9-1-1 system. The 2017 Communications budget includes a request to fill the vacant radio maintenance technician position, which is no longer needed, with a dispatcher. Capital outlay items include \$35,000 to replace the communications truck, \$1,600 for two new dispatch chairs and \$7,500 for the purchase of four laptop computers and printers. Supplemental requests include \$9,200 for increased utility costs for the two tower sites and \$59,012 for an additional 1.25 dispatcher positions. Anthony stated that there are not sufficient revenues in the 911 Fund to cover all of the expenses, so the budget includes the proposed transfer of expenses from the 911 fund to the Communications fund. The transfer reduces the budget request for the 911 combined fund, but creates supplemental requests for \$60,127 for equipment maintenance, \$4,500 for equipment repairs and \$750 for vehicle maintenance. Anthony stated that repairs need to be made this year to the HVAC system for the communications office and that funding is available due to the delay in equipment maintenance costs for the 800 MHz system. Commissioner Krehbiel made a motion to approve the immediate conversion of the radio tech position to a dispatcher position and amend the 2016 CIP budget by \$40,000 to repair the HVAC system for the communications office. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

The meeting was recessed at 12:10 p.m. for lunch.

The meeting reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

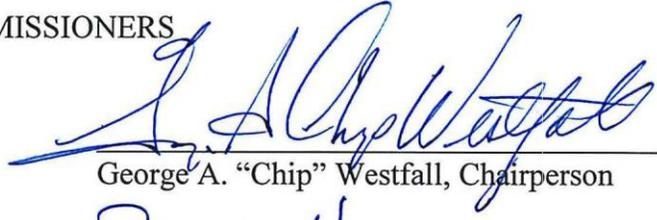
David Yoder, County Attorney, presented the proposed 2017 budget for the County Attorney department and the Diversion fund. Both budgets remained flat with no supplemental requests. David stated that the total number of cases filed is up and juvenile cases are rising. The remodeling of the office to create an office space for the additional Assistant Attorney, Julianne Burton was completed this year. David reported that his department is increasing the number of diversions where possible.

John presented the proposed 2017 Administration budget. The budget is in line with last year's budget. The Administration budget contains a capital outlay request of \$2,800 to replace two computers and a printer. Included with the budget is a supplemental request for an unknown amount to create a Public Information Officer position.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

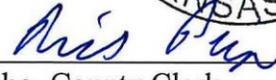


  
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George A. "Chip" Westfall, Chairperson

  
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Randy Hague, Member

  
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Ron Krehbiel, Member

ATTEST:

  
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Rick Piepho, County Clerk