

**MINUTES OF**  
**BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**January 23, 2017**

The Board of Harvey County Commissioners met in regular session on January 23, 2017 with all three commissioners present. Chairman Krehbiel called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**ITEMS ADDED TO AGENDA:**

1. Commissioner Westfall reported that Loren Entz who was elected in November and took office on January 9 as the Darlington Township Treasurer resigned from the position on January 17. He also reported that the Pleasant Township Clerk position is currently vacant due to the election of Lynn Voth as Township Trustee.
2. Commissioner Krehbiel attended the Regional Solid Waste meeting last week. He reported that there are two open positions for Harvey County representatives on an advisory committee.

**CALENDAR ITEMS:**

1. The Farm Bureau breakfast is scheduled on February 21 at 7:00 a.m. at the Breadbasket in Newton.

Minutes of the January 17 Commission regular meeting were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Westfall, seconded by Commissioner Hague. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

1. John Waltner, Administrator, stated that the closing is done and the check for \$149,415.00 has been received to complete the sale of the ResCare property to Northview Developmental Services, Inc.
2. John reported that last Friday afternoon a county computer system data storage volume failed. The volume was repaired and restored with data from the backup from the previous evening, but some files created or saved on Friday were lost and will need to be recreated.
3. John reported that the County Wide Collaboration meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 9 at the Meridian Center. A presentation will be given about the active shooter events that occurred in Harvey County last February.
4. John reported on the status of the applications for State and Federal Victims of Crime grants for the active shooter events last February. He stated that a federal grant application will be submitted soon. He reported that a state grant application was completed and the county has been awarded a \$225,000 grant to assist the victims and others affected by the events. He stated that about half of the grant dollars will be directed to mental health and counseling programs to be administered by Prairie View.
5. Carol Sue Stayrook Hobbs, Harvey County Food & Farm Council Chairperson, presented the 2016 Annual Report of the purpose, activities and accomplishments of Food & Farm Council for its first year. Some of the accomplishments listed were receiving a \$10,000 grant from the Kansas Health Foundation, attending food assessment training, creating branding and policies for the organization and conducting a community health survey.
6. John reported that a retirement reception for longtime Treasurer's office employee Shirley Riffel is scheduled for 2-4 p.m. on January 27 in the community room.
7. Kass Miller, Parks Director, reported that work continues on the new bathroom/shower house at West Park. He also reported that a Parks Board meeting is scheduled for tonight at West Park.

8. Lynnette Redington, Health Department Director, reported that seven flu cases have been reported and are being investigated.
9. Sheriff Chad Gay reported that his department is working on options for transporting the two murder suspects in custody in San Diego to Harvey County.
10. Anthony Swartzendruber, Assistant Administrator & Finance Director, reported that KAC is tracking the activity of a few active bills in the Kansas legislature that would affect counties including a bill to allow commissions to set their meeting date, expanding home rule for counties, employer liability limits for employees with handguns and a few bills regarding forfeiture funds. He also reported that he is planning to present the unaudited financials at next week's meeting.
11. Rick Piepho, County Clerk, reported that HB 2017 has been signed by the Governor. HB 2017 changes the timeframe for holding the special election to fill a vacancy in the US House of Representatives from 45-60 days to 75-90 days. District 4 U.S. House Representative Mike Pompeo is still in the process of being confirmed for his appointment as CIA Director.
12. Darlington Township officers Leo Stahly, Clerk and Curtis Schmidt, Trustee recommended that the commission appoint Steve Koerner to fill the vacant Darlington Township position. Steve previously served as treasurer, but was not re-elected in November. The candidate who was elected to the position resigned soon after taking office. Steve has agreed to fill the vacant position. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to appoint Steve Koerner as Darlington Township Treasurer. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

#### **CITIZENS FORUM:**

There were no items presented during Citizen's Forum.

Warrant checks in the amount of \$223,436.38 were approved upon a motion by Commissioner Hague, seconded by Commissioner Westfall. Motion passed unanimously.

The proposed Bid Forms for Hay Lease - A and Hay Lease - B were presented. The bids are for contracts to hay two tracts of county owned property at East Park. A minimum bid of \$30 per acre is required for each tract. The Lease - A tract is for 33.95 acres and the Lease - B tract is 32.65 acres. The bids will be due at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 17 to be opened in public on Monday, February 21 during the commission meeting. Commissioner Hague made a motion to approve and distribute the Bid Forms for Hay Lease - A and Hay Lease - B. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

The Employment Agreement with Anthony Swartzendruber for the position of County Administrator for the initial period of March 1, 2017 to February 28, 2019 was presented for approval. Current Administrator John Waltner is retiring effective February 28, 2017 and Anthony is being promoted from his current position as Assistant Administrator & Finance Director to Administrator. Commissioner Westfall made a motion to approve the Employment Agreement with Anthony Swartzendruber for the position of County Administrator for the initial period of March 1, 2017 to February 28, 2019 as presented. Commissioner Hague seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. John stated that he was pleased that the commission chose to promote Anthony to this position; he deserves the promotion and will do a good job serving the county. Anthony stated that he looks forward to serving as the Administrator and continue working with the great employees of Harvey County to build on the accomplishments of the current leadership.

John requested a one month extension to his current contract which is set to expire on January 31. John is planning to retire on February 28. Commissioner Hague made a motion to extend the employment contract with John Waltner for the position of County Administrator for the period of February 1, 2017 to February 28, 2017 at the current salary. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

The commissioners reviewed the revised job descriptions for the Administrator and Assistant Administrator positions and the new job description for Public Information Officer & Special Projects Coordinator (PIO) position. The commissioners agreed to approve the Administrator job description as presented. The commissioners suggested a few changes to the Assistant Administrator and PIO job descriptions, but agreed that they should be posted as soon as the corrections are made to start receiving applications for the two positions.

At 10:35 a.m. Commissioner Hague made a motion to go into executive session for a period of 10 minutes to confer with attorney regarding privileged matters. Commissioner Westfall seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Also present for the session were John Waltner, Anthony Swartzendruber, Rick Piepho and Counselor Greg Nye. Executive session ended at 10:45 a.m. with no action being taken.

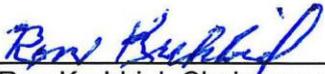
The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

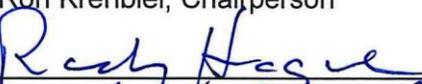
BOARD OF HARVEY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



ATTEST:

  
Rick Piepho, County Clerk

  
Ron Krehbiel, Chairperson

  
Randy Hague, Member

  
George A. "Chip" Westfall, Member