



**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors  
Minutes of April 8, 2011**

**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes – April 8, 2011  
Meeting Location – George Smith Hall, Junction City, KS**

Present from Board of the Regional Council: **Sharon Brown**, Clay Center Mayor; **Dan Deiter**, Alma City Council; **COL John Dvoracek** (representing Linda Hoeffner), Fort Riley; **Vic Enns**, Wamego City Commissioner; **Jackie Hartman**, Kansas State University; **Stan Hartwich**, Pottawatomie County Commissioner; **Vern Hay**, Morris County Commissioner; **Terry Heldstab**, Junction City Commissioner; **Karen McCulloh**, Riley County Commissioner; **Jim Sherow**, Manhattan Commissioner; and **David Shover**, Riley City Council.

Absent from the Board: **John Armburst**, Governor's Military Council; **Ben Bennett**, Geary County Commissioner; **Galen Johnson**, Dwight Mayor; **Joe Kormanik**, Alta Vista Council; **Robby McGowan**, Onaga City Council; **MarySue Roller**, Woodbine City Council; **Debi Schwerdtfeger**, Council Grove City Council and **Ervan Stuewe**, Wabaunsee County Commissioner.

Present from the Greater Regional Council Membership: No additional members present.

Present from Staff Support: **Ty Warner**, Executive Director and **Unique Hiram**, Administrative Manager.

Guests: **Nikki Davies**, Junction City Chamber; **Karen Davis**, City of Manhattan; **Bruce McMillian**, Flint Hills Regional Task Force; **Todd Moore**, Junction City Chamber; **Lyle Peterson**, KDOC; **Scott Scherberger**, Fort Riley MWR; **Traci Scott**, Fort Riley; and **Ashley Strahle**, Daily Union.

**Call to Order:**

President Sharon Brown called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m.  
(All Board Members, Staff and Guests introduced themselves)

**Approval of Minutes:**

Member Karen McCulloh moved to approve the minutes from March 18, 2011 as presented. Member David Shover seconded. Motion was carried unanimously.

**Welcome/Community Overview:**

Host Member & FHRC Vice President Terry Heldstab welcomed the board, staff and guests to the community. He gave an overview on the history of George Smith Hall.

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**Guest (Fort Riley MWR) Update:**

Scott Scherberger, Fort Riley MWR, talked about the marathon that is scheduled to be held on May 20, 2012. The marathon will begin in Junction City, cross-routed through Fort Riley and finish in Manhattan. It is a 26-mile event entitled "Central Flint Hills Region Marathon for TBI Awareness." Volunteers are needed.

Scott Scherberger's contact information is as follows:

- Telephone: (785) 239-2612
- Email Address: [scott.scherberger@us.army.mil](mailto:scott.scherberger@us.army.mil)

**Officer Transitioning:**

The Executive Committee met to discuss officer transition, the President and Vice-President seats being vacated by outgoing members Brown and Heldstab. The Executive Committee has nominated Vern Hay as Interim FHRC President and David Shover as Interim FHRC Vice President until new officers are seated in July.

Both interim positions were verbally accepted. Member Jim Sherow motioned that both of these members be officially placed into their perspective interim positions. Member Karen McCulloh seconded. Motion was carried unanimously.

Warner thanked Brown and Heldstab for their inaugural service on the FHRC, and presented them with certificates of appreciation for getting the Council off to a great start.

**FHRC Subcommittees:**

Following the recommendation of the Executive Committee, this action was this action was postponed until the newly elected Board Members have officially taken their seats in July 2011.

**Legislative Update:**

- Warner briefed the Council on an effort related to Senate Bill 2445, which requires coordination between Fort Riley and the surrounding communities. The LEAM (Land use Evolution and impact Assessment Model) group was created at University of Illinois-Champaign and has been effective in using its model to show the effects of impact caused from a variety of events. The grant LEAM has to work with the Fort is through August 2011. After that time, the Regional Council may be able to pick up the effort to expand the model regionally.
- Warner said he convened planners and GIS staff to interact with LEAM staff, and the recommendation was to use SB 2445 as the basis for initial work surrounding Fort Riley and grow it from there if effective. The Council will be briefed as this progresses.

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- Warner also briefed the Council on a meeting he was invited to at KDOT with Secretary Miller to formulate a Kansas response to the direction of the Federal Transportation Reauthorization Bill, which after years without action, has suddenly gained momentum with the new Congress.
- The areas of concern are both (1) future funding levels and (2) policies concerning new MPOs (Metropolitan Planning Organization) which could potentially raise the urbanized area threshold from 50,000 to 100,000 or even 200,000, affecting the FHRC's long-term funding and strategic direction by placing MPO designation out of reach.
- Warner advised the Council that there is an interactive web forum at KDOT for dialogue on these issues at [www.ktoc.net](http://www.ktoc.net)
- Karen McCulloh – Areas of legislative concern include KS Senate Bill 40 which will result in the loss of parole officers; mental health care cuts; and the withdrawal from the 20 state compact which affects internet sales tax (Riley County would face the loss of \$239,000).
- Dan Deiter – Commercial Tax (BMI)/Requesting royalties (e.g. concerts in the park). Member brought handout, which will be scanned and emailed to the Board.
- Jim Sherow – Annexation Bill that has been passed in the House. Karen Davis will obtain further information about the most recent status of this bill. Also, it was suggested that legislators are invited to the FHRC Board Meetings. There is a Congressional Aide Reception that will be held 04/20 - 04/21/11 which FHRC members are encouraged to attend.

**FHRC Housekeeping:**

Warner briefed the Council on the items that the Staff is currently working on and will need input from the Board Members in the near future:

- Health Insurance – FHRC employer-paid percentage needs to be determined.
- Operations Manual – filling in the gaps for mileage rates, per diem rates and purchasing guidelines (e.g. authorization amount that can be made by the Executive Director, Executive Committee & the Board).
- By-Laws – This “official” document has been finalized and signed during the Executive Committee meeting held before the Board meeting.
- Banks/Credit Card – Researching information for a possible change and implementation.

**Other Business:**

- There is an NCRPC/Advanced Manufacturing Institute Joint Meeting, which is scheduled on May 26, 2011 from 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. in Clay Center, KS and the FHRC is strongly encouraged to be in attendance.
- Karen Davis, City of Manhattan, is in the process of closing out the OEA Grant and there will be funds returned to FHRC via check in member assessment monies.
- There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Energy Grant on 04/13/11 at the Riley County Shop site at 2 p.m.

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- Warner is conducting 7 interviews of the top Regional Planner job candidates (3 interviews are completed). The interviews are being conducted via telephone and in-person.
- Ben Bennett will be in attendance at the Grandview Plaza meeting being held on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 to answer any questions in regards to the Council due to Warner's absence.
- Wamego and Pottawatomie County are anticipating the opening of a new fabrication building at Caterpillar and there have been six hires thus far as a result of the new business location.
- K-18 Utilities is a shared responsibility: City of Manhattan, County & State.
- The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Tulip Festival will be held on 04/16-17/11 in Wamego.

**May Meeting:**

This upcoming meeting will be held in Clay Center. Current Mayor Sharon Brown will be meeting with Mayor-Elect Jimmy Thatcher to finalize the location.

**Meeting Adjourned:**

President Sharon Brown moved to have the meeting adjourned. Member McCulloh seconded. The motion carrying unanimously, the board meeting was adjourned at 10:18 a.m.