



**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors  
Minutes of April 27, 2012**

**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors  
Board Minutes – April 27, 2012  
Kaw Valley State Bank  
Wamego, KS 66547**

Present from Board of the Regional Council: **John Armbrust**, Governor's Military Council; **Cecil Aska**, Junction City Commissioner; **Ben Bennett**, Geary County Commissioner; **Dan Deiter**, Alma City Council; **Vic Enns**, Wamego City Commissioner; **Honey Grant**, Grandview Plaza Vice-Mayor; **Stan Hartwich**, Pottawatomie County Commissioner; **Vern Hay**, Morris County Commissioner; **Linda Hoeffner**, Fort Riley; **Galen Johnson**, Dwight City Mayor;; **Karen McCulloh**, Riley County Commissioner; **Debi Schwerdtfeger**, Council Grove Councilwoman; **Jim Sherow**, Manhattan Mayor; **David Shover II**, Riley City Mayor; **Ervan Stuewe**, Wabaunsee County Commissioner; and **Phil Weishaar**, Chapman Mayor.

Absent from the Board: **Jackie Hartman**, Kansas State University; **Joe Kormanik**, Alta Vista Commissioner; **Lynn Peterson**, Abilene Mayor; **MarySue Roller**, Woodbine City Councilwoman; and **Jimmy Thatcher**, Clay Center Mayor.

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

Present from Staff Support: **Ty Warner AICP**, Executive Director, **Unique Hiram M.S.**, Administrative Manager and **Jeff Adams PhD**, Regional Planner.

Guests: **Abby Amick**, Wabaunsee County Economic Development Director; **Bob Cole**, Pottawatomie County Economic Development Director; **Karen Davis**, City of Manhattan Community Development Director; **David Dillner**, Abilene City Manager; **Ron Fehr**, City of Manhattan City Manager; **Bruce McMillian**, Flint Hills Task Force Chair; **Lyle Peterson**, Kansas Department of Commerce; **Robert Reece**, Pottawatomie County Administrator; **Brett Regan**, KJCK Radio Reporter; **Amy Terrapin**, Wabaunsee County Emergency Management Coordinator; **Gerry Vernon**, Junction City (City Manager); **Monty Wedel**, Riley County Planning Director; **David Yearout**, Junction City/Geary County Planning Director and **Gary Yenzer**, Pottawatomie County Commissioner.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

- Vern Hay, FHRC President, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

**WELCOME:**

- Kaw Valley State Bank CEO/Bank President Edwin Martin welcomed FHRC board members, staff members and all meeting attendees to his facility.

**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors  
Minutes of April 27, 2012**

- Member Stan Hartwich welcomed everyone to Wamego – the largest city in Pottawatomie County. The new jail/courthouse locations broke ground approximately three weeks ago and Caterpillar Work Tools has a \$40M expansion that will be occurring in the near future.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

- Member Vern Hay stated that an amendment needed to be made in the Corridor Advisory section of the March 2012 minutes - \$3.62M should actually be \$362M.
- Member Phil Weishaar made a motion to amend the minutes to reflect the correct monetary amount. Member Vic Enns seconded. Motion was carried unanimously.
- Member Karen McCulloh made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Member Ervan Stuewe seconded. Motion was carried unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

- Member Karen McCulloh, FHRC Treasurer, stated that no vote needed to be taken in order to approve the financial report. The report will be filed so that it is available for any future audits.
- A copy of the financial report was given to all board members for their review.

**DISASTER RECOVERY: HARVEYVILLE – “Straight Talk On A Twisted Wind”**

- Member Ervan Stuewe along with key members of Wabaunsee County wanted to discuss the events of what occurred as a result of the EF-2 tornado that hit this small town on February 28, 2012.
- Abby Amick, Wabaunsee County Economic Development Director, presented a PowerPoint presentation that showed the path of the tornado, pictures of the damaged areas and various state/volunteer organizations that helped in many different ways. There were 1500 volunteers that checked in over a span of three days and the USD 330 staff as well as facilities served as the volunteer check in areas. Only four points of entry were made available approximately one week after the tornado. HART (Harveyville Area Rebuilding Team) was created with United Way, Salvation Army and Red Cross taking the lead on certain aspects of the rebuilding process such as fielding phone calls, providing food and etc.
- Doug Howser, Wabaunsee County Sheriff, reported that all emergency management teams were on alert within two hours of the occurrence and all homes were searched resulting in no mass casualties or rescues needed to be made in the area. He also stated that the law enforcement and fire departments worked very effectively together.
- Amy Terrapin, Wabaunsee County Emergency Management Coordinator, informed the group that state safety officers, funded through the Regional

**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors  
Minutes of April 27, 2012**

Homeland Security, deployed to the area within 72 hours for a maximum of eight days and their main function was command control. There are seven Homeland Security teams in the State of Kansas.

- Kara Mayer, Wabaunsee County Extension Office, stated that the town was not eligible for FEMA funding; therefore, they solely relied on volunteers. The protocol before volunteers can come in for the cleanup efforts is that insurance companies have to come in and assess damage first. There were 15 homes, which were completely demolished. Some of the cleanup efforts that are still ongoing are clearing backyard trees; types of volunteers still needed are roofers and general construction. Equipment that is needed includes bucket trucks and chainsaws.

**COMMUNITY HOUSING SURVEY:**

- According to Linda Hoeffner, Deputy Garrison Commander, speaking on behalf of Colonel William J. Clark (Garrison Commander), who was unable to be in attendance, he has reviewed the housing data and based on that information has decided that there will not be a pursuit of building any more single soldier housing on the installation.

**FORT RILEY UPDATE:**

- Linda Hoeffner reported that Division Headquarters has made it safely to and is settled in Afghanistan.
- 4th Brigade had a casing ceremony on 04/26/12 and there will be approximately 3,000 soldiers deploying over the next few months.
- Save the Date Reminder: Week of June 25<sup>th</sup> for community leaders tour onboard Fort Riley. Note: There is an exercise scheduled for June 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> (those dates are not available).
- Effective June 1<sup>st</sup>, funding will not be available to soldiers who move from off base to on base. It will be fiscal responsibility of that individual.
- Symphony in the Flint Hills is in the planning process to be held at Fort Riley in 2013.

**GOVERNOR'S MILITARY COUNCIL:**

- John Armbrust, Governor's Military Council, announced that there is draft authorization bill in D.C. concerning installation commanders being able to go into a business agreement with local governments, which would prove beneficial for both parties. (e.g. water supply management)
- On May 1, 2012, a full-time BRAC consultant will be working for the organization.
- Warner & Armbrust will spearhead the effort to get a representative from the Kansas Emergency Management/Homeland Security entities to present at a future meeting.

**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors  
Minutes of April 27, 2012**

**BENCHMARKING/HUD GRANT UPDATE:**

- Jeff Adams, Regional Planner, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the Flint Hills Frontiers project, which is currently in the “mobilization” phase. Some of the key points were as follows:
  1. Sustainability Initiative is based on the six Livability Principles.
  2. To initiate a regional discussion on these Principles, the FHRC will present a series of Benchmark studies on where the Region stands with regard to various metrics, which will be accessible from the newly launched website.
  3. National discussion has often been focused on national measures, which are often based on purely metropolitan metrics. Our discussion should target measures that are meaningful to areas such as ours, areas that are both urban and rural.
  4. Data (based on the 2010 Census) comparison on the slides was broken down into the following three categories: other Kansas Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) Communities (based on the Manhattan MSA of Geary, Riley & Pottawatomie Counties), Defense Communities (Fort Riley) and University (Kansas State University).
  5. The Frontiers project is in the Mobilization phase concentrating on branding and logo development, which are currently in the preliminary stages.
  6. There will be a meeting within two weeks with our key partners working towards the goal of having the Frontiers website (which is separate from the FHRC website) operational by summer.
  7. We will form a Mobilization Task Force to lead the writing of the binding documents for Consortium formation and administration..
  8. Warner asked Bruce McMillan to lead the Economic Development District efforts and also noted that Bob Cole was very interested in this and needs to be a part of this process.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:**

- Ben Bennett, At-Large, announced that state legislators were back in session.
- The \$900K that was put into legislation may be taken out and would have an effect on sanitation, inspection of sanitation projects and health systems programs.
- Bennett stated that starting next year he would be like to share the information received from the various legislative newsletters on the FHRC website.
- Member Karen McCulloh is concerned about the governor’s plan to cut income tax because will have an effect on property taxes.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

- Ty Warner, FHRC Executive Director, informed the board that, based on the last FHRC Board meeting discussion on this topic, he testified in Topeka against the proposed House Resolution 6018 at the House Committee on Energy & Utilities. (Representative Vern Swanson, who attended the last meeting, sits on this Committee.) Warner prepared a one-page letter of

**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors  
Minutes of April 27, 2012**

objection to HR 6018 on behalf of the FHRC which was submitted to the House Committee, which then tabled the resolution

- MPO – Thomas Dow (KDOT) & Warner have been dialogue about the MPO designation agreement, and Adams has researched example designation agreements from elsewhere for Manhattan, Riley & Pottawatomie County. The MPO must be designated by March 2013, and the earliest MPO funding via KDOT date is January 2013. The agreement of the MPO boundary must be reached by 75% of the jurisdictions affected (Riley County, Pottawatomie County, and Manhattan). Ron Fehr, City Manager of Manhattan, indicated the Urbanized Area is smaller than they anticipated, but the boundary should include the anticipated 20-year growth horizon. Fehr said Manhattan, as the principal city due to population, is exploring the MPO implications.
- The new, improved FHRC Website has been launched and operating efficiently.
- The Discovery Center in Manhattan has officially opened to the public and the fixed route transit program has been implemented.
- Unique Hiram, FHRC Administrative Manager, and Adams went down to the Council Grove office to oversee the installation of telephone/wireless internet connections by TCT.
- The Community Liaison position has been offered to Scott Moore.

**OTHER BUSINESS & NEXT MEETING:**

- The next board meeting will be held at the Alma Community Center, 244 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Alma, KS 66401 on May 25, 2012.
- The Kansas Sampler Festival will be held on May 5-6, 2012 in Liberal, KS.
- Member Cecil Aska announced that the Junction City Theatre will be having Sunday matinees and encouraged support in attendance.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:**

- Member Honey Grant motioned for the meeting to be adjourned at 12:05 p.m. Member Cecil Aska seconded. Motion was carried unanimously.