

Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes of December 13, 2012



Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors
Board Meeting Minutes – December 13, 2012
Sunset Zoo
Manhattan, KS 66502

Present from Board of the Regional Council: **John Armbrust**, Governor's Military Council; **Ben Bennett**, Geary County Commissioner; **Vic Enns**, Wamego City Commissioner; **Jackie Hartman**, Kansas State University; **Stan Hartwich**, Pottawatomie County Commissioner; **Vern Hay**, Morris County Commissioner; **Linda Hoeffner**, Fort Riley; **Karen McCulloh**, Riley County Commissioner; **MarySue Roller**, City of Woodbine Councilwoman; **Debi Schwerdtfeger**, Council Grove Councilwoman; **Jim Sherow**, Manhattan City Commissioner; and **David Shover II**, Riley City Mayor.

Absent from the Board: **Cecil Aska**, Junction City Commissioner; **Dan Deiter**, Alma City Council; **Honey Grant**, Grandview Plaza Vice-Mayor; **Galen Johnson**, Dwight City Mayor; **Keith Kahnt**, White City Councilman; **Joe Kormanik**, Alta Vista Commissioner; **Lynn Peterson**, Abilene Commissioner; and **Ervan Stuewe**, Wabaunsee County Commissioner; **Jimmy Thatcher**, Clay Center Mayor; and **Phil Weishaar**, Chapman 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: **Eli Anderson**, KMAN Reporter; **Bob Cole**, CEDC Director; **Karen Davis**, Manhattan Community Development Director; **Bruce McMillan**, CEDS Committee Chair; **Angie Schwerdtfeger**, TCT PR Director; **Traci Scott**, Fort Riley Regional Liaison Officer; **Gary Stith**, Interim FHRC Executive Director; **Monty Wedel**, Riley County Planning & Development Director; and **David Yearout**, Junction City / Geary County Planning Director.

MEETING START TIME:

- Vern Hay, FHRC President, started the meeting at 4:33 p.m.

FHRC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH UPDATE:

- Hay gave a brief overview of the timeline of Executive Director Ty Warner's resignation and the consequent search for an Interim Executive Director.
- There was a list of eight potential candidates and that was narrowed down to three qualified candidates. On last Wednesday, December 5, 2012, the Executive Committee held a three-part interview with each of the three

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candidates which consisted of the following: (1) 10 minute introduction and interest session, (2) response to scenarios provided by the committee and (3) 10-15 minute question/answer session. Each member of the Executive Committee ranked the candidates with a score between 1-3 and the final numbers were tallied.

- Gary Stith was the candidate chosen to fill the Interim Executive Director position until a permanent replacement is hired. Some of the reasons that led to him being hired were as follows: planning/project management background, knowledge of the MPO region and resides in the immediate proximity. He will be paid an hourly salary rate and will not be interested in taking on the position on a full-time basis.
- Member Hay asked that although the FHRC Executive Committee was given the authority to hire the Interim Executive Director the entire board vote on acceptance of the Letter of Intent and temporary hire of Gary Stith. Member Debi Schwerdtfeger motioned that both the letter and hire are accepted. Member Vic Enns seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.
- Upon completion of the vote, Gary Stith addressed the board and expressed his excitement about this opportunity. He also talked about his role as the City of Manhattan Planning/Development Director (1976-78) and current part-time teaching role at K-State in the Planning Department.
- Warner conveyed to the Board his appreciation for being a part of the founding years of the Flint Hills Regional Council, expressed gratitude for the welcome he has received, and summarized all the progress the region has seen over the past three years since the Regional Council's founding, which in his view indicates a continued bright future ahead for the Council and the region.

OTHER BUSINESS & NEXT MEETING:

- Member Mary Sue Roller informed the board that Woodbine Post Office was back on the chopping block because the hours of operation would only be for a total of four hours. There is a meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 18, 2012 at 12:00 p.m. to discuss this proposal further with the community. She has requested that the council write a letter of support as previously done when the post office was on the initial state closure listing. Member Karen McCulloh made a motion that the letter is drafted by FHRC Executive Warner and submitted accordingly. Member Jim Sherow seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.
- It was announced that this would be the last meeting for both Member Karen McCulloh (Riley County) and Jim Sherow (Manhattan). They will be replaced in January 2013 by Dave Lewis (Riley County) and Rich Jankovich (Manhattan) respectively. Warner thanked Commissioners Sherow and McCulloh and presented a certificate of appreciation as inaugural members of the Flint Hills Regional Council.
- The next board meeting will be held on January 25, 2013 in Clay County. Location to be announced.

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MEETING ADJOURNMENT:

- Member Jim Sherow motioned for the meeting to adjourn. Member Karen McCulloh seconded. Meeting was adjourned unanimously at 5:10 p.m.