



Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors
Board Meeting Minutes - February 19, 2016
Clay Center, KS

Present from Board of the Regional Council: **John Armbrust**, Governor's Military Council; **Pam Bales**, Alma City Councilwoman; **Ben Bennett**, Geary County Commissioner; **Scott Briggs**, Lyon County Commissioner; **Bill Ditto** (*for Vic Enns*), Wamego Commissioner; **Honey Grant**, Grandview Plaza Vice-Mayor; **Steve Harmon**, City of Emporia Commissioner; **Vern Hay**, Morris County Commissioner; **Galen Johnson**, City of Dwight Mayor; **Jennifer Laird**, Chase County; **Tim Livsey**, Fort Riley Deputy Garrison Commander; **Karen McCulloh**, City of Manhattan Mayor; **Mike Ryan**, City of Junction City Commissioner; **Jimmy Thatcher**, City of Clay Center Mayor; and **Phil Weishaar**, City of Chapman Mayor.

Absent from the Board: **Robert Boyd**, Riley County Commissioner; **Jackie Hartman**, Kansas State University; **Stan Hartwich**, Pottawatomie County Commissioner; **Sharon Haun**, Council Grove Councilwoman; **Joe Kormanik**, City of Alta Vista Commissioner; **MarySue Roller**, City of Woodbine Mayor; **Kevin Sorenson**, City of Reading Mayor; and **James E. Williams**, Emporia State University.

Present from Staff Support: **Sondra Clark**, Transit Administrator/Mobility Manager; **Jennifer Jordan**, Regional Planning Manager; **Gary Stith**, Director; and **Stephanie Watts**, Transportation Planning Manager.

Guests: **Tim Barr**, NBAF Project Manager; **Bill Callaway**, Clay Center Public Utilities Commission Director; **Karen Davis**, City of Manhattan Community Development Director; **Joe Foster**, City of Emporia Planning/Zoning; **Scott Gloves**, Clay Center PUC Asst. Supervisor of Utilities; **Clancy Holeman**, Riley County Attorney; **Lori Huber**, Clay County Economic Development Director; **Kay Hutchinson**, Greater Morris County Development Corporation Executive Director; **Zach Jones**, Clay County Economic Development Board Member; **Scott Leitzel**, TwinValley Telephone & EDS VP/Director; **Greg McHenry**, Riley County Appraiser; **Jim Sands**, City of Junction City Commissioner; **Traci Scott**, Fort Riley Regional Liaison Officer; **Susie Swanson**, State of Kansas House of Representatives; **Ned Valentine**, Clay Center Dispatch; **Monty Wedel**, Riley County Planning & Development Director; and **David Yearout**, Junction City/Geary County Planning Director.

WELCOME:

- Scott Briggs, FHRC Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and invited the board members, staff, and meeting guests to introduce themselves.
- Member & At-Large Jimmy Thatcher, City of Clay Center Mayor, welcomed the board, staff and guests.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

- Member Jimmy Thatcher motioned for the January 15, 2016 meeting minutes to be approved with the revision of annotating that board member Jennifer Laird was in attendance. Member Phil Weishaar seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATES:

Staff Activities & Updates

- The FHMPO Flint Hills Transportation Plan was adopted on February 17th.
- The OEA Joint Land Use Study draft application was submitted. This grant amount is \$276,000 an additional in-kind match of \$27,600.
- City of Westmoreland has been officially invited to join the FHRC.
- FHRTA is working closely with FHMPO and FHATA on the Transit Planning 4 All Grant Application that will assist with improvements to transit services for disabled patrons and senior citizens located in rural areas.
- EDA – This grant will be \$66,000 and designation should be received by April 1, 2016. There is a 50/50 match required and the staff is currently working on leveraging those funds.
- Work continues on the Grandview Plaza Splash Park and design concepts for City Park.

Finance/Budget Review

- The bank balance, as of February 17, 2016, is \$205,168.98 with \$56,236.58 belonging to the FHMPO.
- FHRTA expenses currently total \$92,151.87 with KDOT having reimbursed \$26,753.58 to date. The new FTA system has gone online; however, request for reimbursements have not been authorized at this time.

PRESENTATIONS:

➤ **Legislative Update on Appraisals**

- Clancy Holeman, Riley County Attorney, and Greg McHenry, Riley County Appraiser, gave an update on the latest legislative updates to the state appraisal program and its effects on the counties and cities.

➤ **NBAF Update**

- Timothy Barr, NBAF Project Manager, gave a brief presentation on that status of where the NBAF project is at along with the timeline of accomplishments as well as work to be completed.

➤ **Riley Avenue Corridor (Ogden)**

- Stephanie Watts, FHMPO Transportation Planning Manager, gave a brief update on the Riley Avenue Corridor project that was completed by Kansas State University students for the City of Ogden.

CITY/COUNCIL/PARTNER UPDATES:

- Fort Riley - Tim Livsey, Deputy Garrison Commander, reported the following:
 - Army Soldier Show has been cancelled due to the current funding constraints.
 - The Commanding General has changes his vision statement.
 - 23,000 people, outside of the permanently stationed soldiers, are expected to train at the installation by October 1, 2016.
 - War Fighter Training will continue through April 2016.
 - VIP Visitors have included GEN (Ret) Gordon R. Sullivan, AUSA President, and LTG Stan McChrystal.
 - COL Andrew Cole, Fort Riley Garrison Commander, testified in Washington, DC in regards to installation readiness.

- Kansas State University - Jackie Hartman was not in attendance at the meeting.

- Governor's Military Council – John Armbrust, Executive Director, reported the following:
 - Stressed the importance of engaging the state legislators.
 - Military Appreciation Day will be held in Topeka, KS on February 23, 2016.

- Emporia State University - John E. Williams was not in attendance at the meeting.

- City of Chapman – Phil Weishaar, City Mayor, reported on the following:
 - 20% of revenue increase was used to fund the city's street project.
 - Informed the board that he will not be running for re-election in April.

- City of Clay Center – Member & At-Large Jimmy Thatcher, City Mayor, reported on the following:
 - 1G of Internet service is available for residents and businesses through Twin Valley.
 - \$10M Water Plant Improvements
 - Highlighted that the industrial park is taxiway accessible.

- Geary County – Member Ben Bennett, County Commissioner, reported on the following:
 - Stressed the importance of keeping an eye on the current legislative actions and interaction with respective legislators.

- City of Grandview Plaza – Member & Board Secretary Honey Grant, City Vice-Mayor, reported on the following:
 - Progress of the Splash Park Project
 - There will be a public meeting held on February 22nd at 6:00 p.m.

- City of Junction City – Member Mike Ryan, City Commissioner, reported on the following:
 - Briefly highlighted the area businesses

- City of Woodbine – No report given, board representative was not in attendance at the meeting.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

- Member & Board Secretary Honey Grant motioned for the FHRC to provide a support letter to FHRTA for the Transit Planning 4 All Grant. Member Ben Bennett seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

- The March 18, 2016 meeting will be held in Grandview Plaza, KS at the Community Center Building.
- FHRC Board Vice President Scott Briggs adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.