



Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors

Board Meeting Minutes – July 15, 2016

Council Grove, KS

Present from Board of the Regional Council: **John Armbrust**, Governor's Military Council; **Pam Bales**, Alma City Councilwoman; **Ben Bennett**, Geary County Commissioner; **Robert Boyd**, Riley County Commissioner; **Scott Briggs**, Lyon County Commissioner; **Vic Enns**, Wamego Commissioner; **Sharon Haun**, Council Grove Councilwoman; **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; **Dee McKee** (*for Stan Hartwich*), Pottawatomie County Commissioner; **Susan McKenzie**, City of White City - City Clerk; **Darci Pottroff**, City of Riley Councilwoman; and **Mike Ryan**, City of Junction City Commissioner.

Absent from the Board: **Honey Grant**, Grandview Plaza Vice-Mayor; **Steve Harmon**, City of Emporia Commissioner; **Jackie Hartman**, Kansas State University; **Joe Kormanik**, City of Alta Vista Commissioner; **Dale Renfro**, City of Onaga Councilman; **MarySue Roller**, City of Woodbine Mayor; **Jeff Rosell**, City of Westmoreland Councilman; **Kevin Sorenson**, City of Reading Mayor; and **Jimmy Thatcher**, City of Clay Center Mayor; **James E. Williams**, Emporia State University; and **Lee Wolf**, City of Chapman Councilman.

Present from Staff Support: **Sondra Clark**, Transit Administrator/Mobility Manager; **Unique Hiram**, Administrative Manager; **Jennifer Jordan**, Regional Planning Manager; **Christopher Kutz**, FHRC Intern; **Austin Masters**, Community Development Manager; and **Gary Stith**, Director.

Guests: **Dave Baker**, Candidate for KS House of Representatives; **Brian Denton**, Emporia State University Liaison; **Kay Hutchinson**, Greater Morris County Development Executive Director; **Bruce McMillan**, CEDS Chair; **Usha Reddi**, City of Manhattan Mayor; **Jim Sands**, City of Junction City Commissioner; **Diane Wolfe**, City of Council Grove/Morris County Chamber Director; and **David Yearout**, Junction City/Geary County/Milford Planning & Zoning Director.

WELCOME:

- Robert Boyd, FHRC Board President, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. and invited the board members, staff, and meeting guests to introduce themselves.
- Member and Past President Vern Hay, Mayor Steve Shepard and Chamber Executive Director Diane Wolfe welcomed the board, staff and guests. Some of the items highlighted were: town rebranding and Comprehensive Plan 2020.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

- Member Karen McCulloh motioned for the June 17, 2016 meeting minutes to be approved as presented. Member Mike Ryan seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATES:

Staff Activities & Updates

- Gary Stith, Director, gave an update about what the staff is currently working on throughout the region.

Finance/Budget Review

- The bank balance, as of July 13, 2016, is \$206,914.41 with \$62,131.91 belonging to the FHMPO.
- Outstanding Reimbursement Requests: OEA Impact Analysis Grant \$47,712.00 and OEA JLUS Grant \$933.00.

PRESENTATIONS:

- **Flint Hills Tourism Coalition, Inc.**
 - Susan Rathke, City of Emporia Area Chamber Visitors Bureau Director, gave a presentation in regards to the Flint Hills Tourism Coalition, Inc.:
 1. Volunteer based organization that includes 22 counties and 90 members of various levels.
 2. There will be a tear map version of the Flint Hills coming soon to highlight the variety of tourist attractions throughout the flint hills region. The goal is to provide awareness and promote more traffic throughout the various areas of the region.
 3. Website: www.visitemporia.com.
- **Bylaws Amendment on Election of Officers**
 - Gary Stith presented the board with verbiage regarding proposed amendments for board elections and nominating committee to the following sections of the FHRC Bylaws:
 1. Section 6.1. Annual Meeting of the Council. “Kansas State Statues prescribe that both county and city newly elected officials begin their term of office in January of the year after the election of such officials. The newly appointed members on the Council shall meet annually in February of the same year cited above to elect the officers as: ...”
 2. Section 8.4. Nominating Committee. There shall be a nominating committee whose functions shall be: ... (3) members of the Council who shall be appointed annually in the November meeting of the Council by the President.”

The Board of Directors did not have any proposed revisions for the verbiage of the two amendments presented after review. There will be an official vote at the next regularly scheduled board meeting in September.

➤ **Authorization to Increase ACH Limit at Central National Bank**

- Gary Stith requested approval from the board to have the Automatic Clearing House Daily Limit increased from \$50K to \$60K. Member Karen McCulloh motioned for the ACH Daily Limit to be increased as proposed. Member & Vice President Scott Briggs seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

➤ **FHRC Information Flyer**

- Austin Masters, Community Development Manager, presented the board with the Flint Hills Regional Council information brochure that was created in order to educate the regional counties and cities about the organization and its relationship in regards to the Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization and Flint Hills Regional Transit Administration. It also highlighted the projects that the organization has worked or is currently working on throughout the region.

CITY/COUNCIL/PARTNER UPDATES:

➤ Fort Riley – Tim Livsey, Deputy Garrison Commander, reported the following:

- 1st Brigade will be heading to the National Training Center (NTC) and then deployed overseas.
- Budget Cuts – Due to the budget cuts, the main focus will be training soldiers and Moral, Welfare & Recreation (MWR) will be adversely affected.
- The new hospital will have its grand opening in October 2016.

➤ Kansas State University - Jackie Hartman, Office of the President, was not in attendance at the meeting.

➤ Governor's Military Council – John Armbrust reported on the following:

- GEN Wiggins' change of command will occur on August 26th and his official retirement is September 30th. He will officially become the GMC Executive Director on October 1, 2016.
- Budget Cuts – Personnel may decrease below the 450K projected threshold. There are still many unknowns.
- Six installations are working on the prioritizing, planning and partnering for the "Base of the Future."

➤ Emporia State University - James E. Williams, Vice President of Student Affairs, was not in attendance at the meeting. However Brian Denton, Internal Auditor & Legislative Liaison, reported on the following:

- Inauguration for ESU new president Alicia Garrett will held on September 16th and an official invitation will be sent out to the board members.
- Four (4) new deans have been hired.
- The Adaptive University Strategic Plan was launched last year and there has been measurable success since its inception.

- City of Alta Vista – Member Joe Kormanik, City Commissioner, reported on the following:
 - New School – Prairie Heights Elementary.
 - Grocery Store & two filling stations.
- Chase County – Jennifer Laird, Chamber of Commerce Economic Development & Tourism Director, reported on the following:
 - Events: Hosted the Hot Rod Tourist Tour with 1,000 attendees; Symphony in the Flint Hills with 7,000 attendees; River Sweet with 300 guests; and 79th Annual Rodeo.
 - Strong City – Rehabilitation of the Opera House.
 - \$150K was donated for the building of a park that was completed in five days.
 - Professional Disc Course was added to the area.
- City of Council Grove – Member Sharon Haun, City Councilwoman, reported on the following:
 - 34th Annual ... Days was successful with over 5,000 attendees.
 - New 8 ½ x 11 community guide was created for Council Grove / Morris County.
 - Currently working on the 2017 Budget.
 - There will be an historic pageant held September 16th & 17th with the Kaw Indians and Council Grove.
- City of Emporia / Lyon County – Member and Vice President Scott Briggs, County Commissioner, reported on the following:
 - The Newman Regional Health bond was secured.
 - Lunar Kanza will be held on July 16, 2016.
 - Ron Trewyn, NBAF, will be attending and presenting at a joint meeting for the city and county on August 17, 2016.
 - The 30th Annual Beef Fest will be held on August 30, 2016.
- Morris County – Member and Past President Vern Hay, County Commissioner, reported on the following:
 - Commercial Industrial Properties Revitalization Plan is currently in works.
 - 1/3 of the chipping and sealing of hard surface roads has been completed.
 - Currently working on 2017 Budget.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

- None at this time.

ADJOURNMENT:

- The FHRC Board Retreat will be held on August 19, 2016.
- FHRC Board President Robert Boyd adjourned the meeting at 11:52 a.m.