



Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors
Board Meeting Minutes – June 19, 2015
USD 473 District Office
Chapman, 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 City Mayor; **Honey Grant**, Grandview Plaza Vice-Mayor; **Vern Hay**, Morris County Commissioner; **Tim Livsey**, Fort Riley; **Karen McCulloh**, City of Manhattan Mayor; **Jim Sands** (for Mike Ryan), Junction City Vice-Mayor; and **Phil Weishaar**, City of Chapman Mayor.

Absent from the Board: **Jon Geitz**, City of Emporia Mayor; **Jackie Hartman**, Kansas State University; **Stan Hartwich**, Pottawatomie County Commissioner; **Sharon Jones**, Council Grove Councilwoman; **Joe Kormanik**, City of Alta Vista Commissioner; **Kristie Ogilvie**, Emporia State University; **MarySue Roller**, City of Woodbine Mayor; **Kevin Sorenson**, City of Reading Mayor; **Brande Studer**, Chase County Clerk; and **Jimmy Thatcher**, City of Clay Center Mayor.

Present from Staff Support: **Shelley Carver**, Community Development Manager; **Unique Hiram**, Administrative Manager; **Gary Stith**, Director; and **Stephanie Watts**, FHMPPO Transportation Planner.

Guests: **Karen Davis**, City of Manhattan Community Development Director; **Kevin Griffith**, 1420AM KJCK News Reporter; **Kay Hutchinson**, Greater Morris County Development Executive Director; **Bruce McMillan**, Manhattan Business Owner; **Kate Nesse**, Kansas State University Assistant Professor; **Kelley Paskow**, Fort Riley Plans Chief; **Austin St. John**, City of Chapman Administrator; and **David Yearout**, Junction City/Geary County/Milford Planning & Zoning Director.

WELCOME:

- Vern Hay, FHRC Interim President, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. and invited the board members, staff and meeting guests to introduce themselves.
- There was a moment of silence in honor of former board member Keith Kahnt.

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES:

- Member Karen McCulloh motioned for approval of the May 15, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes. Member Robert Boyd seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATES:

- Finance/Budget Review

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- 1) Gary Stith, Director, presented board members the bank and budget slides for the finance/budget review.
- 2) The HUD Grant is currently 100% completed as of 06/16/15.
- 3) The bank account has a balance of \$296,481.67 which includes \$162,558.84 in MPO funding, as of 04/16/15. There is one outstanding HUD Reimbursement Request amounts totaling \$42,146.00.

➤ **Staff Activity and Updates**

- Stith briefed the board on activities that the staff has been involved with over the past few weeks.
- The FHRC 5-Year Anniversary event will be held at Blue Earth Plaza on June 25, 2015. The alternate location, due to weather conditions, is inside the Flint Hills Discovery Center.

PRESENTATIONS:

- **2015 Legislative Overview** - Representative Tom Phillips gave a brief overview about some of the 2015 legislative actions that took place.
- There was a three-panel ruling on school block grants. Senate Bill 7 was passed.
 - KPERS (\$1B Bonding Capacity) – Projects Savings is \$28M for 2016 and \$56M for 2017.
 - MCO Privilege Fees – Three agencies provide this; 3-3.5% increase on health insurance. Projected state savings over the next two years is \$60M.
 - Allotments will have to occur by Governor Brownback if the budget is not balanced by June 30, 2015.
 - Overall \$2B has been taken out of KDOT's budget.
 - Local elections have been changed from Spring to Fall.
 - The Secretary of State has the authority to prosecute any issues relating to voter fraud.
 - The local property tax lid is tied directly to the CPI.
 - In regards to Island Annexation, there has to be a 2/3 vote by the county commission to allow the annexation.
- **Update on Flint Hills MPO Long Range Transportation Plan** – Stephanie Watts, FHMPPO Transportation Planner, gave an update on the Flint Hills MPO Long Range Transportation Plan.
- The Flint Hills Transportation Plan is a 25-year plan and is required to be updated every five (5) years.
 - The six goals outlined were based on the federal MAP 21 goals.
 - The Travel Demand model is computer-based; there were 300 transportation analysis zones (TAZ) utilized in the Manhattan area.
 - There are three open houses scheduled and that information is as follows: City of Manhattan (June 24, 2015) in the Commission Room (4:00 - 6:30 p.m.); City of Junction City (June 25, 2015) at the C.L. Hoover Opera House (4:00 – 6:30 p.m.); and Pottawatomie County (June 30, 2015) at the Gran Valley Community Center (4:00 – 6:00 p.m.).

CITY/COUNTY/PARTNER UPDATES:

- Fort Riley
 - Tim Livsey, Deputy Garrison Commander, thanked everyone for their support during Victory Week at the installation. Additional items that he briefed the board about were as follows:
 1. There are five-minute videos on the Fort Riley Homepage that highlight training capability, aviation training in excellence and deployability capability. The URL to view these is <http://www.riley.army.mil/>.
 2. There is a new Chief of Staff and the installation is currently undergoing leadership transition. Bios for these individuals will be forwarded to the council.
 3. The number of soldiers being trained at the installation has increased from 9,000 to 23,000 to include many who are from outside of the region.
 4. General Funk is scheduled to return from deployment in June 2015 and the tentative date for change of command is August 6, 2015.
 5. Colonel Cole will remain on the installation until July 2016 and he will be the last senior commander to serve for three years. The future rotation will be set at two years.

- Governor's Military Council
 - John Armbrust, Executive Director, briefed the board on the following:
 1. The decision for downsizing installations is tentatively scheduled to be announced during the week of July 4, 2015.
 2. Core committee will meet in regards to Intergovernmental Support Partnerships.
 3. Armbrust will be traveling to DC and has meetings scheduled with KS legislators on military matters, National Advisory Group and Association of Defense Communities.

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

- Emporia State University
 - Member Scott Briggs announced that Kristie Ogilvie was no longer employed at ESU. He also shared that the partnership between Flint Hills College and the university is going strong in assisting students with their resumes.

- City of Chapman
 - Member Phil Weishaar shared that there are two restaurants now opened in the city - Flo's Place and Southern Comfort. Dollar General and the grocery stores that were opened are operating successfully. There was an RV Park opened three weeks ago. Additionally, a new city administrator/clerk were hired.

- City of Clay Center
 - Member Jimmy Thatcher was not in attendance at the meeting.

- Geary County
 - Member Ben Bennett shared that the county will receive nation television exposure on NBC Sports in August 2015 due to the fishing competition that was held at Lake Milford. 180 teams from 20 states competed along which included 45 soldiers from Fort Riley. There is work currently being done to get non-voting members to the board meetings.

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- City of Grandview Plaza
 - Member Honey Grant announced that she was nominated to serve another term as the Vice-Mayor of GVP. There was a huge fire in the city and several partners from the surrounding fire departments assisted in maintaining it. As a result, there was only one building destroyed.
- City of Junction City
 - Member Jim Sands shared that there was a VA Town Hall Meeting held because many of the local veterans aren't aware of the services that they can receive in the city. Additionally, the new Dollar General is almost complete and work continues on the new 40,000 square Wal-Mart.
- City of Woodbine
 - Member MarySue Roller was not in attendance at the meeting.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS / ADJOURNMENT:

- **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**
 - Member Karen McCulloh motioned for the 2015-16 Slate of Officers to be approved. Member Phil Weishaar seconded. The motion was carried unanimously. The Slate of Officers, who will take over duties beginning July 1, 2015, are as follows: Member Robert Boyd (President), Member Scott Briggs (Vice-President), Member Honey Grant (Secretary), Member Stan Hartwich (Treasurer), Member Pam Bales (At-Large), Member Jimmy Thatcher (At-Large) and Member Vern Hay (Past President).
- **ACTION ITEM(s):**
 - Member Phil Weishaar motioned for Resolution 061915-A, Frontiers Regional Plan, to be adopted and signed. Member Karen McCulloh seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.
 - Member Phil Weishaar motioned for Resolution 061915-B, Flint Hills Frontiers Fair Housing Equity Assessment/Regional Analysis of Impediments: Fair Housing Matters, to be adopted and signed. Member Honey Grant seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.
- The next board meeting will be held on July 17, 2015 in Wamego, KS. Location is to be determined.
- Member Phil Weishaar motioned for the meeting to be officially adjourned at 11:54 a.m. Member Karen McCulloh seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.