



**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes of January 31, 2014**

**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors
Board Meeting Minutes – January 31, 2014
C.L. Hoover Opera House
Junction City, KS**

Present from Board of the Regional Council: **Cecil Aska**, Junction City Mayor; **Suzan Barnes**, Chase County Representative; **Ben Bennett**, Geary County Commissioner; **Robert Boyd**, Riley County Commissioner; **Scott Briggs**, Lyon County Commissioner; **Dan Deiter**, Alma City Councilman; **Vic Enns**, Wamego City Commissioner; **Honey Grant**, Grandview Plaza Vice-Mayor; **Vern Hay**, Morris County Commissioner; **Stan Hartwich**, Pottawatomie County Commissioner; **Linda Hoeffner**, Fort Riley Deputy Garrison Commander; **Rich Jankovich**, Manhattan City Commissioner; **Keith Kahnt**, White City Councilman; **John Ray**, Abilene City Commissioner; **MarySue Roller**, City of Woodbine Mayor; **Debi Schwerdtfeger**, Council Grove Councilwoman; **David Shover II**, Riley City Mayor; and **Phil Weishaar**, City of Chapman Mayor.

Absent from the Board: **John Armbrust**, Governor's Military Council; **Jackie Hartman**, Kansas State University; **Joe Kormanik**, Alta Vista Commissioner; **MarySue Roller**, City of Woodbine Mayor; and **Jimmy Thatcher**, Clay Center Mayor.

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

Present from Staff Support: **Jeff Adams**, Regional Planner; **Shelley Carver**, Community Development Manager; **William J. Clark**, Executive Director; **Unique Hiram**, Administrative Manager; and **Gary Stith**, Assistant Planner.

Guests: **Debbie Adcock**, Council Grove/Morris County Chamber Executive Director; **Abby Amick**, Wabaunsee County Economic Development Director; **Karen Davis**, City of Manhattan Community Development Director; **Ron Fehr**, Manhattan City Manager; **Michelle Geering**, Corvias Military Living Community Manager; **Kevin Griffin**, WJCK News Reporter; **Stuart Hays**, Frontier Farm Credit Bank Vice President of Commercial Finance; **Larry Hicks**, Geary County Commissioner; **Kay Hutchinson**, Greater Morris County Development Corporation Executive Director; **Greg McCaffrey**, Junction City Public Works Director; **Bruce McMillan**, CEDS Chair; **Elizabeth Patton**, Senator Moran District Representative; **Joni Phillips**, Chapman EDC Member; **Robert Reece**, Pottawatomie County City Manager; **Traci Scott**, Fort Riley Regional Liaison Officer; **Gerald Smith**, City Manager for Junction City; **Megan Umsched**, Wamego Area Chamber Executive Director; **Tom Weideman**, Junction City Daily Union News Reporter; and **David Yearout**, Junction City/Geary County Director of Planning & Zoning.

WELCOME:

- Ben Bennett, FHRC President, called the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

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- Lyon County Commissioner Scott Briggs and Chase County representative Suzan Barnes were publicly welcomed as the newest memberships to the Flint Hills Regional Council.

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES:

- Member Rich Jankovich motioned for the November 15, 2013 meeting minutes to be approved with no corrections. Member David Shover seconded. The vote was carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:

➤ TOP 10

- 1) Regional Forums - The staff is currently working on establishing regional forums. Currently, one of the forums includes city managers/county administrators.
- 2) Capabilities Worksheet - being created by the staff collectively to establish what services can be made available by the organization along with applicable costs.
- 3) Strategic Communications - the various organizational websites will be made easier to navigate and update.
- 4) 5307 Funds – There is \$1M available per year through this source of funding.
- 5) Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MPO) – RFPs were due in January 2014; looking to select the consultant by early March 2014.
- 6) Travel Demand Model (MPO) – The consultant hired to work on this deliverable was Olsson Associates.
- 7) Membership Expansion – The City of Emporia, Chase County and Lyon County all elected to become members of the Flint Hills Regional Council.
- 8) FHEDD (Flint Hills Economic Development District) – This entity will officially be established today at 10:00 a.m.
- 9) Frontier's Project - The Leader's Council meeting will be held on February 19, 2014 at Rock Springs from 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. The event agenda was shown to the meeting attendees. Lunch will be served at this important; therefore, it is important for the RSVPs to be completed.
- 10) Sustainability – we continue to look for long term funding solutions to fund the regional council after the completion of the HUD grant

➤ NOTES

- 1) HUD Grant – There is approximately one year left to operate under this particular grant. How does the organization sustain?
 - a. Capabilities Worksheet
 - b. Available Grants (i.e. USDA, EDA & etc.)
 - c. HUD/OEA partnership funding
 - d. Alternate options that were presented to the FHRC Executive Committee

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- 2) FHRTA (Flint Hills Regional Transit Administration)
- a. The funding source will be 5307 funds through FTA (Federal Transit Administration) along with matching funds.
 - b. Interlocal agreement will be signed by six entities that include Geary County, City of Junction City, Kansas State University, City of Manhattan, Pottawatomie County and Riley County.
 - c. All elected bodies of the various jurisdictions were briefed on FHRTA and support this process.
 - d. The FHRTA Board will consist of the same local entities as the MPO Policy Board (Riley, Geary and Pottawatomie Counties; and Manhattan and Junction City), as well as Kansas State University.
 - e. The Flint Hills Regional Council will be designated as the Fiscal Agent
 - f. Bill Clark will be meeting with the Kansas Secretary of Transportation on February 17, 2014 to discuss the FHRTA and potentially submit all applicable paperwork. The Secretary will forward all correspondence to the State Attorney General. Upon completion of all required signature and designation, the organization should be able to apply for funding through the federal transit Administration.
 - g. The FHMPO jurisdiction local matching funds will now be due January/July vs. April/November of each year with approval by the Policy Board.
 - h. The OEA Grant final reports have been completed and the final payment has been received.
 - i. The FHRC has three new memberships with the City of Emporia, Chase County and Lyon County joining. The City of Dwight has decided to withdraw their membership from the council.
 - j. There were six proposals received for the FHMPO MTP
 - k. Should future meetings be centralized vs. rotating monthly throughout the region as the council membership continues to grow?
 - l. Members and guests were encouraged to fill out the FHRC regional services and FHEDD action item survey cards.

➤ **FINANCE/BUDGET REVIEW**

- 1) Both the HUD Budget and Monthly Bank Account slides were shown and discussed with the board.
- 2) The 2014 FHRC Budget was handed out and briefly discussed per line item. There were no questions or further discussion by the board members.
- 3) Member Rich Jankovich motioned for the 2014 FHRC Budget to be approved as presented by the Executive Director. Member Robert Boyd seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

CERTIFICATE DISTRIBUTION:

- Certificates were given to the various cities/counties who are current members of the Flint Hills Regional Council.

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FHEDD ADOPTION / MEDIA EVENT:

- Gary Stith, Assistant Planner, gave a brief overview of the process that went in preparation for the establishment of the Flint Hills Economic Development District.
- The FHEDD next steps were outlined and those included the following:
 - Resolutions of support signed
 - The organization of the FHEDD Board
 - Submission of the EDA application to the State of Kansas for the governor's support
 - Submission of the package to EDA for official designation of the EDD

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

- Letter of Support for the Welcome Center
 - There was a brief discussion among membership about accept the resolution to support the Welcome Center concept.
 - Member Rich Jankovich motioned to approve Resolution# 13114-2 in support of the Welcome Center concept. Member Vern Hay seconded. The vote count was 14 members in favor with no opposing votes.
- February's Board Meeting vs. Council of 19 Event
 - There was a consensus, after brief board discussion, that the dates for the FHRC Monthly Board Meeting (02/21/14) in Manhattan and Council of 19 Event (02/19/14) at Rock Springs would remain the same as outlined.
- Casino in the Flint Hills
 - It was decided that there would not be a motion needed at this time and an official presentation was asked to be given at the next board meeting.
- Legislative Topics
 - Bill Clark will be presenting at the Kansas Legislative Session and the five topics of interest include:
 - ❖ TransCanada Pipeline
 - ❖ E Street Project
 - ❖ Funding for Mental Health Facilities
 - ❖ Transfer of lake responsibility form Core of Engineers to the State of Kansas
 - ❖ State-wide Education
 - Member Rich Jankovich motioned for the legislative topic of Property Tax on Fixtures be added to the presentation. Member Stan Hartwich seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.
 - Member Vern Hay also motioned for the support for counties to recover funds tied to enforcing Nuisance Abatement laws. This motion was also carried.

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COUNTY/CITY/PARTNER UPDATES:

- None at this time due to time constraints.

REVIEW DUE OUTS / LOOK FORWARD:

- Adopted Flint Hills Economic Development District
- Approved 2014 FHRC Budget
- Approved Resolution# 13114-2 for Welcome Center support
- City of Chapman will host April 2014 meeting
- FHRC Monthly Board Meetings will continue to rotate throughout the region
- Certificate for Riley County will be presented at the next board meeting
- Casino in the Flint Hills presentation will be given at next month's meeting

CLOSE OUT:

- FHRC President Ben Bennett adjourned meeting at 11:55 p.m.