



Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors

Board Meeting Minutes - July 18, 2014
Grandview Plaza Municipal Building
Grandview Plaza, KS

Present from Board of the Regional Council: **John Armbrust**, Governor's Military Council; **Cecil Aska**, Junction City Commissioner; **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; **Rich Jankovich**, Manhattan City Commissioner; **Keith Kahnt**, White City Mayor; **Craig Phillips** (for Linda Hoeffner), Fort Riley Plans Chief; **MarySue Roller**, City of Woodbine Mayor; **David Shover II**, City of Riley 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; **Vern Hay**, Morris County Commissioner; **Joe Kormanik**, City of Alta Vista Commissioner; **Kristie Ogilvie**, Emporia State University; **John Ray**, City of Abilene Commissioner; **Debi Schwerdtfeger**, Council Grove Councilwoman; **Brande Studer**, Chase County Clerk; and **Jimmy Thatcher**, City of Clay Center Mayor.

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

Present from Staff Support: **Shelley Carver**, Community Development Manager; **William J. Clark**, Director; **Unique Hiram**, Administrative Manager; and **Gary Stith**, Deputy Director.

Guests: **Craig Chamberlin**, Dickinson County Commissioner; **Karen Davis**, City of Manhattan Community Development Director; **Ron Fehr**, Manhattan City Manager; **Kay Hutchinson**, Greater Morris County Development Executive Director; **Doug McKinney**, North Central Regional Planning Commission Executive Director; **Bruce McMillan**, Business Owner/Local Citizen; **Robert Reece**, Pottawatomie County Administrator; **Gary Rust**, Corvias Program Manager; **Michael Sellman**, Daily Union Reporter; **Monty Wedel**, Riley County Planning Director; and **Tom Weigand**, Junction City Chamber President and CEO.

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WELCOME:

- Ben Bennett, FHRC President, called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. and invited the board members, staff and meeting guests to introduce themselves.
- Grandview Plaza Vice-Mayor Honey Grant welcomed everyone to the host city, which has a current population of 1,360 residents.

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES:

- Member Keith Kahnt motioned for the June 20, 2014 meeting minutes to be approved with no corrections. Vice-President David Shover seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:

➤ **TOP 10**

- 1) FHRC Sustainability - The organization is currently working on long term planning for sustainability outside of the current two funding streams.
- 2) Flint Hills Frontiers - The planning for the Fall meetings is currently underway.
- 3) FHEDD (Flint Hills Economic Development District) - The complete designation application package has been submitted to the federal level and is awaiting a response. If there is no response by next month then congressional assistance may be needed in order to receive a status update.
- 4) Expansion of Membership - The City of Marysville along with Clay, Dickinson, Marshall and Washington Counties have declined the invitation to join the Flint Hills Regional Council. An official membership invitation letter was sent to the City of Reading.
- 5) FHMPO MTP (Metropolitan Transportation Plan) - The MTP is currently being developed and Stephanie Watts, Transportation Planner, will be provided an update at the Flint Hills Regional Council Board Retreat in August.
- 6) FHMPO TDM (Travel Demand Model) - The model is currently on time and will be available Fall 2014 (September).
- 7) FHTRA (5307 Funds) - The paperwork has been submitted to KDOT (Kansas Department of Transportation) and then will be forwarded to FTA (Federal Transit Administration). There is a Title VI Program that needs to be drafted and submitted directly to FTA for review and approval.
- 8) Strategic Plan - This item will be worked on during the Flint Hills Regional Council Board Retreat in August.
- 9) Strategic Communications - Outreach is being completed by staff through their travels within the region.
- 10) 2015 FHRC Budget - The 2015 FHRC Budget is currently being developed (the Base has been completed). The approval process to select one of the options presented is scheduled during the Annual Retreat in August.

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➤ **NOTES**

- 1) The FHRC Staff will be moving to the Fort Riley Contracting Building on 12th street (Exit off Highway 18).
- 2) Clark suggested that the FHRC contact the cities/counties who declined membership invitations to join this year in 2015.

➤ **FINANCE & BUDGET REVIEW**

- 1) The HUD Grant is currently \$357K underspent with 63% of the funds allocated and 81% of the project completed.
- 2) No cost 90-day extension will be requested in November 2014.
- 3) Currently the bank account has a balance of \$154.9K, which \$89.3K is allocated to the FHMPO.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

- FHRC Executive Committee Elections - At-Large/Nominating Committee Member Rich Jankovich presented the "2014-15 Slate of Officers" and motioned for those nominations to be officially approved. The slate included the following: President, Member David Shover; Vice-President, Member Rich Jankovich; Secretary, Member Honey Grant; Treasurer, Member Stan Hartwich; At-Large, Member Scott Briggs; At-Large, Member Robert Boyd; and Past President, Member Ben Bennett. (There were no further nominations from the floor) Member Phil Weishaar seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

- Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) - John Armbrust, Governor's Military Council Executive Director, gave a brief overview as to what has led to current PEA that is underway for Fort Riley.
 - The U.S. Army will be downsizing from 570K to 490K soldiers.
 - In the 2014 Defense Review, it has been annotated that if there is not a sequestration then the manpower level would need to range between 440-450K.
 - In the 2015 Presidential Budget - if no sequestration the manpower numbers would need to range between 440-450K. If there is a sequestration, the manpower number is projected at 420K.
 - The worst case scenario projections include a manpower loss of 16K. As a result, the population loss would be 40K with a projected job decrease (direct/indirect) of 19-20K. The projected revenue loss would be \$865M.
 - Fort Riley is very vulnerable to suffer cuts from 1,000 - 3,000 soldiers.
 - The public comment period was opened to 60 days, which is currently where the area is operating within to submit correspondence. Volume and quality of input are the two important factors during this timeframe.

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- Everyone is encouraged to send in a comment from their various entities (i.e. councils, cities, counties, school districts, citizens, local businesses and etc.)
- **All responses are due by August 25, 2014.** Emails can be sent to usarmy.jbsa.aec.nepa@mail.mil. Regular mails (including post cards or letters) can be sent to the following address: U.S. Army Environmental Command, ATTN: SPEA Public Comments, 2450 Connell Road (Building 2264), Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam, Houston, TX 78234-7664.
- To review the Federal Register and Full SPEA Report <https://federalregister.gov/a/2014-14733>

UPDATES:

- Mid-Year 2014 Budget Review
 - W. J. Clark, FHRC Director, gave the FHRC Board the Mid-Year 2014 Budget Review and provided a handout for the membership to view during this presentation.
 - The expenditure rate is 35% from January 1, 2014 to June 30, 2014.
 - The categories which exceed the 50% rate in expenditures include: Local Mileage Reimbursement (58%), Equipment (77%), Advertising/Promotions (118%), Business Registration Fees (60%), Insurance – Workers COMP/Multi-Peril (Property & General Liability)/Postage & Mailing Service (137%) and Printing/Copying (51%).
 - In regards to revenue, all membership assessments were paid. The FHMPO revenue has been 11% (\$6,423.00) due to cost reimbursable staff time, which has been minimal. The projected revenue at year end is \$15K and we may not reach that maximum amount.
 - There will need to be \$60-70K carried forward into 2015 for the FHRC to continue its sustainability.

- Intergovernmental Support Partnerships (ISPs)
 - Craig Phillips, Fort Riley Plan Chief, gave a brief overview of the Intergovernmental Support Partnerships.
 - The two intentions of the ISPs are to create mutually beneficial partnerships and maximize efficiencies and reduce costs.
 - The core advisory group included Fort Riley, City of Manhattan, City of Junction City, Riley and Geary Counties.
 - These ISP agreements between the installation and local communities are “no cost.”
 - There is a shared training MOU ready for signature by four parties and Fort Riley. This document emphasizes professional and technical training (i.e. emergency personnel).

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- Additionally, available seat in the civilian Workforce Development professional seminars, training classes and etc. can be offered to municipality's staff members.
- Way Ahead includes gaps/need analysis, service exchange structure, community planning meetings and continued pursuit of clarifying guidance.

CITY/COUNTY/PARTNER UPDATES:

- Fort Riley
 - Linda Hoeffner, Deputy Garrison Commander, is currently working with Fort Leavenworth on the date for the Community Listening Session.
 - 1/2 of 1st Brigade is currently in Kuwait
 - There is an average of 700 - 900 soldiers from 4th Brigade supporting the RAF Mission (AFRICOM)
- Kansas State University
 - Jackie Hartman was unable to attend at the meeting.
- Emporia State University
 - Kristie Ogilvie was unable to attend at the meeting.
- City of Chapman
 - Current Priorities include opening of grocery store, finalizing 2015 street project and hiring of new City Administrator, Austin St. John. He is a KSU graduate and will begin in his new position in August 2015.
- City of Clay Center
 - Current Priorities include construction of new streets (ongoing), construction of new pool (August 2014), manhole re-mapping (project completed) and new belt press at the Waste Water Treatment Facility (95% complete).
- Geary County
 - Current Priorities include economic development (industry/retail/infrastructure preparation), health department transition, aTa progress and relationships with Fort Riley & surrounding communities.
- City of Grandview Plaza
 - Current Priorities include lift station (work started), sewer line maintenance, Exit 299 right turn lane & stripping, sewer lagoon project (in progress), Exit 299 off ramp project (in process), improvements to

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Flint Hills Blvd, clearance of trees & branches from storm & school sign updates (in process).

- City of Junction City
 - Current Priorities include finalizing Comprehensive Plan, drafting of 2015 Budget, usage/development of vacant lots, municipal court facility, casino, Master Storm Water Management Plan & infrastructure system improvements (Water & Wastewater).
- City of Woodbine
 - Current Priorities include repaying loans on water project, recruiting/retaining volunteers & homeowners and community sustainability.
- City of Abilene
 - Current Priorities include economic development, water, organizational development and infrastructure.

REVIEW (DUE OUTS):

- Elections have been completed for the 2014-15 FHRC Executive Committee. The newly elected members will assume duties at the August 22nd meeting.
- 2014 Mid-Year Budget Review was presented to the FHRC Board
- FHRC Board Retreat Agenda will be adjusted to include time for PEA discussions during the 9:00 -10:00 a.m. timeframe. There will be no jurisdictions updates.
- Member Scott Briggs provided a brief outlook for the events in Emporia that will occur during the day and weekend of FHRC Board Retreat (i.e. Annual Beef Fest, Ranch Rodeo and 5K). There will be a list of upcoming events sent out to the Board.
- Meeting Guest Tom Weigand announced that there will be a Hole-In-One Fundraising Event held on August 22, 2014.
- President Ben Bennett announced that there will be a Barbeque & Blues Festival held the last weekend in September 2014.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Member Keith Kahnt motioned for the meeting to be adjourned at 11:28 p.m. At-Large Rich Jankovich seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.