



Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors

Board Meeting Minutes - June 20, 2014

Fort Riley's Conference Center

Fort Riley, KS

Present from Board of the Regional 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; **Stan Hartwich**, Pottawatomie County Commissioner; **Vern Hay**, Morris County Commissioner; **Linda Hoeffner**, Fort Riley Deputy Garrison Commander; **Rich Jankovich**, Manhattan City Commissioner; **Keith Kahnt**, White City Councilman; **Joe Kormanik**, City of Alta Vista Commissioner; **Bobbi Mlynar** (for Jon Geitz), Emporia City Commissioner; **MarySue Roller**, City of Woodbine Mayor; **Debi Schwerdtfeger**, Council Grove Councilwoman; **David Shover II**, City of Riley Mayor; and **Phil Weishaar**, City of Chapman Mayor.

Absent from the Board: **John Armbrust**, Governor's Military Council; **Jackie Hartman**, Kansas State University; **John Ray**, City of Abilene Commissioner; **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: **Jeff Adams**, Regional Planner; **Shelley Carver**, Community Development Manager; **William J. Clark**, Director; **Unique Hiram**, Administrative Manager; and **Gary Stith**, Deputy Director.

Guests: **Jess Buchholz**, Emporia State University, School of Business; **COL Andrew Cole**, Fort Riley Garrison Commander; **Karen Davis**, City of Manhattan Community Development Director; **Kay Hutchinson**, Greater Morris County Development Executive Director; **Kristie Ogilvie**, Emporia State University, Dean for School of Business; **Kelley Paskow**, Fort Riley Planner; **Lyle Peterson**, Kansas Department of Commerce Regional Manager; **Craig Phillips**, Fort Riley Plans Chief; **Ushi Reddi**, City of Manhattan Commissioner; **Julie Roller**, Pottawatomie County Economic Development; **Michael Ryan**, City of Junction City Mayor; **Traci Scott**, Fort Riley Regional Liaison Officer; **Michael Sellman**, Daily Union Reporter; **Michael Shonrock**, Emporia State University President; **Monty Wedel**, Riley County Planning Director; **Nathan Woolard**, Emporia State University Director of Leadership Studies; and **David Yearout**, Junction City/Geary County Planning & Zoning Director.

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WELCOME:

- David Shover, FHRC Vice President, called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and invited COL Kenneth Kamper, 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley Chief of Staff, to introduce himself to the board members, staff and meeting guests.

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES:

- Member Rich Jankovich motioned for the May 16, 2014 meeting minutes to be approved with no corrections. Member Honey Grant seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE:

➤ **TOP 10**

- 1) FHRC Sustainability - The organization is currently being sustained by two funding sources.
- 2) Flint Hills Frontiers - The Spring meetings have been completed and the next Frontiers project to focus on will be the Housing Survey.
- 3) FHEDD (Flint Hills Economic Development District) - The complete designation application package has been submitted to the federal level and is awaiting a response.
- 4) Expansion of Membership - The City of Marysville along with Dickinson, Marshall and Washington Counties have declined the invitation to join the Flint Hills Regional Council. Abilene will not be renewing their membership in 2015. Reading (Lyon County) is very interested in joining the council.
- 5) FHMPO MTP (Metropolitan Transportation Plan) - URS is the contractor that was hired to develop the Long Range Transportation Plan.
- 6) FHMPO TDM (Travel Demand Model) - The model is currently on time and will be available Fall 2014 (September).
- 7) FHTRA (5307 Funds) - The Interlocal Agreement has been signed and the organization is now a public entity. There will be an organizing meeting held on Wednesday, June 25, 2014 at the City of Manhattan Commission Room.
- 8) Strategic Plan - Jeff Adams give an update later on in the meeting.
- 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 and there will be four options to review. The approval process is scheduled during the Annual Retreat in August.

➤ **NOTES**

- 1) Morris County will leave the council if the membership fees are raised.

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- 2) The FHRC staff will need to move by October 31st and the new location will be at the 12th Street building at Camp Funston.

➤ **FINANCE & BUDGET REVIEW**

- 1) HUD adjustments have been completed as outlined at last month's board meeting.
- 2) As a result of the reallocation, 78% of the project time has been completed and 60% of the budget has been spent.
- 3) Currently the bank account has a balance of \$182.7k, which \$66.9K is allocated to the FHMPO.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

- FHRC Executive Committee Elections / Nominating Committee Update - FHRC Past President and Nominating Committee Chair Vern Hay presented the proposed "Slate of Officers" for the upcoming elections. The slate included the following: President, Member David Shover; Vice-President, Member Rich Jankovich; Secretary, Member Stan Hartwich; Treasurer, Member Honey Grant; At-Large, Member Scott Briggs; At-Large, Member Robert Boyd; and Past President, Member Ben Bennett.
- Proposed Increase to Jurisdiction Assessments - Treasurer Honey Grant motioned for the FHRC Membership Assessments to remain at .50 per capita with the population being based on the 2010 Census data. Vice-President David Shover seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Proposed FHRC Retreat Agenda - Clark presented the proposed FHRC Retreat Agenda to the Board. President Ben Bennett encouraged all of the board members to be present. There were no further discussions.
- City of Reading (FHRC Membership) - The board was informed that the City of Reading is interested in joining the FHRC. Vice-President David Shover motioned for the staff to send a formal membership invitation to the City of Reading. At-Large Rich Jankovich seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Emporia State University - President Michael Shonrock expressed the University's interest in looking for ways to partner and collaborate with other entities, public and private.
- Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) - Some of the items that the board members discussed pertaining to item included:
 - ISP Partner - Housing/Transportation/Healthcare
 - Encroachment - Communities grow in a manner that doesn't interfere with training.
 - Updates to K-18 (Highway 77, Exit 299 & 301)
 - Inclusion in the Flint Hills Metropolitan Planning Organization
 - Building of housing throughout the region

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- Education – KSU/Military Families, Programs, Common Core in Kansas, Tuition (In-State), Barton (Family Members Attend for Free) and Reading Programs.
- Quality of Life – Adoption of Families & Historical Region
- Initiatives – aTa Bus Service looking to expand services and employment of military spouses as well as retiring soldiers.

FHRC UPDATES:

- Strategic Planning Initiative / Workforce Study Update
 - Jeff Adams, Regional Planner, gave a brief update on the progress of the Strategic Planning Initiative.
 - There have been a few brown bag lunches completed and the initiative has been entitled “Building a Smarter Box.”
 - The focus of the meetings is to create a Business Model Canvas that focuses on finding out what the FHRC customers need in regards to services.
 - The Business Model Canvas consists of five areas that include baseline, rural support model, development driven, sustainability driven and entrepreneurship driven.
 - The goal of this process is to present one business model with two or three different options to successfully achieve it.
 - The next meetings will be held on July 2nd and July 23rd with the proposal to the board being available on August 26th.

 - The Workforce 2.0 Report is available on the FHRC website.
 - The top five industries include the government, retail, accommodation, health care and manufacturing.
 - 66% of the regional growth is due to the government jobs (military and civilian).
 - It is projected on the state/local level that there will be a 1500 job increase; whereas, the federal government will lose jobs.
 - It was noted that the mining industry is growing

- Flint Hills Frontiers Spring Meetings Update
 - Shelley Carver, Community Development Manager, gave a brief update on the Flint Hills Frontiers Spring Meetings Update.
 - The Top Ten Toolbox Strategies include: Strengthen Public Schools, Increase High-Speed Internet Connectivity, Protect Water Quality & Avoid Runoff, Promote Agri-tourism, Revitalize Historic Downtowns, Boost Entrepreneurialism, Encourage Productive Conservation, Develop National Recreation/Cultural Destination, Control Invasive Species and Promote the Flint Hills Brand.

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- The tools will be taken to the Issue Experts in July 2014 for review, feedback and implementation.
- The Strategic Doing Cycle created by Ed Morrison (Purdue University) is very useful in regional transformation. This cycle consists of following: What could we do together? What should we do together? What we will do together? When will we get back together?
- The Fall 2014 Frontier meetings are currently being developed and planned.

FORT RILEY UPDATE / Q&A SESSION:

- MG Paul Funk II, Commanding General of the 1st Infantry Division, gave a brief update about Fort Riley and some of the hot topics with the Army.
- The current reduction in the Army is set to decrease from 490K to 450K.
- Fort Riley has been around since the 1850s and it has been awarded the deployment award for seven years in a row. The installation is currently eligible for their eighth award.
- The installation is currently competing with Fort Polk and Fort Carson, especially with the BRAC list looming.
- In regards to the Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA), the Commanding General expressed the importance of identifying the regional activities that both the installation and FHRC have been involved with as partners. For example, the regional emergency management exercise that was conducted in August 2013.

REVIEW (DUE OUTS):

- Official Elections will be held at the July 18th meeting
- There will be no FHRC Membership Fee Increase
- FHRC Board Retreat Agenda will continue to be fine-tuned and finalized for August
- Programmatic Environment Assessment - Input will be drafted up in a document for review for the board by Clark

ADJOURNMENT:

- FHRC Board President Ben Bennett officially adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.