



Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors
Board Meeting Minutes – March 20, 2015
C. L. Hoover Opera House
Junction City, 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; **Vern Hay**, Morris County Commissioner; **Joe Kormanik**, City of Alta Vista Commissioner; **Karen McCulloh** (for Rich Jankovich), Manhattan City Commissioner; **Kelley Paskow** (for Tim Livsey), Fort Riley; **Debi Schwerdtfeger**, Council Grove Councilwoman; **David Shover II**, City of Riley Mayor; **Jimmy Thatcher**, City of Clay Center Mayor; and **Phil Weishaar**, City of Chapman Mayor.

.

Absent from the Board: **John Armbrust**, Governor's Military Council; **Jon Geitz**, City of Emporia Mayor; **Jenifer Hanneman**, City of Reading; **Jackie Hartman**, Kansas State University; **Stan Hartwich**, Pottawatomie County Commissioner; **Kristie Ogilvie**, Emporia State University; **MarySue Roller**, City of Woodbine Mayor; and **Brande Studer**, Chase County Clerk.

.

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

Present from Staff Support: **Shelley Carver**, Community Development Manager; and **Unique Hiram**, Administrative Manager.

Guests: **Karen Davis**, City of Manhattan Community Development Director; **Allen Dinkel**, Junction City Manager; **Ron Fehr**, Manhattan City Manager; **Kevin Griffith**, 1420 AM KJCK News Reporter; **RJ Harms**, Milford Lake Project Manager; **Brad Hartenstein**, Flint Hills Builders; **Kay Hutchinson**, Greater Morris County Development Executive Director; **Russ Kaiser**, Fort Riley; **Bruce McMillan**, Architect; **Mike Ryan**, Junction City Mayor; **Brad Roether**, City of Milford Mayor; **Gary Sacher**, Grandview Plaza Councilman; **Jim Sands**, Junction City Commissioner; **Mike Sellman**, Daily Union Reporter; **Monty Wedel**, Riley County Planning Director; and **David Yearout**, Junction City/Geary County/Milford Planning & Zoning Director.

WELCOME:

**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2015**

- David Shover, FHRC President, called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. and invited the board members, staff and meeting guests to introduce themselves.

APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING'S MINUTES:

- Member Cecil Aska motioned for the February 20, 2015 meeting minutes to be approved with no corrections. Member Scott Briggs seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

UPDATES:

➤ **Finance/Budget Review**

- 1) Shelley Carver, Communications Development Manager, presented board members the bank and budget slides for the finance/budget review.
- 2) The HUD Grant is currently 95% completed as of 03/12/15.
- 3) The bank account has a balance of \$355,243.58, which includes \$237,455.22 in MPO funding, as of 03/12/15.

➤ **Staff Activity and Updates**

- 1) Council Grove Comprehensive Plan
- 2) Strategic Doing Workshops
- 3) Capital Campaign Meeting (March 30, 2015)
- 4) Fair Housing Study continues, surveys and documents being completed.
- 5) Marketing and Branding consultant selected
- 6) Website updating for FHRC, FHRTA, FHEDD and FHMPO

PRESENTATIONS:

➤ **Blue/Green Algae in Milford Lake**

- R.J. Harms, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, gave a brief overview of the 2014 Blue/Green Algae in Milford Lake Impact.
- Kansas Department of Health and Environment has three (3) zones for testing: Zone 1, State Park and all areas south; Zone 2, Madison Creek to Milford State Park; and Zone 3, Area north above Madison Creek.
- The beaches operated by the Corps & KDWP were closed 17-19 weeks due to blue/green algae. The north end of the lake normally takes the biggest hit.
- There were four to five pet deaths due to the algae issues.
- Milford Lake supports a multi-million dollar regional recreational based economy.
- There is a brochure on the KDHE website entitled "Harmful Algal Blooms" identifies signs and things to do if you see this algae. The website link is <http://www.kdheks.gov/algae-illness/index.htm>.

DISCUSSION TOPICS:

- **Vision for the Future of the Water Supply for Kansas**
 - Jackie McClaskey, Kansas Department of Agriculture Secretary, gave a brief overview of the Vision for the Future of the Water Supply for Kansas.
 - There have been 13,500 Kansans who have participated in meetings since 2013 concerning the water supply in the state.
 - Website Link: <http://agriculture.ks.gov/about-ksda/water-vision>.

- **Wildcat Creek Resiliency Competition (HUD Grant)**
 - Chad Bunger, City of Manhattan Senior Planner/Certified Flood Plain Manager, gave a brief overview of the Wildcat Creek Resiliency Competition Grant that the city is applying for through HUD.
 - There is \$800M in funding available through the National Disaster Resiliency Competition. The city will be applying for \$25M in grant funding.
 - The application is due March 20, 2015 and the City would like a letter of support from the council, which identifies the FHRC as a technical partner for the grant.
 - President Shover read the letter of support that was drafted by Shelley Carver to the board members. Member Jimmy Thatcher motioned for the letter of support to be signed by the board president. Member Robert Boyd seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

CITY/COUNTY/PARTNER UPDATES:

- Fort Riley
 - Kelley Paskow, Plans Chief, shared that the Fort Riley Listening Session had that largest number of attendees in person and online.
 - COL Cole signed the MOU for JLUS. There should be a response in mid-April.
 - She introduced Russ Kaiser who is the new Lead Planner.

- Governor's Military Council
 - John Armbrust was not in attendance at the meeting.

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

- Emporia State University
 - Kristie Ogilvie was not in attendance at the meeting.

- City of Chapman
 - Member Phil Weishaar informed that board about the new sign for the RV Park that has been open for 30 days.

**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2015**

- The community's grocery store has been open and running well.
- City of Clay Center
 - Member Jimmy Thatcher informed the board that bonds has been passed for the CTI facility.
 - The community's sewer system has been extended for one mile.
 - The city's pool is 80% completed and should be open to the public very soon.
- Geary County
 - Member Ben Bennett informed the board that the county is dealing with challenges of controlling unauthorized fires. There were nine in the last few weeks. Currently, the county incurs the cost of \$200.00 per incident and comes with a fine of \$25.00 to the violator.
 - The county is working with the city on a number of items.
 - The Sundown Salute will be held on July 4, 2015.
- City of Grandview Plaza
 - Member Honey Grant informed the board that the city is working on a number of street and sewer projects.
 - There will be an Easter Egg Hunt held for the community children.
- City of Junction City
 - Member Cecil Aska informed the board that it was his last meeting and asked Allen Dinkel, Junction City Manager, to provide a few updates.
 - There are eight candidates running for the three commission positions.
 - The Walmart West Store will be 40,000 square feet.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT:

- President Shover reminded the board that they are losing him and Vice-President Jankovich because both wouldn't be running for local office; therefore, a vote would need to be taken for their respective replacements.
- There was a discussion and the following consensus was reached for interim replacements (April-July 2015). Morris County Commissioner and 2012 Board President Vern Hay was asked to fill the position on an interim basis until the new elections in July. Member Jimmy Thatcher motioned for Vern Hay to be installed as the Interim Board President. Member Vic Enns seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Additionally, City of Manhattan Commissioner Karen McCulloh was asked to fill the Vice-President position since she is the current alternate and has served on the board previously. Member Phil Weishaar motioned for Karen McCulloh to be installed as the Interim Vice-President. Member Cecil Aska seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.
- It was also noted that the board would be losing the following members: Commissioner Cecil Aska (Junction City) and Councilwoman Debi Schwerdtfeger (Council Grove).

ADJOURNMENT:

**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors
Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2015**

- Member Scott Briggs brought up the discussion about the gaps in staffing that may occur June – September 2015 due to the HUD Grant coming to an end as of May 31, 2015. There was a brief board discussion that the Executive Committee should meet weekly concerning this matter.
- Member Cecil Aska motioned that the Executive Committee should meet frequently and provide information to the board about the future funding as well as staffing. Member Debi Schwerdtfeger seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.
- Member Jimmy Thatcher motioned for the meeting to be adjourned at 11:40 a.m. Member Honey Grant seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.