



**Flint Hills Regional Council Board of Directors**  
Board Meeting Minutes – November 18, 2016  
Alta Vista, KS

Present from Board of the Regional Council: **Pam Bales**, Alma City Councilwoman; **Ben Bennett**, Geary County Commissioner; **Robert Boyd**, Riley County Commissioner; **Scott Briggs**, Lyon County Commissioner; **Vic Enns**, Wamego Commissioner; **Honey Grant**, Grandview Plaza Vice-Mayor; **Sharon Haun**, Council Grove Councilwoman; **Vern Hay**, Morris County Commissioner; **Galen Johnson**, City of Dwight Mayor; **Tim Livsey**, Fort Riley Deputy Garrison Commander; **Karen McCulloh**, City of Manhattan Commissioner; **Susan McKenzie**, City of White City - City Clerk; **Dee McKee** (*for Stan Hartwich*), Pottawatomie County Commissioner; **Mike Ryan**, City of Junction City Commissioner; **Ervan D. Stuewe**, Wabaunsee County Commissioner; and **Jimmy Thatcher**, City of Clay Center Mayor.

Absent from the Board: **Steve Harmon**, City of Emporia Commissioner; **Jackie Hartman**, Kansas State University; **Jennifer Laird**, Chase County; **Darci Pottroff**, City of Riley Councilwoman; **Dale Renfro**, City of Onaga Councilman; **MarySue Roller**, City of Woodbine Mayor; **Jeff Rosell**, City of Westmoreland Councilman; **Kevin Sorenson**, City of Reading Mayor; **Perry Wiggins**, Governor's Military Council; **James E. Williams**, Emporia State University; and **Lee Wolf**, City of Chapman Councilman.

Present from Staff Support: **Unique Hiram**, Administrative Manager; **Austin Masters**, Community Development Manager; and **Gary Stith**, Director.

Guests: **Karen Davis**, City of Manhattan Community Development Director; **Kay Hutchinson**, Greater Morris County Development Corporation Executive Director; **Jeff Lynch**, City of Emporia Community Development Housing Specialist; **Bruce McMillan**, Past CEDS Chair; **Linda Morse**, City of Manhattan Commissioner; **Angela Schwerdtfeger**, TCT Public Relations Director; and **David Yearout**, Junction City/Geary County/Milford Planning & Zoning Director.

**WELCOME:**

- Robert Boyd, FHRC Board President, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and invited the board members, staff, and meeting guests to introduce themselves.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**

- Member Karen McCulloh motioned for the October 21, 2016 meeting minutes to be approved as presented. Member Pam Bales seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

## **DIRECTOR'S UPDATES:**

### Staff Activities & Updates

- Gary Stith, Director, gave an update about what the staff is currently working on throughout the region.

### Finance/Budget Review

- The bank balance, as of November 16, 2016, is \$67,450.07 with \$41,692.93 belonging to the FHMPO.
- Outstanding Reimbursement Requests – OEA Impact Analysis \$33,545.00, OEA JLUS \$61.00, FHRTA \$5,593.14 and EDA \$1,342.00.

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

- **Meet & Greet COL John D. Lawrence (Fort Riley Garrison Commander)**
  - COL John D. Lawrence, Fort Riley Garrison Commander, gave a brief overview about his background and a brief update about some of the events that are happening on or around the installation.
    1. One of his primary goals is to be a productive source to forge positive synergy.
    2. The Kansas Works Employment/Education Fair was a successful event.
    3. The 43-person call center will bring 150 jobs to Fort Riley along with another 200 jobs in the next year.
- **Workforce Plan for Geary, Pottawatomie and Riley Counties**
  - Jack Allston, Pottawatomie County Economic Development Corporation Executive Director, gave a brief presentation on the collaborative workforce plan for Geary, Pottawatomie and Riley counties.

## **CITY/COUNCIL/PARTNER UPDATES:**

- Fort Riley – Tim Livsey, Deputy Garrison Commander, reported the following:
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade has returned from deployment; 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade is deployed.
  - COL Lawrence will be attending the IMCOM Conference.
  - VA Recruiting is going well.
  - MWR (Morale, Welfare & Recreation) has to produce \$1M for social programs. Labor has been trimmed and sponsorship donations are important.
- Kansas State University - Jackie Hartman, Office of the President, was not in attendance at the meeting.
- Governor's Military Council – Perry Wiggins, Executive Director, was not in attendance at the meeting.

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- Emporia State University – James E. Williams, VP of Student Affairs, was not in attendance at the meeting.
- City of Alta Vista – No report.
- City of Dwight – No report.
- Geary County – Member Ben Bennett, County Commissioner, reported on the following:
  - There are two new commissioners and a new county attorney.
  - Ongoing review & challenges with incentives for economic development.
  - School District is looking for available money to build new high school.
- City of Grandview Plaza – Member & Board Secretary Honey Grant, Vice-Mayor, reported on the following:
  - Splash Pad, K-5 School, Restaurants and Sewer Work.
- City of Junction City – Member Mike Ryan, City Commissioner, reported on the following:
  - Street projects are winding down.
  - I-70 State Project should be completed in February 2017.
  - New Fire Chief Terry Johnson was hired.
- City of Manhattan – Member Karen McCulloh, City Commissioner, reported on the following:
  - 2/10 one-cent sales tax is projected to generate \$2M/year for the next 10 years.
  - New county commissioner Marvin Rodriguez.
  - Airport parking lot paving will begin and new theater complex will be opening in a few weeks.
  - FREE Dental Event will be held January 27-28, 2017 – looking to serve 750 people.
- Wabaunsee County – Member Ervan Stuewe, County Commissioner, reported on the following:
  - Commented on rejoining as an FHRC member.
  - Challenges with bridge failures – Belvue & Williard.
- City of Wamego – Member Vic Enns, Mayor, reported on the following:
  - Fallen Soldier Memorial
  - New Fire Truck
  - Bid on new roof & hospital renovations will begin.
  - Sidewalk Plan
- City of White City – No report.

**ADDITIONAL ITEMS:**

- Legislative Issues – There was a board discussion about what legislative issues to discuss during the invited legislators to the December 2016 FHRC Special Board Meeting. Member & Past President Vern Hay motioned for the Executive Committee to finalize three legislative agenda items to be discussed at next month's meeting. Member Karen McCulloh seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.
- School Funding Resolution – There was a board discussion about what revisions and inclusions should be annotated in the school funding resolution. There was an initial motion made by Member & Board Secretary Honey Grant for approval and signature of the document after editing. Member Pam Bales seconded. After further discussion, an amended motion was made by Member & Board Secretary Honey Grant to appoint the Executive Committee to complete the extensive editing process and authorize the Board President to sign off on the approved correspondence. Member Pam Bales seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

- There will be a special board meeting held on December 16, 2016 at Kansas State University Student Union in the Flint Hills Room from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.
- Member Karen McCulloh motioned for the meeting to be adjourned at 12:00 p.m. Member Vic Enns seconded. The motion was carried unanimously.