

KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of July 9, 2010 Meeting
300 SW 8th, Lower Level
Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas

Attendance

Board Members Present: Michele **Abbott**, Marion County Emergency Management Director; Sheila **Biggs**, Dickinson County Commissioner; Joe **Connor**, Unified Government Health Department Administrator; Terry **David**, Rice County EMS Director; Jim **Emerson**, Crawford County Counselor; Jack **Frick**, Scott County Commissioner; Mark **Low**, Finney County Appraiser; JR **McMahon** II, Miami County Director of Public Works; John **Miller**, Norton County Commissioner; Tim **Norton**, Sedgwick County Commissioner; Dan **Partridge**, Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department Administrator; Duane **Patrick**, McPherson County Commissioner (NACo representative); Dale **Phillips**, Barton County Noxious Weed Director; Tom **Wagner**, Atchison County Commissioner; and Dick **Works**, Allen County Commissioner. (All members were present.)

Others Present: Melissa Wangemann, KAC General Counsel; Dennis Kriesel, KAC Policy Analyst; Sarah Meyer, Conference and Education Coordinator. Randall Allen was absent due to a death in the family.

Proceedings

Sheila Biggs called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Tom Wagner moved to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2010 meeting, and his motion was seconded by Jim Emerson. The motion passed.

Treasurer Dick Works gave the report of bills and payroll for July 9, 2010, noting one discrepancy relating to the Bourbon County Emergency Management Division. Dick Works moved approval of the reports with the amendment and Tim Norton seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Dennis Kriesel explained the monthly financial reports for May, 2010. Jack Frick and Duane Patrick seconded a motion to accept the report and place it on file. The motion passed.

President Sheila Biggs reported on communications with the County Elected Officials' Association. President Biggs said that she sent out a letter to all three organizations and she has heard back from all of them. Sheila was invited to the County Elected Officials Association's board meeting in June. J.R. McMahon went with her. The Treasurers' Association listed several conditions that must be met for them to rejoin KAC. These conditions were as follows: equal representation on the KAC Board;

amendments to the KAC bylaws to protect all county elected positions; and a commitment from KAC that if any county commissioner tries to eliminate or reduce the authority of an elected official, KAC would support the elected position and not support the commissioner.

Sheila Biggs noted that, after the August KAC Board meeting in Concordia, KAC officers will meet with the KCOA officers to discuss ways to work together if joining as affiliate organizations is not possible. One possible joint effort would be hosting conferences together. There was discussion amongst the Board members about efficiencies in county government, resource sharing and consolidation, and the consensus seemed to be that KAC could not support points made by KCOA about preserving elected official positions. J.R. McMahon noted that Sheila Biggs worked hard to find common ground with the other elected officials during their meeting. Terry David noted that Sheila accomplished what we wanted - the start of a conversation.

Sarah Meyer provided an update on the 35th Annual Conference. She explained the tentative schedule, noting a few tweaks from last year, such as an earlier start time for the Board meeting. She passed out the County Employee Award form and explained that the award would again be presented during the conference. Sarah explained Randall's June 29, 2010 email to the Board about the proposed keynote speaker, Steve Siemens, who was recommended by Trudy Rice, the Ralph Tabor NACo fellow.

Terry David moved and Joe Conner seconded a motion to approve the keynote speaker.

Under agenda item "Information Exchange," President Sheila Biggs called for reports from each board member.

Duane Patrick provided a NACo report, noting that several items pushed by NACo will be included in the federal farm bill.

J.R. McMahon noted that new legislation funding the Highway Fund and the CTP changed out the process on KDOT funding so counties are waiting to hear KDOT's formulation of process. KDOT will be hosting several meetings to discuss TWorks in the next few weeks.

Jack Frick noted Scott City was a finalist in the All American city contest.

John Miller noted the new federal health care bill will cause concerns for counties; for example, covering 26-year-old children and insurance rates going up. John Miller noted that Rob Mahoney is retiring so as to avoid working under the new legislation. He also noted that Norton County is likely to go to the exchange for its insurance.

Dale Phillips said it was a busy time for weed control. The County Weed Directors Association Board will meet Aug 12 to discuss its participation in KAC Annual conference. Also, Barton County has added two new bridges with 20% paid by the county and 80% by KDOT.

Terry David noted that the KEMSA conference was coming up in August, and Commissioner Tim Norton would be speaking there. He also informed the Board that companies Ford and Chevrolet were leaving the ambulance business and their absence from the market would impact ambulance prices.

Dick Works explained that he will be traveling and unable to attend the August board meeting.

Michele Abbott said the State was trying to qualify the June flooding for FEMA monies. Michele Abbott also noted that Senator Jay Emler was the keynote speaker at the KCGIS conference, where he made negative comments about KAC and LKM, noting they have no integrity. Joe Connor moved that Melissa Wangemann contact Senator Jay Emler to discuss his comments. JR McMahon seconded. The motion passed.

Jim Emerson gave positive reviews on the CCAK CLE. He noted that the CCAK adopted the amended bylaws, which allows the CCAK to hold its annual conference separately from the KAC. However, he further noted that the CCAK Board voted this week to host its annual conference in conjunction with the KAC annual conference.

Dan Partridge noted that KALHD held its mid-year meeting in June, which focused on health assessments.

Mark Low said that the Kansas County Appraisers Association hosted its meeting in June, which focused on ORION.

Tom Wagner said that Leavenworth County is considering allowing appointment of two commissioners by the Governor, with three elected. His county was advised of this issue by a letter sent to them from Leavenworth County.

Melissa Wangemann asked that Board members wanting to make a donation in memory of Ron Allen to the Horsethief Reservoir memorial contact her after the meeting.

Sheila Biggs closed the meeting saying that the next Board meeting is August 27 in Concordia, Cloud County. She adjourned the meeting at 11:55.

Minutes prepared by Melissa Wangemann

Michele Abbott, Secretary
Minutes approved by the Board on August 27, 2010