KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES
GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of December 16, 2011 Meeting
KAC Office, 300 SW 8th Avenue, Lower Level
Topeka, Shawnee County, Kansas

Attendance

Board Members Present: Gary Baker, Stevens County Commissioner; Marvin Beasley, Gove County Noxious Weed Director; Ben Bennett, Geary County Commissioner; Sheila Biggs, Dickinson County Commissioner; Gene Bryan, Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas; Jim Emerson, Crawford County Counselor; Jack Frick, Scott County Commissioner; Bill Guy, Reno County Emergency Management Director; Mark Low, Finney County Appraiser; Kerry McCue, Ellis County EMS Director; J.R. McMahon II, Miami County Director of Public Works; Richard Malm, Jefferson County Commissioner; 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; Kimberly Skillman-Robrahm, Coffey County Commissioner, and Dick Works, Allen County Commissioner.

Others Present: Randall Allen, KAC Executive Director; Melissa Wangemann, KAC General Counsel; Dennis Kriesel, KAC Senior Analyst; and Sarah Meyer, Education and Conference Coordinator.

Proceedings

President J.R. McMahon called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. He welcomed the new board members to the joint meeting between outgoing board members and incoming board members.

President McMahon called for an amendment to the board agenda to add a discussion about the letter received from the League of Kansas Municipalities regarding payment for the 911 software. Bill Guy moved and Duane Patrick seconded a motion to amend the agenda. The motion passed.

On a motion by Tim Norton, seconded by Kerry McCue, the minutes for meetings on November 13, 2011, December 2, 2011, and December 8, 2011 were approved.

Randall Allen reviewed the methodology for allocating county membership dues for the 2012 year. He explained that the Board reviewed the change this last year several times, and the membership dues increase was discussed at the KCCA annual conference. Mark Low said some western counties might be upset about the fee
increase. Tim Norton asked if any Board member had heard any push back about a dues increase. Randall noted that every county knew about the increase for several months and he had not heard concerns. Tim suggested a statement from Randall Allen with talking points about the dues increase, and J.R. McMahon asked Randall Allen to write a County Comment story on it. Mark Low moved and Richard Malm seconded a motion to approve the dues methodology. The motion passed.

Duane Patrick gave the National Association of Counties report, detailing the events of the December meeting in Orlando, Florida. He is chairing the subcommittee on healthy food.

Randall Allen and Sarah Meyer reviewed the evaluations and feedback they received on the annual conference with the Board. Randall gave a preliminary report on the annual conference evaluation and Sarah Meyer reviewed the six evaluations that were distributed to the board members. Sarah answered questions about the number of exhibitors at the vendor fair and also the complimentary and half-price booths; she and Randall explained that KAC has contracts with some companies that include a free booth and the affiliate and associate members get half-price booths. Randall Allen said that staff would brainstorm on new ideas for the opening session. He noted that David Rabiner seemed off and members did not seem interested in the program on a Sunday afternoon.

Duane Patrick moved to recess into executive session from 10:55 – 11:35 a.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel and performing the evaluation of the KAC executive director. Sheila Biggs seconded the motion, and the motion passed. The board returned at 11:35 and Sheila Biggs moved to recess into executive session from 11:35 – 11:45 a.m. for the purpose of discussing personnel and performing the evaluation of the KAC executive director. Duane Patrick seconded the motion and the motion passed. The board returned from executive session and took no action.

The Board recessed for lunch.

After returning to the board meeting following lunch, Dick Works moved that the president meet with Randall Allen to review his evaluation and authorized the president to negotiate a 1% raise for Randall Allen. John Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Kerry McCue moved to recess into executive session from 12:15 to 12:35 p.m. for the statutory reason of attorney/client privileged communications for the purpose of discussing the demand letter received from the League of Kansas Municipalities. The executive session included the new members of the board who assisted in the discussions. Duane Patrick seconded the motion. No action was taken in executive session.
Following executive session, Dan Partridge moved to offer $10,000 to the LKM to buy out their interest in the software, assuming the database is no longer part of the discussion. Duane Patrick seconded the motion. The motion failed 6-9.

Tim Norton moved to give $2,000 per year for a length of five years so long as KAC uses the software during that time. At the conclusion of five years of giving $2,000 per year, KAC will own the software outright. The motion carried 14-1.

J.R. McMahon thanked the outgoing board members for their service and presented them with gifts. The outgoing board members made remarks. The new board members were seated.

J.R. McMahon presented the slate of nominated officers. Bill Guy moved and Gene Bryan seconded the motion to elect the slate of officers. The motion passed.

J.R. McMahon passed the gavel to incoming president Tim Norton. Tim Norton made comments as the new president. Tim Norton said he would like to work on branding in his upcoming year as president. He wants to work on the KAC’s stature and presence in the state. He also wants to focus on the legislative process. He is dedicated to fixing the relationship with the LKM. He will communicate on a regular basis with members. Tim Norton called on the other new officers and they each offered a few words.

Tim Norton thanked KAC staff for their dedication in the last year.

Tim Norton reviewed the proposed dates for KAC board meetings in 2012. Bill Guy moved and Kimberly Skillman Robrahn seconded a motion to approve the list of meeting dates for 2012.

President Norton appointed Bill Guy, Ben Bennett, Richard Malm and Kimberly Skillman Robrahn to the finance committee.

Randall Allen gave his executive director report. He explained that Nathan Eberline would start Monday as the associate legal counsel/lobbyist for KAC. Another new position starting Monday will be held by Blair Paxson, who has served as KAC’s events intern. She will be the new administrative assistant. He discussed the KCC round table about horizontal drilling that was recently held in Topeka. He noted that he and Melissa Wangemann met with John Pinegar and Doug Smith, lobbyists for the Legislative Policy Group (representing western Kansas counties) to discuss the upcoming session and how KAC and LPG would work together to cover county issues. He also discussed the meeting that he and Michelle Ponce from KALHD were scheduled to have with the SRS secretary and that it was canceled, due to the secretary’s resignation.
Tim Norton asked Randall Allen to update the Board on the following issues: consolidation movement on aging, mental health and juvenile justice; KPERS; and any new tax proposals that are emerging from legislators or the governor.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Minutes by Melissa Wangemann

Approved by the KAC Governing Board on ____________.