Kansas Association of Counties
Governing Board Minutes
September 25, 2015

Attendance

Board Members Present: Allison Alejos, Director of the Shawnee County Health Agency; John Bartolac, Johnson County Director of Records and Tax Administration; Marvin Beesley, Gove County Noxious Weed Director; Robert Boyd, Riley County Commissioner; Gene Bryan, Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City Appraiser, President; Jim Emerson, Crawford County Counselor; Kerry McCue, Ellis County EMS Director; Stan McEvoy, Decatur County Commissioner; Norbert Marek, Wabaunsee County Attorney; Lynn Peterson, Dickinson County Commissioner; Hannah Stambaugh, Saline County Emergency Management Director; Shawn Tasset, Ford County Commissioner; Glen Tyson, Osage County Road Director and Dan Woydziak, Butler County Commissioner.

Board Members Absent: Richard Malm, NACo Representative; Rob Roberts, Miami County Commissioner; and Shawn Tasset, Ford County Commissioner.

Others Present: Randall Allen, KAC Executive Director; Melissa Wangemann, General Counsel; Dennis Kriesel, Operations and Finance Director.

Proceedings

President Gene Bryan called the meeting of the KAC Governing Board to order at 9:00 a.m. Randall Allen called roll and Richard Malm, Rob Roberts and Shawn Tasset were absent.

President Bryan called for a review of the agenda. Lynn Peterson moved and Dan Woydziak seconded a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed.

President Bryan called for the board to review the August minutes. Dan Woydziak moved to approve the minutes, and John Bartolac seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Dennis Kriesel reviewed the financials for June, 2015 and his memorandum to the board. He noted the positive gain of $18,700, with the early-bird annual conference registration occurring in June. He said other categories of the income were consistent with the typical revenue streams for KAC. Robert Boyd moved to accept the report and place it on file and John Bartolac seconded the motion. The motion passed.

President Bryan called on Melissa Wangemann to review the protocols with the board. She explained section 8 of the protocols relating to compromise, which the board reviewed at its August meeting but deferred to the Legislative Policy Committee for discussion and a
recommendation. The Legislative Policy Committee recommended adopting the current language. John Bartolac asked if the third sentence means that KAC will talk to affiliate/associate groups or the policy committee before compromise. Melissa Wangemann noted that the second sentence says “all opportunities to compromise” which encompasses any situation that involves compromise. She also noted that staff would want to cover themselves by talking to the Legislative Policy Committee before making compromise, so it would be a natural assumption that staff will always err on the side of talking to the committee. The board discussed the need to be present for late-night discussions at the Capitol, and determined that sentences two and three of the protocols, section 8, are intended to be read together. Thus, KAC staff will discuss compromise with the Legislative Policy Committee chairman or other committee members and/or affiliates/associates whenever possible before moving forward. Robert Boyd moved to approve the protocols as presented. Dan Woydziak seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Randall Allen picked up the previous conversation from the last board meeting on the KAC bylaws provision relating to the board composition. He reviewed his memorandum that he had written to the board. He discussed four points: 1. The method in which county commissioners are elected to the KAC board; 2. The possibility of changing the district boundaries for those commissioners elected to the board, 3. Ensuring urban representation on the board, and 4. The limitation on the number of representatives from any one county on the board. Randall Allen outlined the method to update the KAC bylaws to make changes to the board composition. Gene Bryan recalled the executive director’s performance goals set in May and one of those items related to board composition. He said discussion of this topic—one of such magnitude—might be better handled in a person-to-person meeting. Dan Woydziak said the topic was one touching both KAC and KCCA and that a study group might be a good method to consider and decide the policy. Dan Woydziak said he thought an urban representative was a good idea because their interests are different. He thought a limit of two members from the same county would be preferential. Both Gene Bryan and Dan Woydziak suggested the discussion on board composition would likely go into 2016. Robert Boyd agreed with the idea for a study committee. Gene Bryan asked, if we have an urban representative, will KAC also need a rural representative? He suggested feedback from the urban counties on this proposal. Marvin Beesley wondered what the urban consortium might recommend, and whether their recommendation would require a large number of urban representatives. Marvin Beesley suggested that KAC lead the discussion on urban representation and to limit it to two. Gene Bryan asked about reforming the board to include eight commissioner representatives instead of six. Dan Woydziak asked how many representatives from urban will be considered; he heard Marvin Beesley say two, and he was thinking of only one representative from the urban counties. John Bartolac asked, what problem are we attempting to fix. He suggested that the urban counties discuss the problem, once it is identified, and suggest a remedy. The consensus
of the board was to form a study committee to review the many options discussed. Robert Boyd moved and Dan Woydziak seconded a motion to appoint a working committee to discuss board composition changes to the Bylaws with a report due at the November 3rd board meeting. The motion passed.

President Bryan appointed a nominating committee. He appointed himself, Jim Emerson, Richard Malm and Robert Boyd. The committee will provide the nominating report at the December meeting.

Melissa Wangemann provided a status report on the legislative policy process. She noted that the Legislative Policy Committee met September 4, and would meet again October 9 in the Saline County Courthouse. The agenda for the October 9th meeting is the property tax lid. She noted that she had written an article, History of the Tax Lid, which appeared in the September County Comment. She is also working on a counterargument to Luke Bell’s 10-page Briefing and asking county officials/commissioners to meet with the board members of the Kansas Realtors Association to change their position of supporting the tax lid.

Randall Allen presented a request for travel authorization for Richard Malm to attend the NACo board meeting in Colorado Springs, CO in December. Glen Tyson moved and Marvin Beasley seconded the motion to approve the travel. The motion passed.

Randall Allen provided his executive director’s report. He noted that the annual conference program went to the printer yesterday. He acknowledged Jeanna Lee’s role in creating the book in house, which was a new thing for KAC. He reviewed the sponsorships that Dana Wethington has procured for the annual conference. He confirmed that Sally Clark, the NACo president, will be attending the annual conference, and hopefully host the Women of KAC caucus. Randall explained that KAC hosted its first webinar last Friday on KPERS. Forty-eight of the 50 registrants attended the meeting. He reviewed the registration list for the webinar. Kerry McCue and Robert Boyd gave good reviews of the webinar. Randall Allen noted that he had attended the southeast Kansas meeting, and will be attending the northeast meeting next Friday.

Dennis Kriesel discussed the Kansas Association of Local Health Department’s award to a health department, and requested that board members volunteer to participate in the award decision committee. Gene Bryan volunteered. Robert Boyd volunteered too.

Gene Bryan confirmed that the next board meeting date and time are October 9 at 9:00 a.m. for a conference call to discuss the budget. Randall Allen said KAC staff will be in the Saline County Health Department conducting the conference call at 9:00 a.m. if anyone wants to join the call in person.
Randall Allen called final roll call. All were present except: Jim Emerson who had to leave for the Crawford County board of commissioners, Richard Malm, Rob Roberts, and Shawn Tasset.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:16 a.m.