Kansas Association of Counties
Governing Board Minutes
December 11, 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; Dianna Carter, McPherson County Appraiser; Max Dibble, Phillips County Commissioner; Jim Emerson, Crawford County Counselor; Richard Malm, NACo Representative; Lynn Peterson, Dickinson County Commissioner; Rob Roberts, Miami County Commissioner; Clair Schrock, Thomas County Noxious Weed Director; 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: Kerry McCue, Ellis County EMS Director; Stan McEvoy, Decatur County Commissioner; and Norbert Marek, Wabaunsee County Attorney.

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

Proceedings

President Gene Bryan called the meeting of the KAC Governing Board to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed the new board members Dianna Carter, Max Dibble and Clair Schrock. He announced that Norbert Marek received a judicial appointment and would not be attending the meeting because he was meeting with the chief judge.

President Bryan turned to approval of the agenda. Dan Woydziak moved and Robert Boyd seconded a motion to amend the agenda to add an executive session to discuss the executive director’s review and to approve the agenda as amended. The motion passed.

President Bryan called on the board to review the minutes and requested a motion to approve them. Dan Woydziak moved and Glenn Tyson seconded the motion to adopt the minutes. The motion passed.

President Bryan moved on to discussion of the bills and payroll. Treasurer Glen Tyson delivered the report noting the disbursements and said there were no discrepancies. Robert Boyd moved and Richard Malm seconded the motion to approve. The motion passed.
Dennis Kriesel presented the monthly financial report, noting the revenues from the annual conference registrations. He expects a surge of revenue to come in the next few months from the annual conference but conference bills will offset those revenue streams. Marvin Beesley moved to place the report on file and Shawn Tasset seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Randall Allen and Dennis Kriesel reviewed the dues methodology for the 2016 dues. Randall Allen explained that the dues payments went out this week, by the annual due date of December 15. Dennis explained the base amount, the formula for determining the remaining balance, with a lid of $15,000. Urban counties will see a 3% increase because they hit the cap and the dues went up 3%. Other counties that are seeing a decreased valuation are actually seeing a decrease in dues; some counties are paying lower dues in 2016 than they paid in 2015.

President Bryan called on Dorrie Sullivan to review the 40th Annual conference occurring in November. She said overall attendance was up. She noted a significant increase of human resource directors, which had doubled, as well as planning and zoning officials, whose numbers also doubled. Eight counties did not attend in 2014 and 11 counties did not attend in 2015. Dorrie Sullivan reported that workshops all received good to very good marks, and had excellent marks. She noted that attendance in workshops seemed better this year. She said KAC tried to promote the agenda better this year so that may explain better attendance at workshops. Surveys show that 83% of respondents said they would attend next year. Some respondents said they won’t attend because the location is too far. 21% respondents said the Speed of Trust keynote and its corresponding workshop were their highlight from the conference. Networking was another strong highlight. Attendees indicated they appreciated having a schedule that attracts all county employees and are not focused on one segment of county employees. Dorrie Sullivan reminded the group that last year there was the issue with Murphy Tractor among vendors, but this year KAC had a reception for vendors before the conference began, where we answered questions and provided helpful hints. Dorrie Sullivan said it seemed like the mood of vendors was better because KAC worked on better communication with them. Dorrie Sullivan also discussed the 2016 plan for the exhibition, which will change in the new location of Overland Park, and the response was positive. She talked about the app and KAC staff was happy with the development and outcome for the app. The app received 10,000 total impressions and cuts costs in printing paper. KAC eliminated the exhibitor program and moved that information on to the app. Dianna Carter and Dan Woydziak noted that WiFi problems limited the use of the app. Dorrie Sullivan responded saying two different WiFi systems from Hyatt to Century II added to that problem. Randall Allen emphasized that we will have an exclusive exhibition time next year with no other programs conflicting with the exhibition. He also said we need to rethink the Awards Luncheon and how it should be handled. KAC needs to discuss what awards to recognize, and whether we move awards to a different point in the year. Randall Allen also noted Melissa Wangemann’s CLE at
IMLA that required the attendees to use the app for its materials. Gene Bryan said that Foley Equipment sent a letter of appreciation at the end of the conference, and he read excerpts from the letter.

President Gene Bryan moved to discussion on Executive Director Randall Allen in executive session. Dan Woydziak moved to go into executive session for personnel issues to protect the employee’s privacy, which session would include current board members because they aided in the discussion. The session would last until 10:50. Marvin Beesley seconded the motion and the motion passed. The board reconvened at 10:49 a.m. Dan Woydziak motion to adjust the executive director’s pay by 2% and Shawn Tasset seconded the motion to go into effect January 1, 2016. The motion passed.

President Gene Bryan provided his President’s Report. He expressed his appreciation for working with those on the board and the friendships created. He said he tendered his resignation from the Unified Government and the next week was his last week. Randall Allen asked Melissa Wangemann to review the Bylaws provision relating to the past president position on the Board. She explained the glitch in the provision when it applies to different times of the year. The Bylaws say that, if the past president is no longer an elected or appointed official from a member county, the governing board member that has served the longest and attained the highest office and whose term is expiring, shall continue on the board. Melissa Wangemann noted that this provision works for a past president who ends his or her term in December, but it does not work for the rest of the year after the replacement person has left the board. Dan Woydziak said the committee reviewing the urban county representation may be amending the Bylaws and this section could be amended at that time. The board asked that the minutes capture the precedent of keeping the person meeting the Bylaws requirement—usually the prior past president—when the past president is no longer able to serve, and that fact is known at the time of the reorganizational meeting. Dan Woydziak complimented Gene Bryan on his organizational skills and getting the KAC back on schedule with regard to some duties.

President Gene Bryan and Randall Allen recognized the outgoing members and presented them with gifts. Gene Bryan said that Stan McEvoy and Norbert Marek’s gifts would be sent to them. President Bryan recognized Jim Emerson for his services and gave him a gift. Dan Woydziak asked about the CCAK replacement and Melissa Wangemann explained that the County Counselors would select Norbert’s replacement at its January meeting.

President Bryan moved to the agenda item of seating the new members of the board. Marvin Beesley introduced Clair Schrock from Thomas County, noting his experience in his county and the Highway Officials Association. Gene Bryan introduced Dianna Carter, McPherson County Appraiser, who is replacing him as the appraiser representative. Gene Bryan noted that she
worked during reappraisal in the 80s and explained her work and educational experience. Randall Allen introduced Max Dibble, Phillips County Commissioner. Max is in the middle of his third year of his first term. Max Dibble lives in Phillipsburg where he runs a small business, and he is a graduate from Fort Hays State University.

President Gene Bryan provided the Nominating Committee Report. He acknowledged the help of Jim Emerson, Richard Malm and Robert Boyd. He presented the slate of officers: President – Dan Woydziak, Vice President - Allison Alejos, Secretary – Robert Boyd, Treasurer - Glen Tyson. Lynn Peterson moved to accept the slate of officer and elect them to office, and Shawn Tasset seconded the motion. The motion passed and the election was concluded. Past President Gene Bryan passed the presidential gavel to Dan Woydziak.

New president Dan Woydziak gave comments. He discussed the legislative challenges for the organization and the conflict with some legislators and some county officials over certain issues like Medicaid expansion. He noted the challenges of the tax lid and the drop in oil/gas valuation. President Woydziak said one of his great passions is working on issues affecting the aging population. He said he wanted to work on awareness of aging programs so that people can stay in their own homes. Legislators forget all the services that counties provide and we need to educate public and state government on all we do. Allison Alejos said the health board is a concern for KAHLD and that the boards of commissioners understand that role. Robert Boyd said aging issues is a good issue to work on. Glen Tyson said he agreed. President Woydziak also reported a group of commissioners would meet with the Governor next Tuesday and they would discuss tax lid, local control and Medicaid expansion.

President Woydziak called on the Board to set the board meeting dates for 2016. Randall Allen referenced the handout with the suggested dates for meetings. Generally the KAC meets the 4th Friday of the month, with some exceptions relating to Local Government Day in January, the August meeting for which the President chooses the location, and the Annual Conference board meeting. He noted the NACo meeting dates. Shawn Tasset moved to accept the meeting dates and Glen Tyson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

President Woydziak appointed Robert Boyd, Max Dibble, Clair Schrock and Glen Tyson as the Finance Committee. Shawn Tasset moved and Richard Malm seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Richard Malm provided the NACo report. He explained the federal priorities of NACo. They have 13 lobbyists working on federal issues. In last few weeks, three counties have joined NACo, which brings revenue into KAC. Richard Malm reported that he worked with KAC to send out letters to nonmember counties. He talked about the PILOTs from the federal government with those counties that are not members of NACo. Richard Malm explained to the board the
PILOT fees that some counties receive from the federal government. Max Dibble said Phillips Co receives $23,000 in a PILOT so it makes sense to pay NACo dues. Richard Malm said the question of “what one thing are you proud of in your county” came up during NACo winter meeting and he thought it was worth everyone considering this point.

Randall Allen gave his Executive Director’s Report. He discussed the executive search for Ellis Co on their new administrator. He said it was learning experience for KAC, and KAC would want to consider a higher fee for this service. He noted the Governor’s Water Conference in Manhattan around the time of our conference. He said he was appointed to a committee to work on implementation of the water plan. He discussed his conversation with Tracy Streeter, Director of the Water Office. He will be giving monthly reports to the board and the membership about the water plan. He asked Melissa Wangemann and Dorrie Sullivan to discuss Local Government Day. Melissa Wangemann reviewed the schedule and Dorrie Sullivan discussed registration and hotels.

Randall Allen asked Melissa Wangemann to review the request for an amicus brief from the Kansas Department of Transportation. She explained the request to file an amicus was made by KDOT, but affected cities and counties on cases involving inverse condemnation. She said the County Counselors endorsed the brief. Shawn Tasset explained that Clean Line is running a line across his land, which devalues his land. Rob Roberts moved to approve the submission of an amicus brief, and Jim Emerson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Randall Allen asked Melissa Wangemann to review the 911 bills that are not getting paid, and noted his letter that went to the 911 Council chairman. Melissa Wangemann explained the problem – bills are not getting vetted and submitted back to KAC for payment. This week the Council approved $640,000 out of $3-4 million in bills that are due. Randall Allen asked Dorrie Sullivan to review the KAC Institute of Excellence Course Schedule. She explained the schedule, and said they will add classes if they need to. She noted the relationship with the Kansas Leadership Center. She reminded the Board that KAC now has webinar software that can be used to train. She discussed the hotel registration for the 2016 annual conference, and noted that the overflow hotels are within walking distance of the conference. Max Dibble said the Colby meeting on local health was a good program.

Randall Allen called for a motion to travel to the upcoming NACo meetings. Allison Alejos moved to approve and Rob Roberts seconded a motion to authorize travel. The motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m.