Kansas Association of Counties  
Governing Board Minutes  
February 27, 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; Richard **Malm**, NACo Representative; Norbert **Marek**, Wabaunsee County Attorney; Lynn **Peterson**, Dickinson County Commissioner; Rob **Roberts**, Miami County Commissioner; Hannah **Stambaugh**, Saline County Emergency Management Director; Glen **Tyson**, Osage County Road Director and Dan **Woydziak**, Butler County Commissioner.

Board Members Absent: Shawn **Tasset**, Ford County Commissioner was absent due to a delayed flight from the NACo conference.

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

**Proceedings**

President Gene Bryan called the meeting of the KAC Governing Board to order at 10:01 a.m. President Bryan called for corrections to the agenda, and there were no corrections to the agenda.

President Bryan called for the board to review the minutes. Rob Roberts noted that his name was missing from the roll of attendance on the last two meetings. Marvin Beesley moved to adopt the minutes with an amendment to add Rob Roberts to the attendance listing, and Rob Roberts seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Operations and Finance Director Dennis Kriesel provided the financial report for December 2014. He noted that the KAC’s budget anticipated a final net income of $3,617, but the net was actually $32,709. He noted the changes in staff in the last year, and that those changes did not affect the year-end balance. He said that the operations and legislative research program was on target, finishing 1% higher than planned. The education program (KCGI) was lower than budgeted, coming up 30% short of the budget (but only $1,000 in dollars). The business enterprise was 17% short of the target income. The 911 program generated 16% more than
Robert Boyd moved and Glen Tyson seconded the motion to accept the financial report and place it on file. The motion passed.

Randall Allen presented a request from the Kansas Sheriffs Association to become an associate member of the Kansas Association of Counties. He explained the difference between the associate member and the affiliate member. An affiliate member must be approved by the full membership at the annual meeting; therefore, the sheriffs could only become an associate member at the present time. Randall Allen detailed the relationship that has developed between KAC and the Sheriffs Association, noting that we often work on legislation together. Kerry McCue moved to extend an associate membership to the Sheriffs Association. Dan Woydziak seconded the motion. The motion passed on a unanimous vote. The board discussed extending invitations to the Register of Deeds Association, and then eventually to the Kansas Treasurers Association. The board discussed the benefits of having all the elected officials at the table to discuss policy and legislative issues.

Randall Allen led off the discussion on the Employee Benefits Trust, which was created to offer employee benefits to counties. The KAC has a contract with Bukaty Companies to handle the account. Phil Drescher and Andrew Hampson presented a summary on the benefits that their company can offer to counties with a handout entitled *Benefit Savings Strategy*. Phil Drescher and Andrew Hampson identified the challenges at the county level and the proposed solutions for the program. President Gene Bryan opened up discussion on the issues presented by the presentation, and the board discussed the program and the challenges for counties to understand the insurance market place. Robert Boyd moved to direct KAC to move ahead with the program and allow Bukaty to market the program to counties. Rob Roberts seconded the motion. Rob Roberts noted, however, that Miami County would not likely step into the program. Kerry McCue asked if KAC was endorsing a single product and whether the association needed to review other products before endorsing one product. Randall Allen explained that KAC already has an exclusive five-year contract with Bukaty dating back to 2013. The motion passed.

President Bryan recessed the meeting at 11:58 a.m. for lunch. President Bryan reconvened the meeting at 12:32 p.m.

Richard Malm gave a report from the National Association of Counties. NACo is financially healthy. Three of the biggest items being worked by NACo are: waters of the U.S., payment in lieu of taxes, and medicare payments. Richard Malm also discussed the NACo prescription drug discount program. He noted the additional programs of low-fee health and dental discount being provided by NACo. Robert Boyd discussed the work of the transportation committee.
Melissa Wangemann provided the legislative report. Melissa Wangemann noted that today was turnaround day, meaning that bills must pass out of the chamber of origin to remain alive. She reviewed the bills that survived turnaround and what issues continue into the second half of the session. She and Randall Allen discussed SB 178, the bill that alters the agricultural land valuation formula. Gene Bryan said at the time of reappraisal the number was supposed to be 30%. The effective rate on ag land is about 2% now. Randall Allen discussed his conversation with the Secretary of KDOT about the Special City/County Highway Fund, and the Secretary said there had been no discussions about taking the money.

Gene Bryan provided his President’s Report. He summarized a case on the Sumner County casino that resulted in lower appraisals and therefore lower taxes, and a substantial refund back to the taxpayer from the county. He noted that Sumner County would appeal the decision. He also has an upcoming case on the K.C. casino. He said these decisions may impact counties with casinos in their jurisdictions. President Bryan also expressed his condolences to Dana Wethington for the loss of her mother.

Randall Allen provided his Executive Director’s Report. Randall Allen explained that the current membership of KAC stands at 104, with Chautauqua joining this year. He also noted the letter that he wrote to Kearny County and noted that he would visit the county if invited. He said the compensation survey contract has been signed and explained the process of entering the data and maintaining it. He discussed his and Dorrie Sullivan’s meeting with Foley Equipment and he believes motor graders are the only item that may be excluded by other vendors. Randall Allen asked Dorrie Sullivan to discuss the revamped educational program, and Dorrie Sullivan explained the work she has been doing on the program.

The board members discussed the issues affecting their affiliate groups and their home counties.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:51 p.m.