Kansas Association of Counties
Governing Board Minutes
Capitol Plaza Hotel, Topeka, Kansas
January 28, 2016

Attendance

Board Members Present: John Bartolac, Johnson County Director of Records and Tax Administration; Robert Boyd, Riley County Commissioner; Dianna Carter, McPherson County Appraiser; Max Dibble, Phillips County Commissioner; Jim Emerson, Crawford County Counselor/Past President; Fred Johnson, Labette County Counselor; Richard Malm, NACo Representative; Kerry McCue, Ellis County EMS Director; 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: Allison Alejos, Director of the Shawnee County Health Agency.

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

Proceedings

President Dan Woydziak called the meeting of the KAC Governing Board to order at 9:03 a.m. and welcomed new board member Fred Johnson, Labette County Counselor. Johnson introduced himself to the board.

President Woydziak called for additions or corrections to the meeting agenda and there were no changes.

President Woydziak called on the board to review the December minutes and requested a motion to approve them. Jim Emerson moved and Shawn Tasset seconded the motion to adopt the minutes. The motion passed.

President Woydziak moved on to discussion of the bills and payroll. Treasurer Glen Tyson delivered the report noting the disbursements and said there were no discrepancies. Kerry McCue moved and John Bartolac seconded the motion to approve the report, and place it on file. The motion passed.

Dennis Kriesel presented the monthly financial report, noting the revenues and expenses from the annual conference. He noted a net income of over $43,000 because conference
registrations were processed month by month but sponsorships were held in reserve, so the sponsorships came in the last month. Max Dibble asked for a status report on counties paying dues, and Randall Allen said he had an email from the KAC accountant Arnetta Boyce, who had reported to Randall Allen the latest information on dues, and about $125,000 is still outstanding. Max Dibble moved to place the report on file and Robert Boyd seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Randall Allen reviewed the 2016 governing board notebooks. He explained the contents of the board notebook, thumbing through the book with the board members. Board members said they appreciated the work that went into the books.

Randall Allen presented the governance guidelines, a new document for board members. He discussed the duties of the board as outlined in the guidelines. Shawn Tasset moved to adopt Resolution 2016-01 and Glen Tyson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Melissa Wangemann presented the County Counselors Association of Kansas secretariat agreement, explaining that the secretariat fee was increased 5% for the 2016 year. Robert Boyd moved and Richard Malm seconded motion to approve CCAK Secretariat Agreement. The motion passed.

The Governing board recessed for a 10 minute break. Upon return, President Woydziak discussed the joint legislative meeting between the LKM and KAC and noted it was good idea and went well. He said there was a good turnout from legislators, and described the event as a tremendous success. Randall Allen said there were approximately 150 county officials in attendance, and LKM may have had about 150-200; so at least 300 county and city officials were in attendance. Randall Allen asked board members to respond to the event. Max Dibble said he thought the presenting legislators did a good job, and that the event had excellent turnout. John Bartolac said it was powerful to have the two groups working together and to have the two presidents on stage. Rob Roberts discussed the problems with the Republican ideology. Robert Boyd discussed the problem of villainizing groups, like local government.

Melissa Wangemann presented the legislative report. She discussed the bills relating to the tax lid and a new bill from the Secretary of State Kris Kobach that disallows public monies for communication on question-submitted elections. She also discussed amendments to the Kansas Open Records Act to cover private email communications, sanctuary cities, noxious weeds, and the Riley County proposals relating to delinquent taxes. Randall Allen moved to discussion on the property tax lid. He outlined a strategy for hiring a contract lobbyist and going out on the road to discuss the tax lid issue within the communities. Melissa Wangemann introduced Brad Smoot and Larrie Ann Brown who discussed their work as contract lobbyists and how they would represent KAC on the tax lid issue. The board discussed what strategy they
would use to combat the property tax lid. The consensus was to hire Brad Smoot and Larrie Ann Brown, and Hannah Stambaugh noted that the local engagement was important too. Lynn Peterson moved to enter into a contract with Brad Smoot and Larrie Ann Brown for lobbying services for 2016 with a maximum amount of $62,000. The motion passed.

Randall Allen then discussed his conversations with John Frieden, an attorney representing the fire chiefs, relating to Medicaid supplemental dollars for EMS service. They are requesting the counties get involved in lobbying efforts on a funding mechanism for ambulance service. Kerry McCue also added to the discussion, noting the perception from KEMSA. He said KEMSA would not support the direction proposed by Frieden’s group. McCue suggested that the issue could be solved by the Department of Health and Environment enacting an administrative regulation. Shawn Tasset noted that the Legislative Policy Group heard from the firefighters group earlier in the week on this issue, and their discussion did not include a solicitation for funds.

Randall Allen noted that the first workshop for the leadership series would be at the end of February at the Leadership Center in Wichita. He also discussed the renewal of the Foley Equipment contract for the 2016 annual conference. He explained that KAC is working on sponsorships and contracts with Aetna and BNSF Railroad. Rob Roberts asked if Johnson County would be serving as a sponsor during the 2016 annual conference.

Dianna Carter discussed a spreadsheet that she handed out that shows computation under the tax lid, with the effects on her county and the non-effects on the State. Board members were encouraged to review the spreadsheet and produce their own spreadsheet.

President Dan Woydziak provided the President’s Report. He announced that the August meeting would be in Hays, Kansas. President Woydziak noted that he and other county commissioners met with Governor Brownback earlier in the year to discuss the counties’ legislative concerns.

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:21 p.m.