Kansas Association of Counties  
Governing Board Minutes  
March 24, 2017  
Conference Call

Attendance

Board Members Present: Allison Alejos, Director of the Shawnee County Health Department; John Bartolac, Johnson County Director of Records and Tax Administration; Jeff Blosser, Morris County Engineer and Road Supervisor; Dianna Carter, McPherson County Appraiser; Max Dibble, Phillips County Commissioner; Ed Eilert, Urban County Representative; Dave Johnston, Sedgwick County EMS Operations Manager; Richard Malm, NACo Representative; Lynn Peterson, Dickinson County Commissioner; Lon Pishny, Finney County Commissioner; Gary Scoby, Nemaha County Commissioner; Hannah Stambaugh, Saline County Emergency Management Director; Barbara Wasinger, Rural County Representative; and Dan Woydziak, Butler County Commissioner.

Board Members Absent: Fred Johnson, Labette County Counselor; Clair Schrock, Thomas County Noxious Weed Director; and Rob Roberts, Miami County Commissioner.

Others Present: Randall Allen, KAC Executive Director.

Proceedings

President Allison Alejos called the meeting of the KAC Governing Board to order at 9:00 a.m. President Alejos asked Randall Allen to take roll call for the board members and he recorded Fred Johnson, Rob Roberts, Gary Scoby and Claire Schrock as absent at the beginning of the meeting.

President Alejos called on the board to review the minutes from the February 24th meeting. Barbara Wasinger moved to approve the February minutes and Lynn Peterson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

President Alejos noted that Dennis Kriesel was on vacation, and she called on Randall Allen to present the monthly financial report. Randall Allen noted the New Commissioners Orientation program occurred in January and noted income of $32,000 in the education program. He said the net gain for January was $27,937. Dianna Carter moved to approve the financial report and place it on file, and Barbara Wasinger seconded the motion. The motion passed.

President Alejos noted that Melissa Wangemann was unavailable because she was attending a legislative meeting, and called on Randall Allen to present the legislative report. Randall Allen noted the events of the week, saying that the Senate Tax Committee was currently meeting for
an informational hearing with the Property Valuation Division to give an overview of property taxes. He noted the gut-and-go on SB 167, a bill that would have repealed the tax lid. It was gutted and now contains provisions that: call for an election of appraisers, require county commissioners to attend the informal meeting with the appraiser, allow property owners to submit their own fee appraisal to serve as fair market value, and require appraisal classification that match the planning/zoning classification. He noted that the fee appraisal would likely be unconstitutional and would result in uneven valuation and taxation. Randall Allen explained the comments made by the Senate Tax Committee during the discussions on the tax lid and noted their misunderstanding of tax policy and process. Randall Allen also discussed the progress on the House side regarding HB 2376, which is the bill introduced by KAC and LKM to create a protest petition process for the tax lid. Randall Allen noted that the bill increasing truck weights with additional axles has passed the House. He said the Senate is amending the bill to limit the increased weight to agricultural uses. Randall Allen also discussed the delay in finalizing a state budget for the coming years, and the rescission bill to rescind spending in FY2017. He said there has been no resolution on the school finance case. Dianna Carter offered to answer questions relating to the appraisal legislation if any board member wanted to contact her. Ed Eilert asked if the bill was the result of pettiness or ignorance of the appraiser’s duties, and noted his concerns about electing that position. Eilert said the issue would be give rise to “who you know” and not generate the true value of a person’s property. Randall Allen said the problem arises from both points; pettiness and ignorance. Randall Allen and Ed Eilert discussed the inequities that would result from individual fee appraisals and such a change would return to the need for reappraisal as required in the 1980s. Dianna Carter said the fee appraisal should reflect market value and she does consider it during an appeal, but the fee appraisal has to be reviewed for mistakes. She said the issue is using a fee appraisal as evidence during a hearing versus the fee appraisal being deemed the final value. Barbara Wasinger asked about canopy covers. Jeff Blosser discussed the appeals process and the state oversight of appraisers. Lon Pishny asked about the legislation on the motor fuels tax increase, and Randall Allen briefed the board on the two bills.

Richard Malm presented the NACo Report. He noted that NACo picked up four new counties but lost two counties. Richard Malm discussed the federal legislation on municipal bonds. Max Dibble asked about the president’s budget and its elimination of payments in lieu of taxes. Richard Malm noted that NACo has to lobby for PILOTs every year and tries to attach it to a bill in order to pass the provision. Richard Malm said about 26-28 counties in Kansas get PILOTs. Ed Eilert discussed the municipal bonds tax policy, and noted that the issue is very important and counties need to talk to their congressmen. Randall Allen suggested he write a letter to the Kansas delegation on behalf of the KAC board regarding the tax-exempt status of municipal bonds. Lon Pishny moved to direct Randall Allen to write the letter to be signed by President Alejos, and Ed Eilert seconded the motion. The motion passed.
President Alejos called on Randall Allen to present his Executive Director’s Report. Randall Allen discussed the outstanding issue of incentive pay for Dana Wethington for securing advertisers and sponsors. He said he and Dennis Kriesel discussed the policy, based on the suggestions that came out of last month’s meeting. Randall Allen said he sent out a draft memo dated March 21st, and then updated it with a one-page change in the Personnel Policy sent on March 22nd. Randall Allen said KAC is planning for Foley Equipment to provide $30,000 and Johnson County to provide $7,000 for the annual conference, so the goal is to raise $18,000 in sponsorships. The proposed commission pay would be 5% of receipts towards 50% of the goal; 7% for the next 25% of the goal; 10% for the remaining quarter, and the commission pay would be 12.5% for any sponsorship over and beyond the goal. The program would provide a stair-step system for compensation that incentivizes the employee. Randall Allen reminded the board that this employee changed from a ¾ employee to ½ employee in the FY2017 budget, and that saved KAC $7,900. The maximum amount that will be paid out under the compensation plan is $1,200. Randall Allen discussed the concerns of the board about the sponsorships or advertisers meeting KAC standards, and he said the compensation plan would be dependent on sponsors and advertisers meeting standards developed by KAC. He said a written policy for advertising and sponsorships will be offered to the board at the May meeting. Randall Allen asked the board to approve the compensation plan today with the advertising and sponsorship plan to be presented in May. Lon Pishny noted his conversation with Randall Allen and Dennis Kriesel about these proposals, noting the discussion of recruiting new business versus maintaining businesses as sponsors and advertisers. Dan Woydziak moved to adopt the personnel policy section 2.0.6 retroactive to January 1, 2017. Lon Pishny seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Randall Allen discussed the siting of the upcoming annual conferences. The conference will be in Wichita in 2019 and 2020. The conference location was secured in Overland Park for 2021. He discussed the online compensation survey, noting that there are 59 subscribers, and that KAC has sponsored two webinars to explain the survey. Randall Allen noted that he provided the Technology Net contract to the board, which renews automatically unless canceled. President Alejos suggested the board discuss the Technology Net contract annually in the fall in order to discuss whether to renew the contract.

Randall Allen noted that he sent out an email about district meetings throughout the state, and he was unsure if there was a southeast district meeting, but he was informed today that the district will meet in Chanute and will be covered by Nathan Eberline. Randall Allen discussed the planning of the regional suppers that will occur in May, and their likely locations.
President Allison Alejos discussed the Strategic Plan. She reviewed the roles and responsibilities that were discussed at the last board meeting, which included monitoring the Strategic Plan. Randall Allen said the last plan was from 2004. President Alejos asked the board if they wanted to review the current plan or update it. Randall Allen said that the first step should be data-driven, meaning KAC should do a comprehensive survey of KAC members about the effectiveness of KAC’s programs. Randall Allen said the second step would be analyzing the data and discussing the data with the board. Questions presented might include whether KAC is offering the right services, and whether the services are offered in a manner members can use them. He wondered if KAC would want feedback from peer associations, like LKM or the KASB, or partner associations like KLPG or KCEG. Randall Allen asked if the KAC board wants feedback from affiliate and associate members. Randall Allen said he had talked to the Sunflower Foundation about facilitating a Strategic Plan session, and they may be able to provide grant money to cover the costs. Randall Allan asked if the final product should be a document that is published, and should the document be a living and breathing document. He suggested a 3-year time frame for reviewing the plan, but that point should also be discussed and decided by the board. He said he would be happy to share the concepts white paper that he created with the board after the conference call. Lon Pishny said a governing board needs to have goals and priorities, regardless of the name, because that will help guide the board. He suggested Wichita State University as a possible facilitator. He discussed the ends and means and noted his emphasis on the ends, but believes the means must fall within legal, prudent and ethical boundaries. Barbara Wasinger noted her agreement with Lon Pishny’s comments, and the idea of moving forward on a strategic plan. Dave Johnson discussed a program with Sedgwick County EMS using the Hugo Wall School of Public Affairs. Randall Allen asked if there were any objections to moving forward on the strategic plan; if not then he would plan to move forward. He will first send out the white paper to the board, and secondly have a conversation with WSU. Jeff Blosser said it was time to review the plan because the changes in technology and communications have changed so much since the last plan.

Allison Alejos presented her President’s Report. She said she only wanted to discuss the Strategic Plan, and that was accomplished. She reminded the board of their next meeting Friday, May 26.

Randall Allen performed the second roll call. Those in attendance were Allison Alejos, John Bartolac, Jeff Blosser, Max Dibble, Ed Eilert, Dave Johnston, Lynn Peterson, Lon Pishny, Gary Scoby, Hannah Stambaugh, Barbara Wasinger, and Dan Woydziak.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:31 a.m.
## Homework and Follow-Up

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<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Required Follow-Up</th>
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<tr>
<td>Letter to Kansas delegation regarding federal legislation on tax-exempt status of municipal bonds.</td>
<td>Randall Allen</td>
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<td>Policy regarding sponsorships and advertisers.</td>
<td>Randall Allen and Dennis Kriesel</td>
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<td>Calendar a fall date to review the Tech Net contract for compensation survey.</td>
<td>Randall Allen</td>
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<td>KAC Strategic Plan</td>
<td>Randall Allen to distribute the 2004 KAC Strategic Plan to board members.</td>
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<td>White paper on Strategic Plan</td>
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<td>Strategic Planning with WSU</td>
<td>Randall Allen to talk to WSU about strategic planning session.</td>
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