



KAC Governing Board Meeting – Virtual by Zoom
Wednesday, July 27, 2022, 9:00AM
118 SW 8th Ave., Topeka, KS

Attendees:

Kenny Baccus, *President*, Ottawa County Noxious Weed Director;
Max Dibble, *Secretary*, Phillips County Commissioner;
Frank Williams, *Treasurer / FC Chair*, Operations Manager County EMS Director.

Keith Becker, FC, McPherson County Commissioner;
Craig Chamberlin, Dickinson County Commissioner; **Terry David**, Rice County Commissioner;
Aften Gardner, Wallace County Health Dept.; **Crystal Malchose**, KCHRA Human Resource Director;
Aaron Mays, Shawnee County Commissioner; **Sean Robertson**, Saline County Appraiser;
Brian Stone, Emergency Management Director, Cowley County; **Justin Waggoner**, Asst. Counselor Sedgwick County;
Wendy Weiss, Lyon County Register of Deeds; **C.J. Wettstein**, Seward County Commissioner, phone.

Staff present:

Bruce Chladny, Executive Director; **Jay Hall**, Deputy Director & General Counsel;
Betty Oliva, Office & Finance Manager; **Dornella Leal**, Operations & Finance Director;
Kimberly Qualls, Education and Communications Director;

Absent:

Wayne Blackburn, FC, Engineer Coffey County; **Heather Elsworth**, Neosho County Clerk;
Shari Kaminska, FC, Elk County Commissioner; **Joe Leroux**, Ellis County Commissioner;
Dee McKee, *Vice-President*, Pottawatomie County Commissioner;

President Baccus called the meeting to order at 9:00AM.

Betty Oliva recorded attendance, for an official quorum.

Approval of the Agenda: President Baccus asked if there were any changes or discussion for today's agenda. Being none, he asked for a motion to approve the July 27, 2022, agenda as presented. Keith Becker made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Aaron Mays seconded the motion, motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes:

President Baccus asked if there were any changes or discussion for the June 29, 2022, minutes. With no additional discussion, Terry David made a motion to approve the KAC Governing Board minutes of June 29, 2022, as presented. Frank Williams seconded the motion, motion carried.

Executive Director Report, Bruce Chladny:

Bruce opened by thanking everyone for joining the meeting virtually. He thanked Aften Gardener, Wallace County Health Department Administrator and KALHD representative for allowing him to join her at her location for the meeting. It allowed him to stop in Wallace County on his return trip from the NACo Conference in Adams County Colorado and attend the KAC Governing Board meeting. Then he was also able to attend the Wallace County Fair.

Next Bruce discussed the KDOT Advisory meeting conducted at K-State. There were about sixty or so statewide stake holders in the BIL federal funding at the event. They had done some preliminary work in preparation for the Kansas Infrastructure Meeting being held later in the month.

Bruce then discussed the Midwest Legislative Conference held in Wichita, KS where KAC was a \$5,000 sponsor and allowed both Jay and Bruce to attend the conference. They attended portions of the event and interacted with State Legislators from across the mid-west, as they learned about regional issues that impact the mid-west states.

Next, he reported that he stayed in Wichita for the Kansas Infrastructure Summit hosted by KDOT and Transportation Secretary Julie Lorenz. Over five hundred community stakeholders from across the state attended the two-day event to participate in a series of exercises designed to help prioritize the needs of Kansans. Phillips County Commissioner and KAC Governing Board member Max Dibble was in attendance as well as Keith Browning, KAC Local Roads Contractor.

Bruce then discussed the trip out west to Adams, County Colorado to attend the NACo Annual conference. There were some 30ish Kansans that made the trip. He finished by talking about the FCC using the NACo app Test-it data to create their internet access speed maps. That next year Kansas delegates will hopefully caucus and be encouraged to vote as we had eighteen out of thirty-one votes abstain in the 2nd VP election.

There were no additional questions or discussions.

Deputy Director and General Counsel, Jay Hall:

Jay provided a quick update and commented on the upcoming primary elections. There are several retirements within the Legislature creating many changes within the Legislature, Committees, etc.

Education and Communications Director, Kim Qualls:

Kim is working on scheduling the education portion for webinars on Open Records and Open Meetings that will take place in September. There will be a Budget Class in December and again in January. Tomorrow, Thursday, July 28th will be the County Communicators Call, featuring the National Weather Service.

Finance Director, Dornella Leal:

Dornella provided a review of the June 2022 financial statements and reported on KAC's cash position.

- Income \$91,621.41.
 - Received income from Sunflower Foundation of \$5,000.
 - Receiving income for the Annual Conference; registrations, exhibition, and sponsorships.
- Expense \$65,687.79.
 - Noted increases on travel expense for staff and board members.
- Net Income for the month is \$25,933.62.
- Total Y-T-D Net Income as of June 2022 is \$293,261.

Finance Committee:

Terry David reported the Finance Committee reviewed the Bills & Payrolls Report and found everything to be in order. Terry David made a motion to approve both the June 2022 financials and the June 2022 Bills & Payrolls report as presented. Keith Becker seconded the motion, motion carried.

Keith Becker, NACo Representative:

Keith provided a review of The Annual NACo Conference held in Adams County, Colorado, July 21st through July 24th. He reported on items that NACo is focusing on and their current membership totals for both National and Kansas. James Gore was elected as the 2nd Vice President for NACo. NACo is coming out with a new program called Operation Green Light for Veterans that will be November 7th thru the 13th. There is much information on their new programs and existing programs available on NACo's website.

Old Business:

"Dark Store" Theory Johnson County Supreme Court Case update, Jay Hall:

Jay believes the court came out with a favorable ruling for the counties. The Prieb decision was over-ruled which now allows counties to present evidence with regard to the big box stores on how those facilities should be valued. Under the

Prieb decision it was restrictive on how counties could present that evidence, and now the Board of Tax Appeals can consider that evidence for making a determination of that value. This now gives a fighting chance to get those values appropriately determined.

Kansas Fights Addiction – Opioid Settlement Update, Jay Hall:

We have been working with the Attorney General's office and have been receiving many questions on this. We are currently waiting on a response from the AG's office if the funds should be budgeted or unbudgeted. KAC expresses caution and the importance of handling these funds appropriately to avoid any issues in the future.

NACo Annual Conference, Aurora County, CO Report (KAC Board/Staff):

President Baccus reported on the NACo Conference being very good, the break-out sessions and meetings with several topics and how the networking is invaluable. When attending several sessions, he kept hearing how the focus of County lines should not stop major projects. Counties should join together, work together when working on major or critical projects noting the use of ARPA funds where more than one or two counties could join together.

This year Kansas had a good showing with thirty-one voting members.

Bruce added additional information and discussion on:

Building Broadband across the country to expand on availability;

The possibility for using a Caucus again in the future;

The proposal of a survey to obtain feedback from our membership at the KAC Conference on combining the KAC annual membership renewals with the NACo annual membership renewal fee. There are several models that could be used.

Keith added how Saline County was recognized for their new jail. Keith again talks highly of NACo and their professionalism with their organization.

Jay Hall added he was able to meet with all the Deputy Directors and Legislative Directors from the other states where they discussed Legislative activities within each of their own state. It was informative and beneficial, and they are working to continue corresponding on a regular basis. They are organizing a monthly meeting/call to discuss their states legislative activity.

The 2023 Annual NACo Conference will be held in Austin, Texas.

New Business:

KAC Annual Conference Update, Kimberly Qualls:

Kim reported as of July we are at 69% for the overall budgeted revenue. She continued reporting on the current stats for registrations, sponsorships, exhibitors, advertising and reviewed the new sponsorship levels for 2022.

She is working on the agenda and with topics that were received as suggestions from the survey that had been sent out. We have reached out to several possible speakers and are waiting to hear back from Julie Lorenz and the Attorney General's office.

Kansas Counties Update, Bruce Chladny & Jay Hall:

Jay updated the Board on several current county items and activities. Some concerns include the usage of the Cares Funds. KAC will help make sure and provide information for counties on how they can use those funds.

Fence viewing has also recently come up.

Jay also talked about some of the election concerns and some of the publicity surrounding it.

Comments and Announcements:

From the Board President:

President Baccus commented on:

- Fence Viewing;
- Appreciates the opportunity to attend the NACo Conference in Colorado. Found it to be informative on many subjects and items;
- Reminded all Board members to register for the KAC Annual Conference;
- Asked everyone to share county news with Kim, and/or share any county issues with Jay.

Board Members:

Aaron Mays offered his assistance if need in locating future KAC Board Meeting sites.

Additional comments from the Associates & Affiliates:

- Kansas County Commissioners Association
- County Counselors Association of Kansas
- Kansas Association Local Health Department – Aften Gardner spoke in reference to the Development Grant, a large grant that KDHE will be working on a letter of intent.
- Kansas County Clerks & Election Officials Association
- Kansas County Highway Association
- Kansas County Appraisers Association
- Kansas Emergency Medical Services Association - KEMSA Conference is being held August 11 - 14, 2022.
- Kansas Emergency Management Association – KEMA Conference is being held September 14 – 16, 2022.
- Kansas Register of Deeds
- Kansas County Human Resource Association

Public: No attendees.

Adjournment:

The 2023 Legislative Policy Committee Meeting will immediately follow today's Board Meeting, beginning at 11:30AM.

The next KAC Governing Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 31, 2022, at the Topeka Shawnee County Library at 10:00AM. Virtual attendance will be an option.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30AM

Respectfully submitted:

Max Dibble, Secretary

Betty Oliva, Finance & Office Manager