

**MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 6, 2014**  
**BOARD OF CHEROKEE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
**CHEROKEE COUNTY, KANSAS**

**CONVENE**

Commissioner Hilderbrand called the regular session of the Cherokee County Board of Commissioners (The Board), to order and led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:00 AM on Monday, October 6, 2014 in the Commission Room, #109 of the Cherokee County Courthouse located at 110 W Maple St., Columbus, Kansas. Commissioners Richard Hilderbrand, Charles Napier, Pat Collins, and County Clerk Rodney Edmondson were present.

Members of the press present: Larry Hiatt, Mabelle Smith, and Jordan Zabel

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to approve the Minutes of the September 29, 2014 BOCC Meeting as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0.

**Rodney Edmondson - County Clerk**

He presented the 2015 KCAMP insurance renewal questionnaire and property schedule for the county, for the Board to review. He has updated all information, but the Board must review prior to forwarding it to KCAMP.

He provided a Research Executive Summary from eCivis for the Board to review. The current contract will end on 12/31/2016.

He presented the 2015 Sewer District No. 1 Budget that was approved on September 29<sup>th</sup>, for the Board's signatures.

He presented notice of annual meetings for KCAMP and KWORC to be held on November 13, 2014.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand to appoint Commissioner Collins as the voting delegate for the KWORC annual meeting, and Commissioner Napier as the voting delegate for the KCAMP annual meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0.

**Leonard Vanatta - County Road Supervisor**  
**Gene Langerot - County Lot Supervisor**

They appeared before the Board on routine county business.

**Department Heads - Monthly Reports**

They met with the Board for their routine monthly meeting with the following Department Heads present: Barbara Bilke, Register of Deeds; Betha Elliott, Health Department; Kristin Seal, Noxious Weeds; David Groves, Sheriff; Deana Randall, Human Resources; Jason Allison,

PH

Emergency Preparedness; Juanita Hodgson, Treasurer; Rodney Edmondson, Clerk; Wayne Elliott, 911 Addressing & Mapping.

David Groves - He reported that the recent Drug Take-back collected 221 pounds of prescription drugs. He stated that the DEA will not sponsor the program in the future. He is looking into alternative methods of disposing the drugs. He submitted Jason Daniels as a candidate to serve on the Homeland Security Regional Council.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand at the recommendation of Sheriff Groves to appoint Jason Daniels as the Cherokee County representative to the Homeland Security Regional Council. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0.

Sheriff Groves presented a contract to provide dispatch services for the City of Galena from 5:30 PM to 8:30 AM each day including weekends and holidays. The cost to the City of Galena is \$27,000 per year. The Board signed the contract.

Betha Elliott - She provided an Executive Summary from the Lower 8 Region Community Health Assessment and Improvement Plan. She also reported that the Drive-thru Flu Shot Clinic served 162 people.

Deanna Randall - She asked that the Department Heads that haven't turned in their line item budgets do so as soon as possible.

Jason Allison - He reported that he had attended decontamination training at the hospital last Monday.

Juanita Hodgson - She reported that the Tax Sale is this Friday. Three property owners have paid over \$12,000 in back taxes to avoid the sale. Three more have contacted her and are to come in and pay over \$20,000 in back taxes before the sale. 23 have pre-registered to bid on the properties.

Kristin Seal - She will be attending a meeting on Thursday regarding the changes in Weed Laws.

Rodney Edmondson - He reported that the USD 247 Special Question Election is being held tomorrow and canvass will be Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. The General Election is set for November 4<sup>th</sup>.

Wayne Elliott - He reported the sale of \$193 in maps, and issued five new addresses.

### **Property Tax Relief Applications - Baxter Springs Tornado**

The Board reviewed Property Tax Relief Applications for consideration of tax abatements to homesteads damaged as a result of the tornado in Baxter Springs on April 27, 2014.

The Board reviewed the following applications and made determinations as indicated.

Timothy & Carrin Ketchum, 629 E. 9<sup>th</sup> St. - A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand, seconded by Commissioner Napier, to grant a 76.6% abatement. The motion carried 3-0.

George R. Abbott, 446 E. 12<sup>th</sup> St. - A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand, seconded by Commissioner Napier, to grant a 100% abatement. The motion carried 3-0.

RA

Richard & Vicki Hosfelt, 500 E. 11<sup>th</sup> St. - A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand, seconded by Commissioner Napier, to grant a 100% abatement. The motion carried 3-0.

Marcella Logan, 1807 Military - A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand, seconded by Commissioner Napier, to grant an 89.6% abatement. The motion carried 3-0.

Charlene Stapleton, 344 W. 23<sup>rd</sup> St. - A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand to deny an abatement due to the amount of damage being less than 50% of the appraised value, thus not qualifying for relief under the law. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0.

Jess Larison, 116 E. 17<sup>th</sup> St. - A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand, seconded by Commissioner Napier, to grant a 100% abatement. The motion carried 3-0.

Cheryl Carter, 540 E. 10<sup>th</sup> St. - A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand, seconded by Commissioner Napier, to grant a 100% abatement. The motion carried 3-0.

Wanda Barr, 505 E. 10<sup>th</sup> St. - A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand, seconded by Commissioner Collins, to deny an abatement due to the lack of information concerning the amount of damage or the cost estimates to repair the structure. The motion carried 3-0.

All properties are located within the city limits of Baxter Springs. The abatements granted are for tax year 2014. The approved abatements will apply to property taxes on structures. Land values and taxes assessed on land are not affected.

#### **Nathan Coleman - County Attorney/Counselor**

He appeared before the Board with legal matters concerning Cherokee County.

He reviewed the Disposal Agreement that was presented by Allied Services, LLC and suggested a few changes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Collins to accept the offer and approve the Agreement with the modifications as recommended by Mr. Coleman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0. Mr. Coleman will contact Allied Services, LLC about the recommended changes.

He reported that he met with Janet Miller and Gregg Motley over the small business lending program. He plans to meet with them again.

Commissioner Hilderbrand asked Mr. Coleman about an attorney on contract with Cherokee County that isn't currently licensed. Mr. Coleman stated that he had received the same information and requested an executive session.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hilderbrand to enter an Executive Session with the Board and Mr. Coleman for the purpose of Attorney/Client Privilege regarding contracts for a period of 10 minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Napier. The motion carried 3-0 at 12:04 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 12:14 PM.

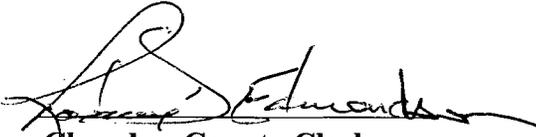
RK

Mr. Coleman stated in open meeting that a letter will be sent to attorney Melanie Bingham, an attorney on contract with Cherokee County for Indigent Services, requesting information regarding her status.

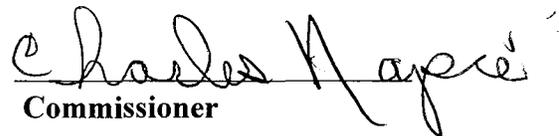
Commissioner Napier made a motion to adjourn until the next regularly scheduled meeting set for October 20, 2014 at 9:00 AM. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Collins. The motion carried 3-0 with all voting yes at 12:17 PM.

The regular session of the Board will not meet the week of October 13, 2014 in observance of the Columbus Day Holiday. But, they will convene as the Board of Canvassers on Monday, October 13, 2014 at 9:00 AM for the purpose of canvassing the USD 247 School Election.

**ATTEST: Resolved and ordered this day, October 20, 2014**

  
Cherokee County Clerk

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Commissioner

  
Commissioner

  
Commissioner



County of Cherokee, KS  
Grants Network: Research Executive Summary  
Prepared for the 27<sup>th</sup> of August, 2014

### Product Summary

**eCivis® Grants Network: Research<sup>SM</sup>** is an integral component of our revolutionary Grants Network®. With our proprietary research and analysis, users enjoy long lead times that allow them to produce better applications. Our customized search tools enable users to enjoy rapid results across any and all parameters. In addition, rollover summaries allow users to access vital information without having to waste time opening files or downloading content. With our automated search agents, updates, and daily/weekly emails, Grants Network: Research does all the heavy lifting, and enables organizations to become truly proactive.

**eCivis® Grants Network: KnowledgeBase<sup>SM</sup>** is designed to alleviate this problem by providing educational and reference resources to hone an individual's grant-related skills and develop a world-class grants organization. KnowledgeBase can dramatically change the landscape and tenor of your grant activity by raising efficiency and skill levels, resulting in greater overall satisfaction from all stakeholders, and enabling you to achieve the goals set by your leadership.

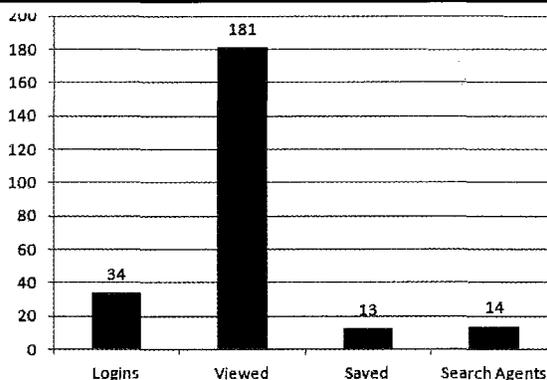
### Contract Summary

The County of Cherokee, KS holds a limited license for its employees for an annual subscription price of \$4,850. The license provides access to Grants Network: Research and KnowledgeBase. The current contract will end on **12/31/2016**.

### Activity Data

Activity statistics between 08/27/2013 – 08/27/2014

- **34 Total Logins** to Grants Network: Research
- **181 Grants Viewed** in Grants Network: Research
- **13 Saved Grants** being tracked in Grants Network: Research
- **14 Search Agents** created in Grants Network: Research



### What to Expect in Year Two

During year two, users become more **familiar and dependent** on a more **streamlined grant research method** that Grants Network: Research provides. In year two, clients begin to **report grant wins**. Additionally, you will begin to identify power users that can **promote the subscription and fire-up users** who have not been engaged previously. **This is an exciting time and we can't wait to hear about your success over the coming year!**

## **Executive Summary**

The Lower 8 Region is considered to be a rural area. Community members in the Lower 8 counties are very satisfied with their quiet small town atmospheres, yet they are able to travel two hours to an urban area to experience the urban atmosphere. The community health assessment has revealed the huge concern that residents have for their families, the economy, health, and health care. Rural residents tend to be more independent and form their own solutions for concerns. This has been demonstrated many times by the community relying on their own resources rather than waiting for external governmental assistance during natural disasters such as the Franklin tornado in Crawford County, ice storms in Cherokee County, a tornado in Labette County, and flooding in Montgomery, Neosho, and Wilson counties. During these times the communities have come together as a county as well as a region to meet the needs of community members. Likewise, these communities have learned that teamwork is needed to address other issues such as poverty, health, education, economy, and lifestyle changes. That being said, there are endless issues remaining to be addressed.

Industry for the Lower 8 region consists of educational services, health care and social assistance with manufacturing and retail following as second and third. Agriculture is the primary industry for Elk and Chautauqua counties.

Lower 8 communities have watched their youth mature into young adults that leave our community for better educational and employment opportunities. The community health assessment revealed that community members thought that the schools were one of the most important aspects of their community. Yet, Crawford County has just seen the loss of a school in their community due to the poor economic state. The unemployment rate for the Lower 8 region is just under the 5% state unemployment rate. Despite the fact that the unemployment rate for the region was under 5%, the regional median household income is only \$38,507.00 compared to the state of Kansas median income of \$48,964.00 which is more than 20% lower than the state.

The health concerns of the region are similar to those of the state. However the level of need in the Lower 8 Region seems to be higher than those of the state. Two examples are the state obesity rate of 28.8% while the Lower 8 obesity rate is 32.4%; and the adult smoking rate for Kansas is 17.8% while the Lower 8 Region adult smoking rate is 22.7%. The Lower 8 region also stood out with the hospital admission rate due to unintentional injuries being almost double that of the Kansas rate. Deaths due to unintentional injuries were significantly higher proportionally than the state rate.

The Lower 8 region has a rate of 21.1% of uninsured as compared to the Kansas rate of 19.1%. Affordable health care leaves many unanswered questions at this point of time. Communities are awaiting the full implementation of the Affordable Care Act to identify what areas of service are met and what the remaining gaps in service are.

The community survey identified family social determinants of health as one of the community priorities. Here there is a broad range of concerns that include teen pregnancy, healthy decisions, and completion of education, motivation to improve living conditions, teen violence, substance abuse, and a lack of activities for the youth. Single female households are of a larger concern to Crawford and Montgomery counties. These households are at an increased risk of economic, educational, social and health hardships.

The work group took all of these factors into consideration to identify four areas to address in the Community Health Improvement plan.

**The four major areas of concern identified by the regional work group are**

- 1. Economic Development**
- 2. Healthy Nutrition**
- 3. Access to Affordable Health Care**
- 4. Family Social Determinants**

A myriad of partners gave of their time and energy to assist in the development of this community health assessment. These partners openly shared their talents, knowledge and beliefs during each phase of the community health assessment. Without the collaboration of the Lower 8 regional partners, the development of this community health assessment would not have been possible. Copies of this document may be found at [www.crawfordcountykansas.org](http://www.crawfordcountykansas.org) or by contacting your local county health department.



KANSAS  
WORKERS RISK COOPERATIVE  
for COUNTIES

## CERTIFICATION OF VOTING DELEGATE AND ALTERNATE TO KWORCC ANNUAL MEETING

For the upcoming annual meeting on Thursday, November 13, 2014 at 5:00 PM, we ask that you identify the delegate and alternate for your County. This will enable your County to be represented and to vote at the meeting. **The delegate and alternate must be an elected official from your County.**

Please return this form to the attention of KWORCC Administrator, James W. Parrish, 700 SW Jackson, Suite 200, Topeka, Kansas 66603, postmarked by Friday, October 17, 2014. Or FAX the completed form to (785) 233-5440 on or before Friday, October 17, 2014.

If you have questions or otherwise wish to discuss this matter, please call Jim, Dortha or Carl toll-free: 877-357-1069. Your participation is needed and greatly appreciated.

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Date: Oct. 6, 2014

Pat Collins  
Name (please print)

Commissioner  
Position

has been named voting delegate for Cherokee County at the KWORCC 2014 annual meeting and any special meeting(s).

And, Charlie Napier  
Name (please print)

Commissioner  
Position

has been named Alternate for said purposes.

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The undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing delegates have been appointed by the Board of County Commissioners.

Richard Helderbrand  
Chairman of the Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

James W. Parrish  
County Clerk

**KCAMP CERTIFIED VOTING DELEGATE  
AND ALTERNATE**

This form must be returned to David Luke postmarked by **October 16, 2014**. We **must** have this form for your county to be able to vote on KCAMP matters.

DATE: Oct. 6, 2014

Charlie Napier, Commissioner has been named voting

Name (please print)                      Position

delegate for Cherokee County for matters pertaining to KCAMP.

Pat Collins, Commissioner has been named Alternate.

Name (please print)                      Position

These delegates have been approved and have the support of the Board of County Commissioners.

Richard Hildebrand  
Chairman of the Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
County Clerk

SEAL:

Please return this form to David Luke, KCAMP, 5425 S.W. 7th Street, Topeka, Kansas 66606, or fax to (785) 267-2383 by October 16, 2014.

