

**Harry S Truman Coordinating Council**

**Board & Membership Meeting**

Minutes from April 24, 2019

800 E Pennell, Carl Junction, Missouri 64834

**Officers:** Gary Turner, Chair; Cyndi Hutchings, Vice-Chair; Ceri Otero, Secretary-Treasurer

**Attendees:**

Gary Turner – City of Sarcoxie  
Cyndy Hutchings – City of Seneca  
Ceri Otero – City of Carthage  
Gabe Lett – Allgeier Martin & Associates  
George Twigger – City of Waco  
Jill Cornett – HSTCC  
Crystal Winkfield – City of Carl Junction  
Clayton Christy, Olsson & Associates  
Tyler Merriott – Senator Blunt’s Office  
Jake Heistan – Grow Neosho

Kevin Welch – Joplin Regional Partnership  
Linda Kyger – HSTCC  
Gerritt Brinks – HSTCC  
Justin Pryer – City of Duenweg  
Rachel Holcomb – City of Neosho  
Melody Cundiff – City of Duquesne  
Bree Pettengill – City of Golden City  
Tony Robyn - HSTCC  
Erin Turner – City of Webb City

**Call to Order:** Gary Turner, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

**Consent Agenda:** The agenda was presented to the board. Motion by Ceri Otero – Move to approve the agenda dated April 24, 2019. Motion seconded by Kevin Welch. All approved.

**Consent Minutes:** The minutes from the previous meeting were presented. Motion by Ceri Otero – Move to approve the minutes dated January 23, 2019. Motion seconded by Melody Cundiff. All approved.

**Financial Report:** Linda Kyger, Fiscal Officer, presented the July 2018 – March 2019 Financial Report. Motion by Rachel Holcomb – Move to accept the report as presented. Motion seconded by Cindy Hutchings. All approved

**Director’s Report:** Jill Cornett, Executive Director, reported the HSTCDC Board approved January and February HSTCC Pennell Office Building Rent payments be applied towards their Accounts receivable account in lieu of HSTCC making cash payments due to CC cash flow

concerns with the Federal Government Shut Down. Discussion followed as to the potential of HSTCDC accepting this arrangement for future rent payments to pay down the debt. Staff indicated HSTCDC depends on the HSTCC monthly rent payment for their cash flow to cover ongoing costs.

Jill discussed the value of an accurate **2020 census** and the challenges in collecting accurate population statistics.

Jill discussed **the USDA Rural broadband initiatives**. There appears to be a need for clarification on how the funding process might work, and who is eligible or even interested.

**Transportation Planner** Nikki Hill accepted a job with Jasper County, and her replacement, Thomas Hughes will begin on May 20.

HSTCC is developing **Comprehensive Plans** for Jane, Pineville and Airport Drive.

**HSTCC is working closely with Neosho** to assist in procuring funds to address unmet housing needs resulting from the 2017 floods.

HSTCC continues to work with SEMA and the resident of **Kendricktown** on a floodplain buyout.

**Gerritt Brinks** is working with MDNR and the City of Lanagan on a water quality issue.

**The board members went around the table, sharing the activities in their communities:**

**Tyler Merriott** (from Sen. Blunt's office) mentioned the availability of federal funds to address the opioide crisis. There is legislation drafted to address the minimum wage requirement for wages for individuals who work in sheltered workshops. Some discussion about a VA Dental Clinic in Joplin in the future.

**Gabe Lett** has accepted a new job with Allgeier Martin Engineering firm.

**Kevin Welch** discussed the "Joplin Regional Partnership" and its role in the region as an economic development entity that includes counties in both Kansas and Oklahoma. A name change is in the works.

**George Twigger** in Waco says all is quiet there.

**Clayton Christy** (Olsson Engineering mentioned their company is focusing on projects related to all the recent flooding. He mentioned an organization called "Guidehouse," that assists with grant research and administration.

**Jake Heistein** is now the Economic Development Director for GrowNeosho,, after serving as Billy Long's local field rep for many years. He also said the new VA Clinic in Joplin was planning and official "Grand Opening," date TBD.

**Erin Turner** from Webb City said there will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Webb City Convention Center on May 1. Also a Grand Opening for the new Atwood's in Webb City. A new business called "Junkerville" is opening in place of the defunct Price Chopper on 171. The Joplin American Legion is planning a memorial day service at Mt. Hope Cemetery to inter the remains of veterans who are unidentified and whose families are unknown. A new Summer Concert series starts this year in Webb City, along with Food trucks, on May 2.

**Justin Pryor** from Duenweg said their community will be hosting an E-Waste event, and a Park ribbon-cutting.

**Cyndy Hutchings** (Seneca) announced plans for a new Southside Fire Station in town. She said FEMA had repaired major damage from the 2017 to the Main St. pedestrian bridge

**Rachel Holcomb** of Neosho announced the construction of new hangars at the municipal airport and the possibility of a flight school that would teach aircraft mechanics. There is activity in town to annex land near the golf course.

**Melody Cundiff** from Duquesne discussed many of the new staff members at City Hall. A City ribbon cutting event and shred events. Additionally, the City is launching a newsletter for residents.

**Crystal Winkfield** from Carl Junction discussed the residential construction boom, primarily resulting from Schuber Mitchell's home-building activities. She discussed the upcoming city-wide garage sale and the expansion of pickleball courts at the Community Center.

**Bree Pettingill** from Golden City talked about a new event in town called "Madness on Main Street," including a "cruise-In," vendors and food trucks. She is interested in the Missouri Main Street Connection. The only bank in town closed up. And there are limited restaurants in town open for dinner. Cookies now closes at 3 pm.

**Gary Turner** from Sarcoxie mentioned a new marijuana growing operation slated for Carl Junction. A group of seniors is voluntarily painting an old building in town. Coffee Shop is opening in the City Library.

**Next Meeting:** May 22, 2019 @ 2:00pm – Joplin Public Library in Joplin, Missouri.

**Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 3:39 pm.