

**District III Advisory Board Minutes**  
**May 4, 2011**  
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The District III Advisory Board meeting was held at 7 p.m. at the Wichita Water Center at 101 E Pawnee; eight District Advisory Board members were in attendance; seven City staff and 12 members of the public were present.

**Members Present**

Teresa Cook  
Judy Dillard  
Charlotte Foster  
Jim Gulick  
Joann Hartig  
Roger Smith  
Billie Tucker  
Bill Ward  
Council Member James Clendenin

Brian Nelson

**Staff Present**

Battalion Chief Thomas Carney, WFD  
Scott Lindebak, Public Works Storm Water  
Officer Nick Long, Patrol East  
Officer Claudale Cavanaugh, Patrol South  
Dennis Graves, Animal Services  
Gary Janzen, Public Works Engineering  
Janet Johnson, Neighborhood Services

**Members Absent**

DeWayne Kitchen

**Guests**

Listed on the last page

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

At 7 p.m. **Council Member Clendenin** called the meeting to order. Minutes from the April 6, 2011, meeting were approved.

**PUBLIC AGENDA**

**Scheduled items**

No scheduled items

**Non-Scheduled items**

No items

**Action: Receive and file**

**STAFF REPORTS**

**Community Police Report**

**Officer Claudale Cavanaugh, Beat 26 Patrol South**, reported a decrease in all crimes in her area. She did note an exception when a drunk suspect robbed the bank at Wal-mart and was caught a couple of blocks away. She said the City is in the process of studying the area around Anderson Elementary. A school child was the victim of an accident near 31<sup>st</sup> and Victoria recently. **Officer Cavanaugh** said there aren't any sidewalks in the area and the children walk in the street and seem to be oblivious to traffic.

**Joann Hartig** said they have a similar problem at Harry and Market with parents stopping in the middle of the street to let their kids out of the car. **Officer Cavanaugh** said she would get with Officer Kern and do some enforcement in that location.

**Teresa Cook** said they have the same problem at Hamilton Middle School on Market Street.

**Betty Strickland, 1302 Galena**, asked if the parents of school children could get together and have sidewalks put in. **Gary Janzen, Public Works Engineering**, said typically sidewalks are done by petition of the impacted property owners.

**Larry Manny, 1116 Alturas**, said there aren't any sidewalks on the southside and parents don't discourage their kids from playing in the street.

**Steven Walters, 1408 E. 31<sup>st</sup>**, wanted to know if dirt bikes are illegal on the street; **Officer Cavanaugh** said yes. **Roger Smith** said he thinks it's a good idea to take a photo if you see someone riding an illegal mini-bike; **Cavanaugh** said that kind of evidence can be helpful to her in confronting the offender.

**Council Member Clendenin** reported he has been in discussions with City Engineer Jim Armour regarding the area around Anderson Elementary and they have discussed everything from sidewalks to crosswalks to flashing lights. He said the City is going to do some studies and see what the best solution is for the area.

**Officer Nick Long, Beat 33 Patrol East**, introduced himself as the new Beat Coordinator for the 33 beat, replacing Officer Shanna Cornwell. He reported crime is down in the 33 beat area and three individuals were recently arrested for burglary. **Officer Long** said traffic accidents continue to be a big concern in the Patrol East Bureau, and that summer activity camps are scheduled to start on May 31.

**Charlotte Foster** wanted to know why the Lamplighter is closed; **Long** said he didn't know.

**Joann Hartig** asked if they had enough sports equipment for the summer camps; **Long** said yes. **Hartig** said CSBG funds purchased additional equipment last year and she wanted to make sure he knew it was available to use.

#### **Wichita Fire Department Report**

**Battalion Chief Carney** said he had no information to report and was then called away to an emergency.

**Action: Receive and file.**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Animal Services update**

**Dennis Graves, Animal Control Supervisor**, reported on some of the changes at Animal Services since January 1. He said the Animal Services section has actually seen some significant improvements since moving under the Police Department, primarily in terms of staffing. He explained that Animal Services has been on "budget hold" for the past three years and they recently were able to fill two vacancies and will soon fill five more. He said adequate staffing allows them to be more proactive; for example, they recently did a targeted project in the Planeview and Hilltop neighborhoods.

The Animal Control Officers will also soon be getting MCT's (mobile computer terminals) in their vehicles. This will allow them to access information from the field and allow for more efficiencies.

All intakes to the Animal Shelter are now available for viewing online at [www.Petharbor.com](http://www.Petharbor.com) This allows pet owners who have lost their pets to check online at any time of the day or night. **Graves** said he is very pleased with the increase in the Shelter's live release numbers. He said four years ago the Shelter only had around a 25 percent live release rate and now it's around 50 percent.

**Joann Hartig** said she was pleased to hear the work that WIN (Wichita Independent Neighborhoods) did on the city ordinances was working; **Graves** said Animal Services was very grateful for everything WIN did.

**Graves** anticipates activity to pick up again with summer approaching; he said once school is out they see a lot more dogs running at large because children are home and often forget and leave gates and doors open allowing pets to escape.

Another change for Animal Services **Graves** said the public may notice includes a change in uniforms.

**Betty Strickland, 1302 Galena**, wanted to know if Animal Control checks dogs for microchips; **Graves** said yes, and if they find one they contact the company and try to track down the owner.

**Paul Davis, 6417 S. Madison**, asked if Animal Control still deals with skunks; **Graves** said wildlife removal changed a few years ago because there are private businesses that respond to those types of incidents and it was felt that the City was infringing on their ability to make a living. He said Animal Control will still respond if there is a bite or scratch related to the animal, or if it appears to be sick, i.e. a skunk out wandering around in the middle of the day.

**Judy Dillard** said she was very pleased to hear Animal Services is getting more people. She said after one of the bad snowstorms this year she called for a dead animal pick up and it took three days. **Graves** said they prioritize calls and during the extremely cold weather they spent a lot of time responding to neglect and cruelty cases.

**Council Member Clendenin** told Graves he felt Animal Services had been very reactive to the things he had called about, and he felt sure that Animal Control probably receives a lot more complaints than compliments, and he appreciated their hard work.

**Action: Receive and file**

#### **Southeast Boulevard Bridge at the Drainage Canal**

**Gary Janzen, Public Works Engineering**, presented the plan for the Southeast Blvd. Bridge. The bridge at Southeast Boulevard and the Drainage Canal near the I-135 Freeway is deteriorated and in need of rehabilitation. The work will consist of restoration of the bearing devices that support the bridge deck, reconstructing the abutments, replacing the expansion system and upgrading the guard fence to current safety standards. The project is planned to begin this summer and be completed by year-end. The bridge will be closed to traffic during the construction period. The project budget is \$1,000,000. **Janzen** said he anticipates the bridge will be closed three or four months, possibly less.

**Roger Smith** asked how old this bridge is; **Janzen** said it was built in 1942. **Smith** wanted to know if it was similar to the South Broadway bridge; **Janzen** said no, it's a different type of bridge.

**Charlotte Foster** asked if they are still building bridges like this one; **Janzen** said sometimes, but not a lot now.

**Bill Ward (Hartig) made a motion to recommend approval of the project.**

**Action: Motion passed 8-0.**

#### **Kansas Turnpike Bridge at the Big Slough (south of 55<sup>th</sup> Street South, west of Hydraulic)**

**Gary Janzen, Public Works Engineering**, reported on this project. On September 15, 2009, the City Council approved a project to improve drainage of the Big Slough at the Kansas Turnpike. The existing Kansas Turnpike bridge at the Big Slough is undersized and does not provide adequate capacity for conveyance of the 1% chance (100-year) storm event. The project will consist of replacing the existing three-cell (10'x8') box culvert with a three-cell (16'x12') box culvert. This increased capacity will allow proper conveyance of the 1% chance storm event, lower flood elevations, and remove approximately 150 homes from the floodplain, upstream of the structure. Recent improvements downstream of this location will

accommodate the larger capacity of the new bridge. The project is planned to begin this summer and be completed by year-end. The project budget included in the 2009-2018 CIP is \$2,000,000, with \$1,600,000 in GO bonds and \$400,000 in Special Assessments.

**Roger Smith** wanted to know what it would take to remove the remainder of the area from the floodplain. **Lindebak** said in the event of the 100 year storm, there would still be some flooding in the area, but this is a huge improvement in that it will remove approximately 150 homes from the floodplain and will require less than one foot of fill, compared to the three or four foot it would have taken without this project. **Smith** asked **Lindebak** if he thought this was the best they could do. **Lindebak** said he thinks it's possible the final flood map might look even better than what they are currently projecting.

**Council Member Clendenin** said additionally there will be three or four retention ponds in the area.

**Charlotte Foster** asked if the Big Slough was the same as the Big Ditch; **Lindebak** said no.

**Judy Dillard** said this is the Riverside Drainage District; **Lindebak** said that is correct.

**Action: Receive and file**

### UPDATES, ISSUES AND REPORTS

**Council Member Clendenin** shared the following items:

- Love Wichita on April 30<sup>th</sup> was a great day with lots of projects occurring in District III.
- He participated in the Meadowlark Cleanup where 40 volunteers picked up 7 or 8 packer loads
- Encouraged people to invite other citizens to attend DAB meetings
- Reported CDBG funding took a 16 percent cut; it shouldn't impact District III at this point, but will be reviewed again midyear
- Riverfest is coming up and they are attempting to make it more appealing to people over 35. They will have a tent that offers "real" food instead of "Riverfest" food and there will also be historical re-enactments for entertainment
- Acknowledged Teresa Cook and her efforts with Safe Streets

**Jim Gulick** announced Grandview Heights will have a neighborhood cleanup on May 14<sup>th</sup> with skids and packers from 8 a.m. until noon.

**Teresa Cook** said the Walk Against Gang Violence was a big success. She also passed out flyers on the Filling the Gap project and the Peddling for Planeview project.

**Roger Smith** said he had received a 24-page write up on the delapidated buildings at Battin apartments.

**Meeting was adjourned.**

The next meeting for District Advisory Board III will be held at 7 p.m., June 1, 2011, at the Water Center at 101 E. Pawnee.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Johnson, Neighborhood Assistant – District III

**Guests**

Paul Davis  
Betty Strickland  
Tom Strickland  
Larry Manny  
Kathy Manny  
Sandra Rogers  
Don Rogers  
Steven Walters  
Elena Ingle  
Hazel Drummond  
Phillip Hughes  
Connie Klassen