

February 22, 2019

The Ellis County Commission met in special session on Friday, February 22, 2019, at the Administrative Center, Commission Chambers, 718 Main Street, Hays, Kansas.

Chair Dean Haselhorst opened the meeting at 1:01 p.m. Chair Haselhorst introduced the three Commissioners: Chair Dean F. Haselhorst, Commissioner Dustin G. Roths and Commission Robert “Butch” Schlyer. The meeting was turned over to Representative Barbara K. Wasinger, who introduced Congressman Roger Marshall, State Senator Rick Billinger, State Representative Ken Rahjes, Kansas Commerce Secretary David Toland and Deputy Secretary of Transportation Lindsey Douglas. The group then proceeded to the parking lot to board bus transportation provided by Unified School District 489. County Administrator Phillip Smith-Hanes introduced other attendees including:

- Bill Dowling & Mike Morley of Midwest Energy
- Hays Mayor Henry Schwaller and City Commissioners Shaun Musil, Sandy Jacobs, James Meier and Ron Mellick
- Fort Hays State University President Dr. Tisa Mason
- Lucas Goddard & Doug Albin with the Northwest Kansas Economic Innovation Center and Dane G. Hansen Foundation
- Doug Williams of Grow Hays
- Doug Hutchinson & Buck Driggs with the travel plaza development
- James Lane, District Director for U.S. Senator Pat Roberts
- Katie Sawyer, District Director for Congressman Marshall
- Susan NeuPoth Cadoret and Colton Gibson with the Kansas Department of Commerce
- Jacob Wood, Assistant City Manager for Hays
- Doug Smith of Pinegar, Smith & Associates
- Tammy Wellbrock, Executive Director of the Hays Area Chamber of Commerce

The bus proceeded along 8th Street to Campus Drive, then onto Gustad Drive. FHSU President Tisa Mason spoke about recent construction and other campus highlights.

The bus then proceeded north on the U.S. 183 Bypass and onto 230th Avenue, stopping at Celebration Community Church. Hays Mayor Henry Schwaller spoke about the upcoming travel plaza development west of the church. The bus then continued north on 230th Avenue to the Goodman Energy Center.

Midwest Energy Communications Director Mike Morley spoke about the power plant. Attendees got off the bus for a tour of the facility, then re-boarded the bus.

The bus then continued north on 230th Avenue, pausing at the box culvert to examine roadway width. Commission Chair Dean Haselhorst spoke about Hess Services.

The bus stopped at Hess Services and Chair Haselhorst introduced Dan and Mark Hess. The attendees toured one of the Hess Services buildings and re-boarded the bus.

The bus then proceeded east on Feedlot Road and south on Vine Street. Hays City Manager Toby Dougherty spoke about the City’s Vine Street improvement project including roundabouts.

The bus then proceeded west on 27th Street and south on Main Street. Representative Barbara K.

Wasinger again thanked everyone for attending and asked for state and federal funding.

The minutes had been recorded by County Administrator Phillip Smith-Hanes.

The bus returned to the Administrative Center. Chairman Haselhorst adjourned the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

BOARD OF ELLIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

DEAN F. HASELHORST, CHAIR

ROBERT "BUTCH" SCHLYER, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

DUSTIN G. ROTHS, COMMISSIONER

DONNA J. MASKUS, ELLIS COUNTY CLERK