The regular monthly meeting of the HTR Benefit District was brought to order by new Chairman, Gilbert Benton at 8:31 a.m. HTR board members present were: Treasurer; Sam Seybold, Chris Law, Henry Reed, Troy Brown, and Vice Chairman; Gene Webb. Others present were: Josh Hobbs; HTR Manager Heather Mihm; HTR Administrative Assistant and Rebecca Wyatt, Facilities Specialist. Guest present: Jeff Hutton with the National Weather Service in Dodge City. Those members absent were: Steve Seibel, and Randy Wehkamp.

Jeff Hutton gave a presentation regarding what the National Service watches. Gilbert requested that Hutton include Hobbs on severe weather or possible flooding.

Board members introduced themselves to the new full time Facilities Specialist, Rebecca Wyatt. Rebecca introduced herself as well and told board she was glad to be back here.

Consent calendar: Sam and Chris reviewed checks and receipts for the March vouchers. Troy made a motion to approve minutes and vouchers. Sam seconded and the motion passed.

Old business: Discussion was held on the stage with Josh reminding the Board that a decision needed to be made by the end of April. The Mariah Fund needed confirmation so they could release funding for the stage. There were two bids given for the stage project. The board reviewed both bids. Chris made a motion to build stage using Conant Construction with a concrete base not to exceed $40,000.00. Troy seconded and the motion passed.

Gilbert updated the HTR board on the access road. There is no issues with the PWS Board and they were still on board with the road project. Troy made a motion to have Schwab Eaton take bids for the project. Sam seconded and the motion passed.

Josh updated the board on the new yurts. The interior is completed and now we are just waiting for the plumbing to be completed. Beds, tables and other furniture is in and will be put together this month.

Josh discussed that campsites are needing additional rock brought in before the summer season begins. Gene made a motion to order rock for campsites but not to exceed $15,000.00. Troy seconded; motion passed.

Josh will be absent for the normal April meeting date. The board discussed changing the date of the April meeting to have Josh present. The new meeting date will be April 30th instead of April 23, 2019.

Friends of HTR Banquet is going as planned and is set for May 11th. Invites were sent and we have approximately 120 people planning on attending. Josh and Heather are working on prizes and giveaways. We will have a meal catered along with games and entertainment for the evening.

Gilbert reported on the March PWS meeting. He discussed the joint meeting and how smooth the meeting went. The PWS did respond to Mr. Drake’s questions regarding fishing off the dam.

Gilbert brought the HTR board up to date on the upcoming PWS elections. The election will take place on April 2, 2019 and there are four positions open.

Henry Reed reported that he was sent the 2005 ballot for the Bond issue for the Reservoir, so we could look at what the tax payers voted on. Ballot attached.

 New business: None

Manager’s report: Josh reported that staff was busy planning for the upcoming summer season. We had several events in the works. We will be adding a cornhole tournament to the Festival along with the popular mud volleyball tournament. All other items discussed during meeting.

Sam made a motion to move the Board of Directors recess into executive session pursuant to the personnel matters of nonelected personnel exception found in K.S.A. 75-4319(b). The justification for closing the meeting is to protect the privacy of the individual(s) to be discussed. The open meeting will resume in the Board chamber for 15 minutes at 10:25 a.m. Everyone is dismissed except for board members. Henry seconded and the board went into executive session at 10:10 am.

Josh was asked to enter the executive session at 10:20 am. Josh was dismissed from executive session at 10:25.

Sam made a motion for the board to go back into executive session for another 15 minutes. Chris seconded and the board went into executive session at 10:25 am.

The open meeting came back into session at 10:40 am. Troy will type Josh’s annual review for his records. Gene made a motion to increase the salary of a nonelected personnel according to February annual review schedule. Henry seconded; motion passed.

Gene made a motion to adjourn the meeting; Troy seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

