

County pledges funding for Big KS Road Trip

(KNZA)--The Brown County Commission has voted to contribute \$5,000 to help promote the third annual Big Kansas Road Trip, which will showcase Brown, Doniphan and Nemaha Counties.

Linda Duessing and Connie Werner, co-chairs of the Brown County BKRT Committee, met with the Commission Monday to request the county provide the remainder of the funding needed to market the event, set for May 7-10 of next year.

The women had meet with the Commission earlier this month to request \$8,350. At that time, Commission Chairman Keith Olsen suggested they ask the cities in the county for funding as well.

Duessing said the cities of Hiawatha and Horton have agreed to provide \$1,500 each and the Hiawatha Foundation for Economic Development, \$500.

The Hiawatha Chamber of Commerce will administer the funds.

The Inman-based Kansas Sampler Foundation created the Big Kansas Road Trip after ending the 28-year Kansas Sampler Festival. Organizers say the purpose of the event is to help the public to get to know Kansas communities of every size.

Duessing said Marci Penner, executive director of the Kansas Sampler Foundation, will hold a community meeting on the evening of October 17 at 5:30 at the Historical Society's Carwell Building on East Iowa Street in Hiawatha. The purpose of the meeting is to explain how the event will work and what needs to be done.

Each city in the county and the county's Native American tribes will be asked to send a representative to the meeting

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