

## NE Kansas Needs Analysis Set to Begin

An independent group is seeking to put together a needs analysis for three regional counties in an effort spur economic development in the area.

Atchison realtor Louise Regenstein made a presentation to the Atchison County Commissioners Monday seeking their blessing to analyze the needs of Atchison, Doniphan and Jefferson Counties in the next few months.

Regenstein says the needs analysis hopes to understand what kind of small businesses can be developed in the region, since it's difficult to attract corporate entities.

(Play Audio) RT: :26

She told commissioners what they hope the analysis will do.

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The group says it may take 60 to 90 days to finish this project.

In other business, Commissioners assigned the Road and Bridge department to put a six inch base on the upcoming chip and seal project on River Road.

County Commissioner Jeff Schuele says the option still remains on the table to make a deeper 10 inch base and work with the city in the interest of cost sharing.

Commissioners plan to discuss these options at the city-county joint meeting on March 19th.

The commissioners also designated to have four 10 hour work days from seven to 5:30 with a paid lunch for the coming months for road and bridge employees.

Schuele says while all commissioners and Road and Bridge supervisor Matt Dorssom agreed on the 10 hour days, lengthy discussion ensued on how many days it should be.

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Commissioners also got the first round of reports on bridge inspections.

They learned a concrete box bridge a half a mile west of Huron needs replacing, as well as a bridge on the northeast corner of County Lake.

Schawab and Eaton contractors plan to start on the 20 deemed fracture critical within the next few days.