



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
November 3, 2025**

2101 Claflin Road
Manhattan, KS 66502
www.rileycountyks.gov

Cindy Kabriel
785-565-6200

Family Child and Resource Center RM #124

8:30 AM

[District 1 – John Ford, Member](#)

[District 2 – Greg McKinley, Chair](#)

[District 3 – Kathryn Focke, Vice-Chair](#)

8:30 AM

Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John Ford	County Commissioner	Present	8:30 AM
Kathryn Focke	County Commissioner	Present	8:30 AM
Greg McKinley	County Commissioner	Present	8:30 AM
Rich Vargo	County Clerk	Present	8:30 AM
Michael Hawthorne	Assistant County Counselor	Present	8:30 AM
Vivienne Leyva	PIO	Present	8:30 AM
Elizabeth Ward	Human Resources Director	Present	8:30 AM
Brittany Phillips	Budget and Finance Officer	Present	8:30 AM
Evan McMillan	Assistant County Engineer	Present	8:30 AM
Rob Voelker		Present	8:30 AM
Amanda Webb	Planning/Special Projects Director	Present	9:01 AM
Christian Bishop	Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce	Present	9:15 AM
Mark French	RCPD	Present	9:20 AM
Scott Hajek	RCPD	Present	9:21 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Commission Comments

Ford's Comments:

Thursday post BOCC meeting I met with Riley County EMS Director David Adams to discuss a couple of ideas floating around on the operations side of Emergency Services here at the

county. Look like there will be a larger dialog to come.

Friday I met with Shawn Drew from Commerce Bank to discuss his project, The Hartford which is going in downtown and to discuss some questions he had in terms of operations and administration here within Riley County. Had a good dialog and I do believe I was able to address some if not all those concerns.

Also Friday morning I met with Jeff Wick, President and CEO of WTC to discuss some potential economic development ideas here in Riley County and in particular the K-18/airport corridor. Seems to be also quite the dialog but there are at least plans being discussed at the moment to say the least.

Saturday I watched K-State lose at home to a very good Texas Tech team 43-20 dropping the Wildcats to 4-5 on the season and all but knocking them out of the Big 12 race with three games left.

Sunday I watched my Jacksonville Jaguars win a thriller in Las Vegas against the Raiders 30-29 which came down to a missed PAT to end the game. The Jaguars move to 5-3 on the season.

Lastly I wanted to mention that we lost an icon on Friday with the passing of C. Clyde Jones. A truly remarkable man who has done so very much for the community and K-State for many decades. He was one of a kind and will definitely be missed.

Focke's Comments:

Thursday afternoon, I had lunch with a friend and then an eye appointment.

Friday I stopped into the County Counselor's office to get an update on Keats easements. We have 11 more to get signatures. I will continue to contact property owners to get documents signed. Some have questions that need to be answered by BG Consultants, and several others have not been reached with existing contact information. While I was downtown, I did early voting.

Saturday I attended the KSU/TCU football game. It was an exciting game, but didn't end well for the Wildcats. There was some pretty bad refereeing that didn't help our side.

McKinley's Comments:

No comments.

Business Meeting

1. Temporary Construction Easement- UP Lagoon Project

Move to approve the Temporary Construction Easement with Frank Hagenmaier Trust for the University Park Lagoon Facility.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner Kathryn Focke
SECONDER:	Commissioner John Ford
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

2. Resolution Authorizing Solid Waste Project

Move to approve "Resolution 110325-47, A Resolution authorizing acquisition and construction of improvements to the Riley County Solid Waste disposal utility and authorizing issuance of General Obligation Bonds and Temporary Notes of the County to finance the costs of such improvements."

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner John Ford
SECONDER:	Commissioner Kathryn Focke
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

3. Veterans Day Proclamation

Move to approve the Veterans Day Proclamation.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner Kathryn Focke
SECONDER:	Commissioner John Ford
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

4. Riley County Employee Action Form

Move to approve the requested Riley County Employee Action Forms.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner Kathryn Focke
SECONDER:	Commissioner John Ford
AYES:	Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

The Board of County Commissioners signed the following Riley County Employee Action Forms:

- Levi Smith, a new hire, as a Volunteer Firefighter, in the Fire District #1 Department, at a Range TASND.
- Dulce Wagoner, a new hire, as an Intern, in the Community Corrections Department, at a Range TASND.

Review Minutes

5. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Oct 30, 2025 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes of the October 30, 2025 meeting as presented.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner John Ford
SECONDER:	Commissioner Kathryn Focke
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

Review Tentative Agendas

6. Tentative Agendas

Press Conference Topics

9:00 AM

Jacob Hansen, County Counselor

7. Administrative Work Session

Hawthorne discussed his background in civil work and public defender. He said he is excited for the change.

8. Staff Update

9:10 AM

Amanda Webb, Planning/Special Projects Director

9. Comprehensive Plan Update

Webb presented the Comprehensive Plan update.

The Board agreed by consensus to name the Plan - "Riley County Together 2040".

9:30 AM

Press Conference

10. RCPD Update - Captain Scott Hajek and Major Mark French (3-5 minutes)

French and Hajek presented a Riley County Police Department update.

11. Presentation of Veterans Day Proclamation - Greg McKinley and Christine Benne (3-5 minutes)

McKinley presented the Veterans Day Proclamation to Christian Bishop.

Bishop thanked the Board for their support of the Veterans Coalition.

Bishop discussed the Veterans Day activities.

12. City/School General Election - Rich Vargo (2-3 minutes)

Vargo reported as of Saturday, 2,189 residents have participated in advance voting. Vargo said advance voting is open until noon today.

Vargo said the polls will be open tomorrow, Tuesday, November 4, 2025 from 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment

9:39 a.m. Move to adjourn.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner John Ford
SECONDER:	Commissioner Kathryn Focke
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None