



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
January 25, 2021**

115 North 4th Street
Manhattan, KS 66502
www.rileycountyks.gov

Cindy Kabriel
785-565-6200

Commission Chambers

8:30 AM

[District 1 – John Ford, Chair](#)

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

[District 3 – Kathryn Focke, Member](#)

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
Clancy Holeman	Counselor/Director of Administrative Services	Present	8:30 AM
Mary Hobbs	IT	Present	8:30 AM
Julie Gibbs	Health Department Director	Remote	8:30 AM
Elizabeth Ward	Human Resource Manager	Present	8:33 AM
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Present	8:35 AM
Dani Hallgren	Konza Prairie Community Health and Dental Center	Present	9:00 AM
Lee Wolf	Konza Prairie Community Health and Dental Center	Present	9:00 AM
Lori Feldkamp	Big Lakes Developmental Center Director	Present	9:15 AM
Pat Collins	Emergency Management Director	Present	9:30 AM
Gary Fike	County Extension Director	Present	9:30 AM
Greg McClure	Extension Agent	Present	9:30 AM
Gregg Eyestone	Extension Agent	Present	9:30 AM
Cindy Kabriel	Administrative Assistant II	Present	10:00 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Gibbs reported as of Friday Riley County has had 5,799 COVID cases with 402 active and 10 in the hospital.

Gibbs stated the vaccine request form is online.

Focke discussed concerns with the lines at the vaccine site for older people being in inclement weather.

Gibbs stated yes they did have some line concerns with so many people coming all at the same time. Gibbs said they have changed how they schedule appointments.

Focke suggested looking at the National Guard Armory, which was used with the H1N1 vaccination.

Ford agreed.

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Ford's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I went over and toured the vaccination site and operation over at the Manhattan Fire Station. Was very impressed with how it was put together and with staff and an amazing group of volunteers as well. I know there were some complications later in the afternoon, but I'm extremely confident those issues will be addressed and the process will become more effective and efficient moving forward. While there I did also receive as a member of the "critical infrastructure" part of the Phase 2 plan, my first dose of the vaccination as well.

Also Thursday afternoon I attended the Joint County/City meeting down at Manhattan City Hall. Very lively discussion from the group and I came away thinking that this meeting may not be as effective and productive as it ultimately needs to be moving forward.

Over the weekend I lost a childhood idol with the passing of Hank Aaron. As a baseball fan and a fan of the Atlanta Braves we didn't just lose a great player, but a true ambassador for life and one under great scrutiny that lived life with amazing character, integrity, and class. He will truly be missed.

Congratulations to the Kansas City Chiefs once again for becoming AFC Champions and participants in Super Bowl 55. It should be a really good game.

McKinley's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I attended the City/County/County meeting and received updates on a couple of projects.

Catching up on the New Commissioner Orientation webinars.

Received some email about the first day of public vaccinations. For the first day, I thought it went okay and actually expected more problems.

I received my vaccination Thursday, my arm hurt for a couple of days but that was all I had.

Want to say the workers at the site did a great job. Very pleasant to deal with in spite of the long lines of people they had.

Focke's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I went to the COVID vaccination center at the fire station on Kimball and Denison. There was traffic back up of about one block east of Denison on Kimball. I parked across the street and walked over. There was a line formed on the north side and the wait was about one hour. I was able to get a vaccination, as I had signed up online. All was going pretty smooth while I was there.

Later that day I started getting complaints from constituents about the long waits and confusion in the scheduling, but most people were really happy to get the shot and complemented the staff.

Attended the Joint City/County/County meeting at the City Commission Chambers later that day. There was a rather heated discussion between Manhattan officials and Pottawatomie County Commissioners concerning communication and traffic issues at the Green Valley and Hwy 24 area. This wasn't a very productive conversation.

I saw a presentation on the "dark store" tax issue.

Attended a zoom meeting of the Flint Hills Regional Planning Board.

I am almost done with the orientation for new county commissioners. I'm hoping to keep the recordings on file to review in the future. It's a lot of information to absorb in one hour segments. I have one more session to listen to.

Business Meeting

3. 2021 CIP Authorization - P&D New Vehicle

Move to approve the CIP Authorization Form approved at the January 14, 2021 meeting for a Planning and Development replacement vehicle in the amount of \$25,000.00.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Greg McKinley, County Commissioner
SECONDER:	Kathryn Focke, County Commissioner
AYES:	Ford, Focke, McKinley

4. Sign Tax Roll Corrections

Move to approve the Tax Roll Corrections.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Greg McKinley, County Commissioner
SECONDER:	Kathryn Focke, County Commissioner
AYES:	Ford, Focke, McKinley

5. Sign Riley County Personnel Action Form(s)

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

- Ken Lamb, a new hire, as an Operator II, in the Public Works Department, at a grade I step 4, at \$18.80 per hour.
- Michelle Adams, for a transfer, as an Administrative Analyst - AP, in the Clerks' Department, at a grade K step 4, at \$20.37 per hour.

Review Minutes6. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Jan 21, 2021
9:00 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

RESULT:	ACCEPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Greg McKinley, County Commissioner
SECONDER:	Kathryn Focke, County Commissioner
AYES:	Ford, Focke, McKinley

Review Tentative Agenda

7. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

8. Discuss Press Conference

9:00 AM Dani Hallgren and Lee Wolf, Konza Prairie Community Health and Dental Center

9. Konza Prairie Community Health and Dental Center update

Wolf presented an update on the Konza Prairie Community Health and Dental Center.

9:15 AM Lori Feldkamp, Big Lakes Developmental Center Director

10. Big Lakes Developmental Center update

Feldkamp presented an update on the Big Lakes Developmental Center.

9:30 AM Press Conference

11. Presentation of retirement plaque to Pat Collins - John Ford (5 minutes)

Ford presented Pat Collins a retirement plaque for 44 Years of Service to Riley County.

P. Collins said he spent a long time at the County. P. Collins discussed his experience at Riley County. P. Collins thanked the County for all they have done to support him.

12. January 28 Coffee Shop Agronomy Meeting and an update on the “You Inherited the Farm – Now What?” series - Greg McClure (3-5 minutes)

McClure said the Coffee Shop Agronomy Meeting will be held January 28th. McClure said Plant Tissue Testing to Fine-Tune Fertility Programs will be the topic at the next Coffee Shop Agronomy meeting scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 28th and hosted virtually by the Riley County Extension Service. Dave Mengel, retired K-State Research and Extension soil fertility specialist, will be the featured speaker.

The 2021 Coffee Shop Agronomy series will be hosted virtually on Zoom. Producers will attend from their home computer using a link sent to each registrant.

Registration is required and the Zoom link will only be sent to registered participants. Register online at www.riley.ksu.edu by noon the day before the meeting.

McClure discussed the “You Inherited the Farm” series. McClure said it is held Tuesdays at noon, via Zoom. McClure said it started January 12th and ends February 4th.

13. Seed starting class and home landscape class - Gregg Eyestone (2-3 minutes)

Eyestone said there will be a seed starting class on Saturday, January 30th beginning at 10:00 a.m. Those interested need to sign up to get the Zoom link at www.riley.ksu.edu by January 28th.

Eyestone said the Home Landscape Design class will be on Thursday, February 4th beginning at 6:30 p.m. You must registration at www.tryufm.org.

14. VITA - Gary Fike (10 minutes)

Fike said K-State Research & Extension is operating the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Site again this year. The tax preparation is free to eligible taxpayers and all tax preparers are certified for tax preparation by the IRS. There are three options for tax preparation by the VITA Site:

1. One-on-One Appointment: available Wed-Thurs from noon to 6 p.m. beginning January 27 in the Collaboration Space at the Manhattan Public Library. To request an appointment for a One-on-One Appointment: Book your appointment online at www.riley.ksu.edu. If you need assistance is setting up this appointment, email vitataxes@gmail.com or call 785-565-6426. All options will be

available beginning January 25.

2. Drop Off Service with Review of Documents: available Tues-Thurs from noon to 6 p.m. beginning January 26 in the Collaboration Space at the Manhattan Public Library. To request an appointment for Drop Office Service with Review of Documents: email vitataxes@gmail.com. If you do not have access to email, call 785-477-8877.
3. No Contact Drop Off Service: available Mon-Fri from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Riley County Extension Office. To use the No Contact Drop Off Service: email vitataxes@gmail.com to receive the documents necessary to allow us to work your tax return with your documents.

This program prepares IRS 1040 tax returns and corresponding state returns for qualifying low to moderate income taxpayers. We cannot prepare returns for International students. All taxpayers will be required to provide proof of identify as required by the IRS; this includes social security card or other social security documentation that includes the complete social security number or previous year tax return. Photo ID is also required. Regardless of the method of choice, your taxes will not be e-filed until we review the return with you and obtain your signature(s) allowing the filing. For assistance or questions email vitataxes@gmail.com or call 785-477-8877. Site sponsored by: K-State Research & Extension - Riley County, Manhattan Public Library & the IRS. Funded in part by Konza United Way and the Caroline Peine Foundation.

10:00 AM Board of County Commissioners

15. Discuss MPO Alternate

Ford stated the county provides funding for the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO). Ford said he is currently chair, but would like to appoint an alternate for the county.

Ford stated the MPO looks at a lot of transportation issues and planning for our area.

Ford said the MPO group meets the third Wednesday of the month at 3:00 p.m.

The Board agreed by consensus for McKinley to serve as the alternate Riley County representative for the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

10:10 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services**16. Administrative Work Session**

Holeman stated this year the Riley County Commission will pursue a clarification on "Fair Market Value" in relation to the Dark Store Theory. Holeman said "hypothetical lease fee" has no meaning in the appraisal of property in Kansas.

Agenda item for the next Intergovernmental Luncheon in February - Dark Story Theory Arrives in Riley County: The Home Depot Case

Ford discussed the RCPD substation in the City new parking garage in Aggieville. Ford asked the Board if they are interested in a presentation from the City of Manhattan on the subject.

The Board agreed by consensus to not have the City of Manhattan present the request for a RCPD substation in the Aggieville Parking Garage.

The Board agreed they are not interested in placing the RCPD substation in the Aggieville Parking Garage.

17. Pending County Projects County Counselor**Adjournment**

Move to adjourn after the Intergovernmental Luncheon.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Greg McKinley, County Commissioner
SECONDER:	Kathryn Focke, County Commissioner
AYES:	Ford, Focke, McKinley

12:00 PM Intergovernmental Luncheon**18. Intergovernmental Luncheon Agenda**

Ford opened the Intergovernmental Luncheon Meeting.