



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
February 13, 2023**

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

Cindy Kabriel
785-565-6200

Commission Chambers

8:30 AM

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

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

[District 1 – John Ford, Vice Chair](#)

8:30 AM

Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John Ford	County Commissioner	Remote	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
Katharine Hensler	Museum Director	Present	8:50 AM
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Present	8:54 AM
Amanda Webb	Planning/Special Projects Director	Present	9:46 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Focke's Comments:

Thursday I met with Amanda Webb in Planning regarding the Keats project and revisions on a handout. Afterwards, I worked in my office for a couple of hours.

Friday I visited with the County Clerk and then spent time going through documents for the Monday meeting.

This weekend included watching the KSU basketball game, catching up on projects at home and watching the Super Bowl on Sunday with friends.

Ford's Comments:

Friday morning I took the early bird flight out of Manhattan to Washington, D.C. for the NACo 2023 Legislative Conference.

Saturday I spent the day with the NACo Community Economic and Workforce Development Committee that I have been serving on since September of 2020. After some opening remarks from the chair we got an overview of the reauthorization of the Farm Bill by the US Dept of Agriculture, an update on economic development efforts and programs from the US Department of Commerce, an update on employment and training program from the ETA from the US Department of Labor, an update on community planning and development plus an overview on CDBG funding from US Department of Housing and Urban Development, an update on Federal recovery efforts in regards to Covid funds and other related programs from the US Department of Treasury. After lunch we got an update from Lukas McGown, Senior Advisor for economic development for the White House and he spent some time going through the CHIPS incentive program, we followed up then with a panel discussion titled "Are You Utilizing Your County Staff". After that discussion we went directly into our committee business meeting and voted on one interim policy resolution "A FY 2023 Appropriation for the Department of Housing and Urban Development." Lastly we had an open floor discussion with county officials dialoging on the challenges and issues our nation's counties face.

Saturday night I watched the K-State versus Texas Tech game. Another ugly loss 71-63, they couldn't overcome a bad shooting night and 24 turnovers versus the Red Raiders.

Sunday morning I went out to the Lincoln Memorial at daybreak to celebrate what was his 214th Birthday, growing up in his birthday county (Hardin County, KY) and even though it was raining was a pretty cool moment for me.

Also on Sunday I attended the Rural Action Caucus meeting held by NACo. We heard from several speakers over the 2-hour session including administration officials from the Department of Justice, Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce, as well as Amazon, The Rural Justice Collaborative, and the Fletcher Group who works out of Kentucky on rural policy initiatives.

Sunday afternoon I attended the Veterans and Military Services Committee meeting. There were several different moderated panels to discuss such topics as priorities for serving veterans in 118th Congress, honoring the recently passed PACT Act and dialog on how the implementation is going, federal and local policy levers to combat military food insecurity, and lastly there was a federal advocacy strategy session to end the meeting.

Sunday night I watched from a Super Bowl party that was held in the International Ballroom at the Washington Hilton as the Kansas City Chiefs took down the Philadelphia Eagles 38-35 to win a thriller to take Super Bowl LVII. Congratulations to them and to the city. Two Super Bowls in four years is pretty impressive.

Lastly I wanted to send my condolences to the Vanier family on the passing of Jack Vanier who passed away Friday at the age of 94. A true K-State legend who had a big heart that always bled purple, he will very much so be missed within the K-State family.

McKinley's Comments:

Thursday evening, I attended RCPD Director Peete's town hall meeting in Leonardville. He outlined his history and why he wanted to come to RCPD. He answered questions from residents. He also introduced most of the north county officers and they discussed some of the things that are particular to the north county area. After the meeting I had some people asking about the new ambulance station.

Saturday, I worked on my income taxes and watched the K-State basketball game. Was not happy with the results of either.

Sunday we watched the Super Bowl with my son's family. Enjoyed the game and the food.

Business Meeting

Vargo asked the Board if they would like to reserve their parking spots all day during the week. Vargo stated a couple of commissioners have had problems finding a place to park when coming to the offices to work in their offices or meet with other officials.

The Board agreed by consensus to reserve one of the commissioners parking spots for the entire day for a commissioner to use.

Review Minutes

3. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Feb 9, 2023 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

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

Review Tentative Agenda

4. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

5. Discuss Press Conference
- John Ford - Update on NACo Legislative Conference

9:00 AM Katharine Hensler, Museum Director

6. Staff Report - Riley County Historical Museum
- Hensler presented the Historical Museum staff report.

9:15 AM John Ellermann, Public Works Director/County Engineer

7. Public Works Project Update
- Ellermann presented the Public Works projects update.

9:30 AM Press Conference

9:35 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

8. Administrative Work Session

9. Pending County Projects County Counselor

Holeman presented the Commission Pending Projects List.

Holeman discussed current legislative issues.

Holeman stated the hearing for SB 162 will be tomorrow. Holeman said Commissioner Ford will provide testimony on behalf of Riley County.

9:50 Ford left the meeting.

9:55 AM Amanda Webb, Planning/Special Projects Director

10. Planning & Development fee schedule review - licenses

Webb reviewed the proposed Planning & Development Land Use fees.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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