



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
March 01, 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
Julie Gibbs	Health Department Director	Remote	8:30 AM
David Willis	Parks Manager	Remote	8:30 AM
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Remote	8:30 AM
Shilo Heger	Treasurer	Remote	8:30 AM
David Adams	EMS/Ambulance Director	Present	8:31 AM
Joshua Gering	EMS/Ambulance Assistant Director	Present	8:31 AM
Mel Van Der Stelt		Present	8:33 AM
Amanda Smeller	Planning/Special Projects Director	Remote	8:34 AM
Elizabeth Ward	Human Resource Manager	Present	8:42 AM
Kevin Howser	IT/GIS Director	Present	9:11 AM
Greg Steere	RCPD	Present	9:26 AM
Gina Scroggs	Downtown Manhattan	Present	9:23 AM
Laurie Harrison	Emergency Management Coordinator	Present	9:25 AM
Doug Wood	RCPD	Present	9:12 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Gibbs reported as of Friday there have been 6,184 confirmed positives. Gibbs said Friday there were eight confirmed positives. Gibbs stated they have been at 5% positive cases.

Gibbs stated there will be clinics this Wednesday-Friday.

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Ford's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I met with Director Dennis Butler from RCPD at the Law Enforcement Center to discuss the law board, law enforcement as a whole, and several other related topics as well. Considering we've been in our posts now for well over two years having this first one on one conversation was well over due and I was certainly grateful for the time spent.

Over the weekend I spent some time catching up on the interim policy resolutions from the NACo Community Economic and Workforce Development Committee. These resolutions we will be discussing and voting on during Virtual Policy Conference next Monday afternoon.

Had some email traffic and correspondence I kept up on over the weekend, was a little surprised with the change in the local health order there wasn't more, but all seems to be well at the moment.

Congratulations to K-State baseball who swept their weekend series at home vs. Western Michigan. It was the Cats first set of games at home in over two years. Sounds like the basketball team struggled in the second half in Morgantown in losing to West Virginia.

McKinley's Comments:

I was pleased to see that Fort Riley relaxed their restrictions and now are allowing the soldiers to use Manhattan restaurants and bars. This was done after we had issued our new order and I saw that as a confirmation of our actions.

I was also glad to see that the mobile testing sites will now also offer vaccine including the one in Leonardville this Wednesday.

Unfortunately, we also got the news that the State of Kansas knows better than Riley County how the vaccination should be phased here. I contacted our local state legislatures to see what they can do.

Focke's Comments:

Thursday:

Had an interview with Becky Goff of WIBW concerning the health order #20. After the camera interview, we spent some time getting to know each other. She is a native of Riley County and lives in Keats. We talked briefly about the cost of the proposed sewer project in the town and the impact to property owners.

Continued to answer e-mails and phone calls on order #20.

Had a zoom call in the evening with several of my team members who are helping to develop the town hall that we have been planning for 3rd district residents and other interested constituents.

Friday:

Took my dog to have some surgery, which took most of the morning.

Had a brief meeting with Barry Wilkerson in the afternoon.

Started to review the 2021 budget for upcoming budget meetings and review the upcoming week. Went through upcoming meetings in March and made sure they were in my calendar. Reviewed the ATA packet for the monthly meeting next week. Need to check on the Heartland Works calendar, as I haven't received anything from them.

Business Meeting

3. 2021 Official Depositories

Move to approve the following are the official depositories eligible to receive Riley County funds:

Capitol Federal Savings and Loan, Manhattan
Central National Bank, Manhattan
Commerce Bank, Manhattan
Community 1st Bank, Manhattan
Intrust Bank, Manhattan
KS State Bank, Manhattan
Landmark National Bank, Manhattan
Peoples State Bank, Leonardville
Riley State Bank, Riley
Sunflower Bank, Manhattan
UMB Bank, Manhattan
United Bank & Trust, Manhattan

Kansas Municipal Investment Pool

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

4. Sign a Tax Roll Correction

Move to approve the Tax Roll Correction.

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:

- Mary Hobbs, an Information Technology Technician, in the IT Department, for Separation from County Service, effective March 6, 2021.
- Karen Brown, an Administrative Assistant I - Election, in the Clerk's Department, for Separation from County Service, effective March 10, 2021.
- Tarica Lare, for a status change (part time, temporary role until the position is filled), as a Child Care Surveyor, in the Health Department, at a grade L step 2, at \$20.37 per hour.

6. Sign Riley County Position Action Form(s)

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

- a PRN - Paramedic, in the EMS department, at a grade Paramedic.
- a PRN - EMT, in the EMS department, at a grade EMT.
- a Parks Seasonal, in the Public Works Department, at a grade A.
- a Landscape Intern, in the Public Works Department, at a grade B.
- a Parks Seasonal Horticulturist, in the Public Works Department, at a grade A.

Review Minutes

7. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Feb 25, 2021
8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

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

Review Tentative Agenda

8. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

9. Discuss Press Conference

9:00 AM

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

10. Administrative Work Session

Holeman discussed the proposed constitutional protection of Home Rule. Holeman stated it is not expected to make it out of committee.

Holeman stated the Dark Store legislation does not include "Hypothetical Value" to determine Fair Market Value. Holeman said the legislation has been introduced in both chambers, but we do not know if it will be scheduled for a hearing.

Holeman discussed a couple of bills introduced regarding Emergency Management Services, which would be detrimental for them to perform their jobs.

11. Pending County Projects County Counselor

9:20 AM Kevin Howser, IT/GIS Director

12. Permission to post IT Technician position

Howser requested permission to post the IT Technician position.

Move to allow IT/GIS to proceed with the IT Technician position posting.

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

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for an Information Technology Technician, in the IT Department, at a grade K.

9:30 AM Press Conference

13. RCPD update - Captain Greg Steere (3-5 minutes)

Steere presented the RCPD update.

Steere introduced Sgt. Wood who has been assigned as the County Supervisor.

Wood discussed his position as the RCPD County Supervisor.

14. Downtown Manhattan - Gina Scroggs (3-5 minutes)

Scroggs presented the Downtown Manhattan update.

Scroggs stated they are hiring a new Event Coordinator for Downtown Manhattan.

15. Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas - Laurie Harrison (3 minutes)

Harrison reported Severe Weather Awareness Week in Kansas is this week. Harrison stated they encourage residents to take this week to prepare for potential severe weather to include floods and tornados.

9:45 AM

Rich Vargo, County Clerk

16. Request to fill the Administrative Assistant I-Elections position

Vargo presented the request to rehire the Administrative Assistant I position.

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

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for an Administrative Assistant I - Elections, in the Clerk's Department, at a grade H.

The Board agreed by consensus for Commissioner Ford to represent Riley County on the SCR 1606 regarding Constitutional Home Rule.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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