



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
March 16, 2023**

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

Cindy Kabriel
785-565-6200

Commission Chambers

9:00 AM

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

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

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

9:00 AM

Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John Ford	County Commissioner	Present	9:00 AM
Kathryn Focke	County Commissioner	Present	9:00 AM
Greg McKinley	County Commissioner	Present	9:00 AM
Rich Vargo	County Clerk	Present	9:00 AM
Clancy Holeman	Counselor/Director of Administrative Services	Present	9:00 AM
Evan McMillan	Assistant County Engineer	Present	9:50 AM
Gregg Eyestone	Extension Agent	Present	10:00 AM
Gary Fike	County Extension Director	Present	10:00 AM
Brian Peete	RCPD Director	Present	10:15 AM
Blade Mages	Founder & Executive Creative Director at Middle	Present	10:30 AM
Craig Cox	Deputy County Counselor	Present	10:50 AM
Amanda Webb	Planning/Special Projects Director	Present	10:50 AM
Bob Isaac	Planner	Present	10:50 AM
Vivienne Leyva	PIO	Present	10:55 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Focke's Comments:

Monday we had the County Officials meeting here in the BOCC

Chambers and had a good discussion with most of the officials in attendance. We plan to have the next one in May.

Tuesday morning I was on KMAN's "In Focus" radio show. I had asked Anna Burson to join me and discuss property appraisals, as there has been a lot of feedback from property owners on the increase in values.

We discussed the Keats wastewater meeting that was held last week in Keats and I gave a lot of background and information.

Questions were asked about the planning of the Public Safety Headquarters and funding. A caller was adamant about putting the building on a slab and not doing the cost of a basement.

Thursday morning I attended "Good Morning Manhattan" sponsored by the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce. Ryan Harrington of NIL made a good presentation and answered questions from the audience. Attendees were invited to announce items about upcoming events.

Ford's Comments:

Monday afternoon we had our first County Officials Luncheon in quite some time, it was good to get updates from the various departments and their activities and work here early in 2023 as well as some of the challenges they face as well. I did wish we spent a little more time discussing the objectives and goals for the 2024 budget, but we will certainly have plenty of time to do that down the road.

Also Monday afternoon I met with MATC President Jim Genandt and Harry Watts in person at the campus to get an update on where they are at with their three phased facility plan, funding needs, new programming and to discuss a potential partnership with Riley County for internships and future employment within several of their programs.

Wednesday afternoon I attended part of the Riley County Rural Economic Development Committee meeting via Zoom. Several items of discussion were the Chief Standing Bear out at the 1-77 Scenic Overlook, Stand Up for Rural America event and details in Mulvane, Kansas April 4th-5th, appointment of a secretary for the committee, and a broad discussion on the development of a task force to discuss the fairgrounds. Those recommendations should be coming to us here shortly. We also had a discussion on property tax valuations and what that means for Riley County as well.

Thursday morning I attended Good Morning Manhattan sponsored by the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce. We heard from Ryan

Herrington from the Wildcat NIL (Name, Image, and Likeness) interesting conversation for sure, but it was good in depth look at the program and what they are doing moving forward. Daryn Soldan gave an update on the ELEVATE entrepreneurship fund through SPARK and they will be working on getting it out to the public moving forward.

McKinley's Comments:

Monday afternoon the building committee met with RCPD reps to discuss IT needs in the Public Safety Building.

Tuesday was the first meeting of the year for the Flint Hills Veterans Coalition. New officers were elected. A couple of very active members have had to step back and others volunteered to take over their duties. Veterans Day is on Saturday this year so the parade will be moved to Friday.

Tuesday evening I attended the Riley City Council meeting. They had some questions about the interlocal agreement and I was able to answer them. They then voted to sign the agreement.

Wednesday was the Juvenile Detention Facility meeting and it was held in Washington. There was an election of officers which was basically railroading the existing officers into serving another year. There was more discussion on leasing space at the old Saline County jail for future expansion.

Business Meeting

3. Appoint Galen Hofmann, Linda Teener, and Josh Wendland to the Park Advisory Board and approve Resolution

Move to sign the appointment letters for Galen Hofmann, Linda Teener, and Josh Wendland to the Park Advisory Board and approve "Resolution No. 031623-15, A Resolution appointing representatives to the Riley County Park Advisory Board".

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

4. Sign Tax Roll Corrections

Move to approve the Tax Roll Corrections.

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

5. Intergovernmental Luncheon topics and attendees

Review Minutes

6. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Mar 13, 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

7. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

8. Discuss Press Conference

9:30 AM **Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services**

9. Administrative Work Session

9:30 AM 10. Executive session to discuss confidential legal advice regarding potential litigation issues

Move the County Commission, including Chairwoman Focke, Vice Chairman Ford, and Commissioner McKinley, recess into executive session on potential litigation, for the purpose of consultation with Clancy Holeman, Riley County Counselor, attorney for the commission, which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 9:50 a.m.

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

9:50 AM

Move the Board of County Commissioners come out of executive session.

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

Move the record reflect action shall be taken consistent with the consensus reached in executive session.

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

9:50 AM

Evan McMillan, Assistant County Engineer

11. Bid opening for 2023 Asphalt Overlay Program

The Board of County Commissioners opened the following bids for the 2023 Asphalt Overlay Program:

Company	Alternate #1	Alternate #2
Shilling Construction Company, Inc. PO Box 1568 Manhattan, KS 66505	6.4 miles 11,170 tons \$1,280,252.00	8.3 miles 8,565 tons \$116.50/ton \$997,822.50

Move to refer the bids to staff for evaluation and recommendation.

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

10:00 AM Gary Fike, County Extension Director/Gregg Eyestone, County Extension Agent

12. Update on the 2022 Report for the Riley County Extension Master Gardener Program

Fike introduced Eyestone to discuss the Master Gardener Program.

Eyestone discussed the Master Gardener Program.

Holeman asked the Board about a virtual only, Riley County Legislative Meeting with local legislators on either April 10th, 13th, 17th or 20th. If the Board wishes to hold the meeting.

The Board agreed April 10th is preferred and April 17th as a back up.

10:15 AM Brian Peete, RCPD Director

13. RCPD update

Peete presented a Riley County Police Department update.

10:30 AM Julie Gibbs, Health Department Director

Move to recess as the Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Board of Health.

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

14. RCHD Out of State Travel

Gibbs presented the Out of State Travel Requests.

Move to approve the Out of State Travel Requests for Kaylyn Speth and Lori Fortin to attend the National WIC Association Annual Conference in California in May.

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

Move to recess as the Board of Health and reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners.

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

10:35 AM Blade Mages, Founder & Executive Creative Director at Middle

15. Overview of the non-profit renovation of the Wareham Opera House

Mages presented the Wareham Opera House renovation project.

11:00 AM Amanda Webb, Planning/Special Projects Director

16. Keats Sewer Benefit District - project update

Webb presented an update on the Keats Sewer Benefit District community meeting.

Webb stated there was a majority approval from the residents for a lagoon system for the Keats Sewer Benefit District.

11:20 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

- 11:20 AM 17. Executive session to discuss confidential legal advice regarding potential litigation issues

Move the County Commission, including Chairwoman Focke, Vice Chairman Ford, and Commissioner McKinley, recess into executive session on potential litigation, for the purpose of consultation with Clancy Holeman, Riley County Counselor, attorney for the

commission, which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 11:40 a.m.

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

11:40 AM

Move the Board of County Commissioners come out of executive session.

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

Move the record reflect action shall be taken consistent with the consensus reached in executive session.

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

11:46 AM

Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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