



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
March 24, 2025**

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

Cindy Kabriel
785-565-6200

Commission Chambers

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
Bryant Parker	Counselor/Director of Administrative Services	Present	8:30 AM
Brittany Phillips	Budget and Finance Officer	Present	8:30 AM
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Present	8:30 AM
Anna Burson	County Appraiser	Present	8:30 AM
Alvin Perez	Public Works Operations/Fleet Manager	Present	8:30 AM
Emma Loura	Manhattan Mercury	Present	8:30 AM
Michele Reid	Payroll, Benefits & Employee Relations Manager	Present	8:30 AM
Elizabeth Ward	Human Resources Director	Present	8:52 AM
Megan Lewis	Community Corrections Director	Present	8:56 AM
Lori Feldkamp	Big Lakes Developmental Center Director	Present	9:11 AM
Liz Holle	Big Lakes Developmental Center	Present	9:11 AM
Cindy Kabriel	Senior Administrative Assistant	Present	8:55 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Ford's Comments:

Thursday post BOCC Meeting I met with Riley County Treasurer Shilo Heger in her office to discuss some items relevant to her department including SB119, the Driver License's department, other personnel ideas, the 2026 budget and possible software to help manage things in a more efficient manner. I appreciated the dialog with Shilo as she's always a wealth of information.

Friday morning, I listened in on the 2025 Kansas County Health Ranking and Roadmaps Webinar hosted by KAC. Wyatt J. Beckman, MPH Senior Analyst at the Kansas Health Institute provided an update and summary for all 105 Kansas counties as well as reviewing the updated data, also highlighted new measures and features included in this year's release and he provided a live demonstration for navigating and utilizing the CHR&R website. This of course coincided with the actual rankings that came out on March 19th.

The weekend was mostly about basketball as the K-State women's basketball team reached their first Sweet 16 since 2003 by beating Fairfield and winning a thriller vs. Kentucky in Lexington to do so. Speaking of Kentucky, the men's team reached their first Sweet 16 since 2018 by winning two games as well, and K-State baseball took two out of three from Baylor over the week to stay atop the Big 12 standings as well.

Focke's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I spent several hours meeting with Diane Creek, Health Department Director. It was a very informative meeting. She is looking forward to having the new financial person starting. She updated me on a lot of the issues that she has identified in her short time there, and how they have been addressed.

Friday I went to the Riley County Historical Museum and met with Director Hensler. We toured the new exhibits and storage areas, discussed future plans and a new hire for the Historical Society, who will take over a lot of Katherine's workload with the society. I plan to go back soon and take time to read and listen to the exhibits.

Saturday, I worked on cleaning and organizing my garage. I've collected a lot of stuff in the past few years, so it is much more functional.

Sunday, I went to church and in the afternoon went over the agenda and documents for today's meeting. I finished up the last corner of the garage, so had a productive day.

McKinley's Comments:

Took a short break to Kansas City Friday and Saturday. Spent Friday afternoon with my granddaughter who will be turning 21 in a few days. Saturday we went to my daughter's house and the other kids.

Sunday I watched the K-State women's basketball team in a very exciting game. Sunday evening, we went to greet the team at the airport. There was a nice crowd and the team enjoyed the recognition.

Business Meeting**3. Bid Recommendation - Tandem Axle Dump Truck**

Move to accept the low bid submitted by Rush Truck Center of Topeka, Kansas to supply the tandem axle dump truck in the amount of \$272,797.00.

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

4. Sign Riley County Employee Action Form(s)

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

- Ethan Winnemore, a new hire, as a Volunteer Firefighter, in the Fire District #1 Department, at a Range TASND.
- Cody Woodruff, a Paramedic, in the EMS/Ambulance Department, for Separation from County Service, effective February 24, 2025.
- Charity Robinson, a new hire, as a WIC Clerk, in the Health Department, at a Range 5, at \$21.67 per hour.

Review Minutes**5. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Mar 20, 2025 8:30 AM**

Move to approve the minutes.

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Ford, County Commissioner

SECONDER:	Kathryn Focke, County Commissioner
AYES:	Ford, Focke, McKinley

Press Conference Topics

6. Discuss Press Conference

Review Tentative Agenda

7. Tentative Agenda

9:00 AM

Megan Lewis, Community Corrections Director

8. Community Corrections Staff Update

Lewis presented a Community Corrections staff update.

9. Request to Fill On-call Juvenile Intake Officers

Lewis presented a request to fill the JIA On-Call Officer position.

Move to approve authorizing RCCC to advertise and hire additional JIA On-Call Officers to the on-call roster.

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

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for an On Call Juvenile Intake Officer (2 positions max total hours 420 per year), in the Community Corrections Department, at a Range 1.

10. Request to Apply to Clay County for Opioid Settlement Funds

Lewis presented a request to apply to Clay County for Opioid Settlement Funds.

Move to approve for Community Corrections to apply to Clay County Board of County Commissioners for the use of Opioid Settlement Funds to assist in the cost of random drug and alcohol testing in Clay County.

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

11. Daniel Keating Foundation Grant Application

Lewis presented The Daniel Keating Foundation Grant application.

Move to approve for Riley County Community Corrections to apply for The Daniel Keating Foundation Grant.

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

9:15 AM

Lori Feldkamp, Big Lakes Developmental Center Director

12. Big Lakes Developmental Center update

Feldkamp said she is retiring. Feldkamp introduced Liz Holle who will take over June 1, 2025.

Feldkamp presented a Big Lakes Developmental Center update.

9:30 AM

Press Conference

9:35 AM

Bryant Parker, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

13. Administrative Work Session

14. Pending County Projects County Counselor

Parker discussed Senate Bill 199 regarding the sale of fireworks year round.

9:42 AM Adjournment

Move to adjourn after the Intergovernmental Luncheon.

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

12:00 PM Intergovernmental Luncheon

15. Intergovernmental Luncheon Agenda