



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
April 12, 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
Elizabeth Ward	Human Resource Manager	Present	8:34 AM
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Present	9:10 AM
Gary Rosewicz	Assistant County Engineer	Present	9:10 AM
Sam Hennigh	KMAN	Present	9:10 AM
Aubrey Evans	Riley County Conservation District Director	Present	9:10 AM
Gregg Eyestone	Extension Agent	Present	9:29 AM
Tami Robison	Budget and Finance Officer	Present	9:48 AM
David Adams	EMS/Ambulance Director	Present	9:45 AM
Russel Stukey	Emergency Management Director	Present	9:45 AM
Alvin Perez	Public Works Operations/Fleet Manager	Present	9:50 AM
Jeff Hancock		Present	10:00 AM
Robert Deemie		Present	10:00 AM
Randy O'Boyle		Present	10:00 AM
Mark James		Present	10:00 AM
Sandi Harper	ISO II - Adult, Community Corrections	Present	10:20 AM
Jessie Hubbard	Administrative Assistant II	Present	10:20 AM
Kendra Lewison	District Court Judge 21st District	Present	10:20 AM
Cheryl Collins	Museum Director	Present	11:00 AM
Dawn Munger	Museum Curator of Collections	Present	11:00 AM
Amanda Smeller	Planning/Special Projects Director	Present	11:00 AM
Craig Cox	Deputy County Counselor	Present	11:08 AM
Shilo Heger	Treasurer	Present	11:20 AM
Michele Reid	Payroll & Benefits Spec & HR Associate	Present	11:25 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Ford's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I zoomed in on the latest meeting of the Manhattan Area Recovery Task Force meeting to discuss the current COVID-19 Pandemic. Among the topics of conversation were the continuous process of vaccinations. A local doctor provided some perspective on the community progress in fighting the pandemic, an overview was provided on the new federal stimulus (American Rescue Plan), a review of the recent Governor and Legislative and locally for recovery, and finally an overview of summer child care options.

Also Thursday afternoon I listened in on the latest teleconference presentation of the Council on Foreign Affairs. This presentation was on "Broadband and Bridging the Digital Divide". This of course is a topic that has become near and dear to me. Kathryn De Wit, Manager of the Broadband Access Initiative at Pew Charitable Trusts as well as Francella Ochillo, Executive Director of Next Century Cities discussed this expansion of broadband infrastructure and how local communities can work to bridge the digital divides and provide better access and develop a plan to accomplish that.

Friday morning I met with the Food and Farm Council's Waste CAT team via Zoom. The agenda discussed during that was meeting was graphics and criteria review of a Restaurant Champion program, Eisenhower Middle School compost project update, the need for a new communications lead for the Waste CAT team, a summary of the meeting with Howie's Recycling and some steps to meet with Downtown and the Aggieville Business districts, and lastly a possible survey and question on the Master Food Plan.

McKinley's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I attended NBAF Community Liaison Group via

Zoom. It was a very informative meeting. Heard from six different leaders at NBAF.

The operations director is a New York native who came here from Plum Island and said he really has enjoyed Manhattan and is still learning about this area.

The construction is 1.2 billion dollars into the project. They are in the process of completing the initial construction contract. Next is the tech upgrade and ordering in the equipment. The facility was built by Homeland Security, but will be run by USDA. They have a slow opening and are now releasing parts of the facility to USDA.

There are three different types of diseases that will be studied here. Foreign animal diseases that spread within the animals, foreign animal diseases that are spread by insects, and zoonotic diseases, which can be spread from animals to humans or from humans to animals.

When fully operational they will have about 400 employees. As of now they have 120 onboard. Of these 46% live in Manhattan and total staff lives in twenty six communities in the area.

They are trying to publicize their work more and want to speak to groups in the area and getting articles in various publications in the area.

The rest of the weekend I spent a lot of time on the Harbour Hills Road that we will be discussing later. I had driven the road earlier, but went back again to see the condition. I had a number of emails and phone calls from residents in the neighborhood. They had opinions on what should be done and I learned more of what is involved with this road.

Focke's Comments:

After a busy week, Friday was a catchup day for me. Followed up on e-mails, phone calls, and other personal business.

Saturday, I went with a couple friends to Hanover for lunch at Ricky's restaurant. Went through Blue Rapids and Waterville on the way back.

Sunday I did some yard work, planted some shrubs, and talked to various neighbors.

Property taxes always come up in conversations.

Business Meeting

3. Resolution establishing the salaries of certain elected and appointed officials and other professional positions of Riley County, Kansas

Move to approve "Resolution No. 041221-13, A Resolution amending Resolution No. 122820-59 and establishing the salaries of the Assistant County Attorney of Riley County, Kansas."

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

4. Appoint Phil Mattox and Christine Benne to the Riley County Public Health Council and approve Resolution

Move to appoint Phil Mattox and Christine Benne to the Riley County Public Health Advisory Council and approve "Resolution No. 041221-14, Resolution appointing representatives to the Riley County Public Health Advisory Council."

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:

- Jillian L. Moore, a FT EMS - Paramedic, in the EMS/Ambulance Department, for Separation from County Service, effective April 19, 2021.
- Kyle L. Voth, a COVID-19 Contact Tracer, in the Health Department, for Separation from County Service, effective April 19, 2021.
- Brett Wege, a new hire, as a Seasonal/Labor, in the Public Works/Parks Department, at a grade A step 1, at \$11.51 per hour.

Review Minutes

6. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Apr 8, 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

7. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

8. Discuss Press Conference

9:00 AM

Rich Vargo, County Clerk

9. Year to date budget and expenditure reports

Vargo presented year to date budget and expenditure reports.

9:15 AM

Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer

10. Bid opening for Senn Road bridge replacement

The Board of County Commissioners opened the following bids for Senn Road bridge replacement:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Addendum #1</u>	<u>Proposed # of working days</u>	<u>Proposed starting date</u>	<u>Total Bid</u>
L&M Contractors, Inc. 1405 KS-96 Hwy Great Bend, KS 67530	04-02-21 Yes	125	10-11-21	\$544,392.75
Reece Construction Co. Inc. PO Box 3227 Salina, KS 67402	04-02-21 Yes	90	09-07-21	\$396,311.95
Ebert Construction Co., Inc. PO Box 198 Wamego, KS 66547	04-02-21 Yes	90	08-01-21	\$380,669.77

King Construction Co., Inc. PO Box 849 Hesston, KS 67062	04-02-21 Yes	120	02-07-22	\$505,210.25
Engineer's Estimate				\$396,464.20

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

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

9:30 AM

Press Conference

11. Riley County Conservation District update - Aubrey Evans (5-10 minutes)

Evans presented a copy of the Riley County Conservation District news report.

Evans said she will be leaving and going to the National Association of Conservation. Evans said Jasmine Gaither will be replacing her.

Flint Hills Area Builders Association - Gregg Eyestone (2 minutes)

Eyestone reported Extension will be participating in the Flint Hills Area Builders Association annual event this weekend.

Eyestone stated the focus will be the "Right Plant in the Right Location".

9:45 AM

David Adams, EMS/Ambulance Director

12. EMS/Ambulance Headquarters Station

Adams & Stukey presented the EMS/Ambulance Facility request.

The Board agreed by consensus for Adams and Stukey to work with Ellermann to determine the next steps in developing a space needs study and location study for an EMS/Ambulance Headquarters.

10:00 AM John Ellermann, Public Works Director/County Engineer

13. Public Works Project Update

Ellermann presented the Public Works project update.

14. Harbour Hills Neighborhood Request to improve County Road 402 (W. 59th Ave)

Ellermann discussed the Harbour Hills Neighborhood request.

Ellermann recommended option 3. This option will incorporate the millings into the base and give the road a solid foundation on which to place the 4" of gravel surfacing. Gravel roads are the most economical to build and for future maintenance. In reviewing the budget for 2021, the Public Works Department has sufficient funds available perform the work.

J. Hancock stated when they moved there it was not a gravel road. J. Hancock said one of the reasons they purchased the property is because they did not want to live on a gravel road. J. Hancock stated the road is in pretty much the same shape it was in when they purchased their property. Hancock said they do not want to deal with dust.

Deemie, Trustee of Grant Township, said he knows gravel is easy to repair and adequate for some. Deemie stated during the flood their road held up well when some gravel roads did not. Deemie said a chip/seal would be good for their road. Deemie stated their road does not need as much maintenance as gravel roads.

O'Boyle thanked the Riley County Commissioners for their service. O'Boyle stated the road has been neglected for 15 years.

James presented his request to the Board in writing and discussed his request.

1. Property values in our subdivision will be lowered if our paved access road is torn up and downgraded to a primitive gravel road.
2. Downgrading the region to a more primitive state would violate reasonable expectations of homeowners who purchased with the understanding that the region had been zoned for improvement.
3. Paving W. 59th Avenue would be more economical for the county than it was to pave Mill Cove Drive based on the number of houses served per mile of paved road.
4. Paving W. 59th Avenue would be more economical for the county than it was to pave Mill Cove Drive on the basis of property tax revenue

collected per mile of paved road.

5. Downgrading W. 59th Avenue to gravel would create a safety hazard for motorists.

Move to approve the option to prep base (grind up, relay & compact) and 2" asphalt surfacing in the amount of \$85,000.

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

10:25 AM Sandi Harper, Community Corrections ISO II

15. U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Programs FY21 Adult Drug Court and Veteran's Treatment Court Discretionary Grant Program

Harper presented the Adult Drug Court Grant request.

Hubbard stated the in-kind will come from Brett Clark's ISO position.

Move to approve Riley County Community Corrections apply for the BJA FY21 Adult Drug Court and Veterans Court Discretionary Grant Program.

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

10:40 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

16. Administrative Work Session

Holeman stated the legislature has adjourned and he does not have anything else to report.

17. Pending County Projects County Counselor

11:00 AM Cheryl Collins, Museum Director

18. Riley County Historical Museum Staff Update- Collections

C. Collins & Munger presented the Museum staff report.

11:15 AM Craig Cox, Deputy County Counselor

19. Authorize Amanda Smeller to Sign Certifications for USDA Application

Cox presented the authorization for Amanda Smeller to sign USDA Certifications.

Move that the Board authorize Amanda Smeller to sign Certifications for USDA Application for Federal Assistance.

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

11:30 AM Shilo Heger, County Treasurer

20. Request to Fill Open Customer Service Position

Heger presented a request to fill a Customer Service Representative I position.

Move to approve the request to fill the Customer Service Representative I in the Treasurer's Department.

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 a Customer Service Representative I, in the Treasurer's Department, at a grade F.

11:45 AM David Adams, EMS/Ambulance Director

21. Open Position- Request To Fill

Adams presented a request to fill a full-time Paramedic position.

Move to approve the request to fill the full time Paramedic position in the EMS/Ambulance Department.

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 a full time Paramedic, in the EMS/Ambulance Department, at a grade L.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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