



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
May 20, 2024**

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
Bryant Parker	Deputy County Counselor	Present	8:30 AM
Mel Borst		Present	8:30 AM
Stormy Kennedy		Present	8:30 AM
Anna Burson	County Appraiser	Present	8:30 AM
Vivienne Leyva	PIO	Present	8:30 AM
Megan Lewis	Interim Community Corrections Director	Present	9:34 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Borst and Kennedy invited a commissioner to attend and speak at the Flag Raising on Flag Day, Friday, June 14, 2024.

Kennedy said Scout Troop 374 will participate in Flag Day.

Ford said he will attend and speak at the Flag Day Ceremony.

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Focke's Comments:

Friday, I attended the Military Relations Committee Luncheon held at the KSU Student Union. Guest speakers were COL(R) Sean Ryan and SMA(R) Michael Grinston, both representing the Army Emergency Relief organization. It provides assistance in the form of grants, interest-free loans, and scholarships to promote readiness and relieve financial distress for soldiers, retirees, and their families. Sean Ryan is the Director of Marketing and Communications and Michael Grinston is the CEO of the AER. There were several announcements and acknowledgements before adjournment.

After the luncheon I came down to my office and had a meeting with Bryant Parker, the new Deputy County Counselor. It was a get-to-know meeting and discussion of current related legal issues.

Saturday afternoon I attended a Democratic fund-raising event.

Later that evening, I went on the excursion dinner train out of Abilene. The two dinner cars were almost sold out. Schatzi's Schnitzel Haus of Riley catered the dinner, and it was a great evening.

Sunday, I played in the bell choir at my church and then went to lunch with a couple of friends in St. George.

Later, I reviewed the documents for today's meeting and did some work around the house.

McKinley's Comments:

Did not have any outside meetings but I started reviewing budget numbers. Also, I have been reviewing and rating the proposals from consultants for the Comprehensive Plan.

Ford's Comments:

Hopefully everybody made it through last night's storms without incident. Glad for the rain once again, but the wind and hail are always concerning.

Friday afternoon I attended the Military Relations Luncheon at the K-State Student Union. Keystone speaker was Michael Grinston, the Chief Executive Officer of Army Emergency Relief (AER), is deeply committed to assisting soldiers and their families by offering grants, interest-free loans, and scholarships to alleviate financial hardships. With extensive experience as the former Sergeant Major of the Army, Grinston has been a strong advocate for reforms aimed at enhancing

the quality of life for soldiers. These reforms include improvements in housing, nutrition, and behavioral health support. Also, Colonel Sean Ryan, a former Big Red One Soldier also spoke. The luncheon was very well attended by members of the community.

I spent the weekend running back through some the 2025 budget information and started work on Thursday interview for the consultant work for the Comprehensive Plan.

Business Meeting

3. Action on Mobile Device Reimbursement Request Form

Move to approve the Mobile Device Reimbursement Request Form.

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

- Lisa Walter, a new hire, as a Solid Waste Operator II, in the Public Works/Solid Waste Department, at a Range 7, at \$24.34 per hour.
- Shirley Eichen, a Legal Secretary, in the Attorney's Department, for Separation from County Service, effective June 10, 2024.
- Andrew Underwood, a Volunteer Firefighter Stipend, in the Riley County Fire District #1 Department, for Separation from County Service, effective May 16, 2024.
- Riley Davis, a Volunteer Firefighter Stipend, in the Riley County Fire District #1 Department, for Separation from County Service, effective May 16, 2024.

Review Minutes

5. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - May 16, 2024 9:00 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

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

Review Tentative Agenda

6. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

7. Discuss Press Conference

9:00 AM Bryant Parker, Deputy County Counselor

8. Administrative Work Session

Parker discussed getting topics for the Administrative Work Session.

9. Pending County Projects County Counselor

Parker reviewed the 2024 Delinquent Property Tax Case.

Parker said the Tax Sale Auction is Friday, June 28, 2024.

9:15 AM David Adams, EMS/Ambulance Director

10. Staff Update

Adams presented the EMS/Ambulance staff update.

9:30 AM Press Conference

11. Public Notice - Evan McMillan (1-2 minutes)

The Transfer Station will be closed Monday, May 27, 2024 in observance of the Memorial Day Holiday. The Transfer Station will

reopen for business at 7:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 28, 2024.

9:35 AM Megan Lewis, Interim Community Corrections Director

12. Monthly Staff Update

Lewis presented the Community Corrections staff update.

9:40 AM Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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

12:00 PM Law Enforcement Agency Meeting

13. Law Board Meeting Agenda