



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
May 23, 2022**

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

Cindy Kabriel
785-565-6200

Commission Chambers

8:30 AM

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

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

[District 1 – John Ford, Member](#)

8:30 AM

Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John Ford	County Commissioner	Present	8:30 AM
Kathryn Focke	County Commissioner	Remote	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
Anna Burson	County Appraiser	Present	8:30 AM
Amanda Webb	Planning/Special Projects Director	Present	8:30 AM
Megan Hartford	Manhattan Coalition for Equal Justice	Present	8:30 AM
Elizabeth Ward	Human Resource Manager	Present	8:38 AM
Shelly Williams	Community Corrections Director	Present	8:58 AM
Lori Feldkamp	Big Lakes Developmental Center Director	Present	9:09 AM
Darell Edie	Budget & Finance Officer	Present	10:00 AM
Shilo Heger	Treasurer	Present	10:00 AM
Michael Boller	Noxious Weed Director	Present	10:00 AM
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Present	10:00 AM
Cory Meyer	IT/GIS Director	Present	10:00 AM
Barry Wilkerson	County Attorney	Present	10:00 AM
Russel Stukey	Emergency Management Director	Present	10:00 AM
Julie Gibbs	Health Department Director	Remote	10:00 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Hartford, Manhattan Coalition for Equal Justice, spoke in favor of a fair, equitable, and transparent application process for Law Board Members.

Webb stated the temporary Environmental Assistance will begin today.

Webb discussed the Public Hearing for the Tegtmeier application.
Webb asked about requirements in speaking at the hearing.

The Board said three minutes is the time limit and to not be repetitive.

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

McKinley's Comments:

Thursday after our meeting I met with the new county appraiser Anna Burson. I had started working on some questions about a property valuation with Greg McHenry and Anna has worked on answering my questions. It was then a chance to just have a discussion with her welcoming her to the county and getting to know each other better. Later Thursday I attended the city/county/country meeting. We had a presentation by the Food and Farm Council on the Food System Master Plan for Riley County and Manhattan. They went over their process and the food plan goals.

Friday and Saturday I was in Leavenworth for my granddaughter's high school graduation. On Friday they have a parade for the seniors. My granddaughter and two friends made signs and painted decorations on my car and then with the top down they sat on top of the back seat as I drove. Yes, the paint washes off. It was great fun for the kids and I think Manhattan should try it. She will be attending Park College so no 5th generation cat yet.

Focke's Comments:

Ford's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I listened to this month's "Connecting Kansas Counties" Zoom call hosted by the Kansas Association of Counties. It's something I have been trying to get around to doing for quite some time now. This month's call started with some quick introductions and then a presentation featuring Carlin Darhash, U.S. Politics and Government Outreach for Facebook/Meta. This was a training session

on using Facebook and social media platform in this current climate and it was quite interesting from several perspectives. As you can expect many questions followed and even those were quite varied. All in all, I found the dialog interesting and insightful at the same time.

Later Thursday afternoon I attended the May meeting of the Joint City/County/County meeting downtown at City Hall. Vickie James from the Riley County Food and Farm Council and members of the New Venture Advisors gave us a robust analysis and breakdown of what went into the development of the area Master Food Plan that will have to be officially adopted next month by the City and County Commissions. I know many community partners have worked for a very long time to get to this point and I certainly appreciate those efforts. A couple of things of interest to me were those in the other smaller cities that participated in the survey, and this plan will have a 10-year shelf life that will hopefully help bring more federal and foundational resources into the area moving forward.

Saturday morning, I attended the May Coffee Talk meeting with the Riley County Republicans at Vista Drive Inn. Kim Borchers, Kansas National Committee woman was on hand to discuss what the State GOP is working on and platform changes at the national level for 2022. Also on hand were candidates for the 64th and 51st Kansas House Districts to talk about their candidacy. Members from the USD 383 School and City of Manhattan were on hand to give updates and I provided a summary of what is going on here in Riley County as well. Talk and discussion of summer election events including the booth at the fair were also discussed during the meeting. Also wanted to say thanks to Andy and Brad Streeter for opening for us at 9:00 a.m. even though they have changed their hours of operation in the short term.

Lastly, just wanted to update everyone that there is a conversation going on currently with myself, constituents in the area, as well as our state delegation and members of KDOT on some temporary safety measures at Highway 24 and the 113, and 13 intersections at this time. Not sure what this is going to look like or when possibly, but with the recent set of accidents including another one down the way Friday at Seth Childs and Marlatt, it is apparent something is going to need to occur soon to make it safer until construction improvements can be made. There will be more to follow on this shortly.

Business Meeting

3. A HOME RULE RESOLUTION PROHIBITING PUBLIC NUDITY IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF RILEY COUNTY; AND PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS AND EXCEPTIONS

Move to approve "Resolution No. 052322-17, A Home Rule Resolution prohibiting public nudity in the unincorporated area of Riley County; and providing for definitions and exceptions."

RESULT:	ADOPTED [2 TO 1]
MOVER:	John Ford, County Commissioner
SECONDER:	Kathryn Focke, County Commissioner
AYES:	Ford, Focke
NAYS:	McKinley

4. Sign Riley County Personnel Action Form(s)

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

- Joseph Godown, for a promotion, as an Administrative Analyst-Levy, in the Clerk's Department, at a grade L step 3, at \$21.73 per hour, effective May 31, 2022.
- Katharine, Hensler, a new hire, as a Museum Director, in the Museum Department, at a grade BB, at \$3,238.67 biweekly, effective May 31, 2022.

Review Minutes

5. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - May 19, 2022 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

Review Tentative Agenda

6. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

7. Discuss Press Conference

9:00 AM Shelly Williams, Community Corrections Director

8. UA Technician Position BJA Grant Funded

Williams presented the UA Technician Position.

Move to approve hiring a UA Technician with BJA Grant funds.

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

9:05 AM Anna Burson, Appraiser

9. Request to Fill - County Appraiser I Personal Property

Burson presented the request to fill the Appraiser I-Personal Property position.

Move to approve the request to refill the position at the earliest opportunity.

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 Appraiser I-Personal Property, in the Appraiser's Office, at a grade F.

9:15 AM Lori Feldkamp, Big Lakes Developmental Center Director

10. Big Lakes Developmental Center update

Feldkamp stated she will be submitting a 3% increase for their appropriation's request.

Feldkamp said 2023 will be the 50th year anniversary for the Big Lakes Developmental Center.

9:30 AM Press Conference

9:45 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

11. Administrative Work Session

12. Pending County Projects County Counselor

Holeman presented the pending projects list.

9:45 AM 13. Executive session to discuss a performance matter involving non-elected personnel

Move the County Commission, including Chairman McKinley, Vice Chair Focke, and Commissioner Ford, recess into executive session on a performance matter for non-elected personnel, to protect the privacy of the employee, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, with Clancy Holeman, County Counselor, attorney for the Commission; Elizabeth Ward, Human Resource Manager; and Amanda Webb, Planning/Special Projects Director, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 10:00 a.m.

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

10:00 AM Move the Board of County Commissioners come out of executive session.

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

Move the record reflect no binding action was taken during the executive session.

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

10:05 AM Elizabeth Ward, Human Resource Manager and Darell Edie, Budget and Finance Officer

14. Mid-year Salary Adjustment Request

Ward and Edie presented the request for the mid-year salary adjustment.

Focke said it is two phases and the first phase is \$1,200,700, is this both phases?

Ward stated it is for phase one only.

Focke asked if there is a start date of employment for this.

Ward said it will include everyone hired to this point.

Ford asked, how does this amount to fund this, relate to the future years?

Ward stated the City of Manhattan's is \$3.8M and RCPD anticipates \$3.4M.

Ward said the normal annual increase will be included in the second phase.

Ward explained "market rate" for qualified employees.

Ford asked how do we offset the cost increases due to all community organizations increasing cost?

Ward discussed getting to market rate and implementing work life balance.

Focke stated we are way behind where we should be and need to make this adjustment.

Edie reported Riley County's approach is to not use grant funds.

Move to approve the proposed mid-year pay adjustment to each active employee's pay rate, with an effective pay date of July 1, 2022.

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

Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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