



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
June 07, 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
Gina Scroggs	Downtown Manhattan	Present	8:30 AM
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Present	8:30 AM
Michele Reid	Payroll & Benefits Spec & HR Associate	Present	8:33 AM
Amanda Smeller	Planning/Special Projects Director	Present	9:15 AM
Greg Steere	RCPD	Present	9:22 AM
Cheryl Collins	Museum Director	Present	9:24 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

- Public Comments

Ellermann reported the Transfer Station scales are repaired and the Transfer Station is open.

Commission Comments

- Commission Comments

Ford's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I attended the special meeting of the Riley County

Law Board to work on the 2022 budget publication and to clarify several issues in regards to it including the advent of Senate Bill 13 (Revenue Neutral Rate) and a mid-year salary adjustment for staff and personnel and what the special local government funding through the American Rescue Plan means to RCPD. All in all it was a rather long, but productive meeting.

I also want to say Happy 1 year Anniversary to the BOCC YouTube live stream. Believe it or not it has been a full year since that has been up and running, and although we've had a few up and downs along the way I think overall it is a great addition to our meetings and has and will continue to serve a great purpose for those that want to watch and pay attention do what the Commission is working on in the present and moving forward in the future.

Spent some time over the weekend preparing for this week's upcoming Commissioners conference down in Liberal, Kansas as well. Looks like a pretty informative agenda for both Wednesday and Thursday.

McKinley's Comments:

A week ago Friday, which feels like a month ago, I listened in on the KAC webinar on SB-13. It was very informative on what steps the State has added to the budget process and how we are to proceed.

This weekend I listed to last Thursday's commission meeting to catch up what was done.

In between I spent a lot of time on family matters.

Focke's Comments:

Thursday:

I attended the special Law Board meeting in the afternoon held in the County Commission Chambers. The meeting was held to go over the proposed RCPD budget for 2022. Four options were proposed with various scenarios. After much discussion over the proposed increases, it was determined to go with the larger of those proposed. Due to the revenue neutral requirements and the timing of budget publications, we can decrease the budget, but not increase it. The regular scheduled meeting is on June 21st and we will discuss this further at that time.

Thursday evening I attended a town hall in Ashland Township, sponsored by the local Democrat party. Tom Hawk and I were there to listen and share ideas and twenty-eight people attended. Tom discussed

various legislation that was passed in the most recent session and took other questions. I introduced myself and shared the boards that I attend, when the meetings are held, and encouraged people to apply for advisory boards, and to keep up with county business. A lot of the discussion was about the 30-30 conservation districts being proposed at the national level. Laurence Clement, the Township Trustee presented several documents explaining the program, which is totally voluntary and isn't a "land grab" by the national government. I wasn't very knowledgeable about this and learned a great deal through the discussion. I'll be happy to share the handouts that Laurence has sent me.

Also discussed were township issues by various citizens. Some issues brought up included increased traffic and dust on McDowell Creek Road and people traveling at high rates of speed on the road. Rural broadband access is a continuing problem in the area.

I informed the group of the upcoming sales tax initiative that we would be putting on the ballot. I would like to have a hand out on this soon to give out to people at events.

I spent the weekend working on the house and landscape projects and going to Longford to the café's buffet on Sunday.

Business Meeting

3. KSAHIMT application for Pat Collins

Move to sign the application for Pat Collins' membership in the KSAHIMT.

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

4. Action on a Plaza Reservation Request for Downtown Manhattan, Inc.

Move to approve a Plaza Reservation Request for Downtown Manhattan, Inc. for Thursday, June 17, 2021 from 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. for third Thursday.

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

5. Certification of Unpaid Fees and/or Utility Services

Move to approve the Certification of Unpaid Fees and/or Charges for Utility Services on Property located in Riley County, Kansas at 5241 Terra Heights. Currently the total amount due is \$937.30. As a result of non-payment we request a Special Assessment be placed against Doreen M. Ray, Trust.

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

6. Sign Riley County Personnel Action Form(s)

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

- Douglas Russell, for a promotion from volunteer to Deputy Fire Chief, in the RCFD#1 Department, at a grade P step 8.
- Emma Galitzer, a COVID-19 Contact Tracer, in the Health Department, for Separation from County Service, effective July 23, 2021.
- Lydia Bowyer, a COVID-19 Contact Tracer, in the Health Department, for Separation from County Service, effective June 1, 2021.
- Bradley Denton, COVID-19 Contact Tracer, in the Health Department, for Separation from County Service, effective June 11, 2021.

7. Discuss Joint City/County/County Meeting Agenda

- Discuss Senate Bill 13-City & County

Vargo presented the 2021 assessed valuation for Riley County \$677,488,007. Vargo stated the value of a mill of \$677,488 a 1.18% increase from 2020.

Review Minutes

8. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Jun 3, 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

9. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

10. Discuss Press Conference

9:00 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

11. Administrative Work Session

Holeman said he is working on various projects to include the Radio System Project.

12. Pending County Projects County Counselor

9:20 AM Amanda Smeller, Planning/Special Projects Director

13. Authorize Chairman to sign letter to KDOC for proposed use of remaining CDBG-CV funds

Smeller presented the KDOC letter for the remaining CDBG-CV funds.

Move to approve the letter to the Kansas Department of Commerce for the proposed use of the remaining CDBG-CV funds.

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

9:30 AM**Press Conference**

14. RCPD update - Greg Steere (3-5 minutes)

Steere presented a Riley County Police Department update.

15. Downtown Manhattan update - Gina Scroggs (3-5 minutes)

Scroggs presented the Downtown Manhattan update.

16. “Fighting for Equality: People with Different Abilities” exhibit at Manhattan Town Center through July 11 - Cheryl Collins (3 minutes)

C. Collins said the Riley County Historical Society and Museum will present the Freedom’s Frontier National Heritage Area exhibit “Fighting for Equality: People with Different Abilities” at the Manhattan Town Center, East Court, through July 11, 2021. Admission is free. This exhibit commemorates the 30th anniversary of the American Disabilities Act and includes an additional panel of Riley County related history.

17. Public Notice - John Ellermann (1-2 minutes)

Ellermann said a road reconstruction project on W. 59th Avenue is scheduled to begin Monday, June 14, 2021. Project is located on W. 59th Ave. from Mill Cove Drive to Harbour Hills Drive. W. 59th Avenue will be closed to through traffic during construction. The project is expected to be completed by Friday, June 25, 2021 weather permitting.

18. USD 383 Primary Election - Rich Vargo (1-2 minutes)

Vargo reported USD 383 will have a primary election Tuesday, August 3, 2021. Vargo stated due to state law USD 383 will be responsible for the cost of the election.

Vargo said the voter registration deadline for the primary election is Tuesday, July 13, 2021. Vargo stated advance voting will begin Wednesday, July 14, 2021.

9:50 AM John Ellermann, Public Works Director/County Engineer

19. CIP Purchase Adjustment

Ellermann presented the CIP purchase adjustment.

Move to approve the purchase of a 3/4 ton, 2-wheel drive pick-up for the Parks Division.

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

10:00 AM Rich Vargo, County Clerk

20. Request to Refill Temporary Elections Worker

Vargo presented the temporary election worker request for the USD 383 primary election.

Move to approve the position of Temporary Election Workers for the Riley County Clerk's office.

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 Temporary Election Workers (June - December), in the County Clerk/Elections Department, at a grade Temp/Election.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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