



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
June 21, 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
Tami Robison	Budget and Finance Officer	Remote	8:40 AM
Elizabeth Ward	Human Resource Manager	Remote	8:40 AM
Lee Wolf	Konza Prairie Community Health & Dental Center	Present	9:04 AM
Dani Hallgren	Konza Prairie Community Health & Dental Center	Present	9:04 AM
Sam Hennigh	KMAN	Present	9:05 AM
David Adams	EMS/Ambulance Director	Present	9:08 AM
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Present	9:19 AM
Craig Cox	Deputy County Counselor	Present	9:24 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Commissioner Ford discussed the short timeline to make the decision to close Riley County in observation of Juneteenth. Ford stated the Riley County Personnel Policies state federal holidays are observed by Riley County. Ford apologized for any inconvenience to the residents and employees.

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Ford's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I met with Jason Smith President/CEO of the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce to discuss several items including the Road and Bridge sales tax and several other projects and programs they are working on in the region.

Also Thursday, I listened to NACo's bi-weekly national call with leadership on White House officials Dr. Bechara Chouchair, White House Vaccinations Coordinator and Edward Cisneros White House COVID-19 Intergovernmental Affairs Director on the current state of the vaccination rollout. Several members from NACo's leadership team spoke during this 30 minute call as well.

Thursday afternoon we hosted this month's Joint City/County/County meeting to discuss in more detail Senate Bill 13 or commonly known now as the "Revenue Neutral Rate". Appreciated members from both Pottawatomie County and Manhattan City being present as well as the dialog presented by the League of Municipalities and our contract lobbyist.

Friday I listened to the U.S. Treasury updated guidance on the broadband provisions of the Fiscal Recovery Funds "Interim Final Rule". The update clarified that states and localities may invest in areas where not all households or business are unserved or underserved, but as long as an objective of the project is to expand service for these areas. It also clarified the use of the term "reliably" in the provision of the IFR and provides state and localities with significant discretion to assess these areas as well. All of which is a good sign and interests me even more for what that can be here in the Flint Hills region.

Saturday morning I attend the monthly Coffee Talk chats with the Riley County Republicans. It was a very robust and spirited conversation on numerous topics with city and school board candidates and a handful of state a local elected officials including myself. I did manage to get in an update from the county side as well. This particular event was as well attended of an event as I could remember in recent years.

Saturday afternoon I was actually in Topeka at an event so I did miss out on all the Juneteenth activities and celebration, but from the sounds of it all went very well which is always good to hear.

McKinley's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I attended the Joint City/County/County meeting. The subject was Senate Bill 13 that the legislature passed this year. We discussed what the requirements are and how we will meet them.

Saturday morning I went to some of the Juneteenth events at the Douglas Center. I had not been in the building before and it looks like a great facility. I saw the new mural and the art display. There are a lot of talented local artists.

Focke's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I attended the Joint City/County/County meeting held in the BOCC Chambers. Discussion was held on SB 13 and the Revenue Neutral Rate and what the county and city responsibilities will be.

Also discussed was a non-agenda item of the selection process for the Law Board. The city has not developed an interview process and asked for a copy of the questionnaire that we have developed.

Friday, I participated in the monthly meeting of the Flint Hills Regional Planning Board via Zoom. Approval of minutes, the May financial report, and a progress report on the work plan were discussed.

New business included a report by Tim Peterson, Sr. Project Director of the KS Board of Regents on the Kansas Micro-Internship program and matching grants. This is a program designed to help attract Kansas students to Kansas jobs. The internships are short-term, paid, professional assignments in marketing, finance, human resources, technical jobs, and other professions. They are not intended to replace traditional internships. Mr. Peterson would be available to present the program to this board if you would like to hear more.

Other discussion included approving a professional services agreement with Matrix to conduct the Military Installation Resiliency Study and Action Plan.

The meeting was concluded with community updates from board members.

The next meeting will be Friday, July 16th.

Business Meeting

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Amanda Howar, a new hire, as an As Needed Clerical Assistant HR, in the Clerk's Department, at a grade D step 1, at \$13.33 per hour.

Review Minutes

Due to City/County/County Meeting on Thursday and Riley County Offices closed Friday the June 17th draft minutes will be approved on Thursday, June 24th.

Review Tentative Agenda

3. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

4. Discuss Press Conference

9:00 AM Dani Hallgren and Lee Wolf, Konza Prairie Community Health and Dental Center update

5. Konza Prairie Community Health and Dental Center update

Wolf presented an update on the Konza Prairie Community Health and Dental Center.

9:15 AM David Adams, EMS/Ambulance Director

6. EMS/Ambulance Staff Update

Adams presented the EMS/Ambulance staff update.

9:30 AM**Press Conference**

7. Tax Auction - Craig Cox (5 minutes)

Cox reported the Riley County Tax Foreclosure Auction will be held on Friday, June 25th at 10:00 a.m. at the Riley County Public Works Building, 6215 Tuttle Creek Boulevard in the lower level training room. Pre-registration is required. Bidders must register by the end of today June 21st. There will be no registration the day of the auction.

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

Vargo reported the USD 383 Primary Election will be Tuesday, August 3, 2021. Vargo said the voter registration deadline is Tuesday, July 13, 2021. Vargo stated advance voting will begin in person and by mail Wednesday, July 14, 2021. Vargo said the Primary Election will reduce the number of candidates from 10 to 6 for the General Election.

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

9. Request to refill a future vacant position

Ellermann presented the request to fill the Assistant Public Works Director/Assistant County Engineer position.

Move to approve the Public Works Department advertise for an Assistant Public Works Director/Assistant County Engineer.

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 an Assistant Public Works Director/Assistant County Engineer, in the Public Works Department, at a grade GG.

10:00 AM**Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services**

10. Administrative Work Session

11. Meadowlark Hills Request to Authorize Issuance of Bond by City of Manhattan

Holeman presented the Meadowlark Hills request to authorize issuance of bond by the City of Manhattan. Holeman stated there is no fiscal impact to Riley County.

Move the Board authorize the bond issuance by the City of Manhattan and approve "Resolution No. 062121-25, A Resolution approving the issuance by the City of Manhattan, Kansas of its Health Care Facilities Revenue Bonds to refinance an outstanding bond, the proceeds of which paid the costs of the acquisition of a health care facility operated by Manhattan Retirement Foundation, Inc., which facility is located outside the corporate limits of the City of Manhattan, Kansas but in Riley County, Kansas."

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

Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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

12:00 PM**Law Enforcement Agency Meeting**

12. Law Board Meeting Agenda