



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
August 16, 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	Absent	8:30 AM
Shilo Heger	Treasurer	Present	8:30 AM
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Present	8:30 AM
Sam Hennigh	KMAN	Present	9:00 AM
David Adams	EMS/Ambulance Director	Present	9:15 AM
Alvin Perez	Public Works Operations/Fleet Manager	Present	9:20 AM
Gary Rosewicz	Assistant County Engineer	Present	9:20 AM
Tami Robison	Budget and Finance Officer	Present	9:27 AM
Susan Boller	Elections Supervisor/Deputy Clerk	Present	9:46 AM
Anita Cook	Elections Senior Analyst	Present	9:46 AM
Jodie Grimes	Account Clerk/License	Present	9:46 AM
Keirsten Cragg	Administrative Assistant	Present	9:46 AM
Janelle Tomandl	As Needed Clerical Assistant	Present	9:46 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Move to reschedule Clancy Holeman's executive session from today to Thursday.

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

Heger reported the new NMVTIS system upgrade did not work and they will continue to use the old system for scheduling.

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Ford's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I had the latest Zoom call of the Manhattan Area Recovery Task Force. Last time we met was in person in June. Alice Massimi, Riley County Public Information Officer gave an update on behalf of Riley County and others gave updates and recent changes in their protocols with the recent uptick in cases due to the Delta variant. Discussion on how to get a larger and broader range of people vaccinated was discussed. Discussion of what and how to spend American Rescue Plan Act funding moving forward and various other grants and financial resources that are and will be available. We will meet again in October and that may or may not be the last time we meet.

Also Thursday afternoon I had my bi-monthly Zoom call of the Crisis Intervention Team as part of the Riley County Mental Health Task Force. We continued to discuss a couple of old business items including Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) International and the Step Program and possible family members to join the state CIT Council. A couple items of new discussion were the 2021 Kansas Mental Health Summit and other officers and emergency personnel that will be available and willing to do specific CIT Training. This group again will meet in October.

Friday afternoon I was part of via Zoom a K-State Presidential listening session with Manhattan Community Leaders, the K-State Foundation, and the consulting firm Witt Kieffer who the hiring committee has brought on to help in the process to hire the next K-State President. This was a foundation conversation to help put a strategy together to begin the process of finding the right set of candidates to find the right fit for the university.

Friday I did take advantage of the opportunity by the Kansas Association of Counties to post on my personal social media accounts the group photos we took with the Courthouse and County Attorney building on Thursday for Friday's City Hall Selfie Day digital event. This is something that has been going on for six years now and I think this is the first time Riley County has participated. Got quite a bit of feedback on how beautiful both buildings are from many other entities from around Kansas, which is wonderful.

I also came across the first of some 2020 Census data that I think is important. Haven't had the chance to get the full details at this point, but Riley County appears to be up a grand total of 844 people (or 1.19% overall) from 2010. The 2010 total was 71,115 and if the 2020 total is indeed accurate we are at 71,959. At first look these numbers are both a positive and a negative in terms of the impacts locally and regionally they will have.

McKinley's Comments:

This weekend was the Leonardville Hullabaloo. Friday night I attended the ranch rodeo. If you have never been to one, you need to go.

We went back on Saturday. Looked at all the car show entries. Of course, I was particularly interested in the old Mustangs. Saw some of the kids pedal tractor pull. Finished the day at the ice cream social, which featured Call Hall ice cream.

Focke's Comments:

Friday I came to the office to go over upcoming meetings, including the Law Board, legal issues on the First Christian Church, and the proposed sales tax ballot question. Also met with Clancy Holeman in the afternoon to go over some issues.

Spent most of the weekend with household and outdoor chores and getting prepared for the eye surgery on Tuesday. Don't know what the recovery time will be until after the surgery.

The ATA Bus phone app is going live today (August 16th) and it should be a great addition to the service.

Sunday, I played in the bell choir at church and attended a play at the Manhattan Arts Center in the afternoon.

A reminder that I may be on zoom next Thursday, depending on

whether I can drive at that time.

Business Meeting

3. Highway Use Permit, Evergy

Move to approve the Highway Use Permit granting Evergy permission to complete the work in the right of way to replace a broken pole along Country Road south of Barton Road.

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

4. Out of State Travel Request Public Works

No action, need more information.

RESULT:	WITHDRAWN
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Review Minutes

5. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Aug 12, 2021 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

RESULT:	ACCEPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
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 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

8. Administrative Work Session
Canceled.
9. Pending County Projects County Counselor

9:15 AM David Adams, EMS/Ambulance Director

10. EMS/Ambulance Staff Update
Adams presented the EMS/Ambulance staff update.

9:30 AM Press Conference

11. Public Notice - Alvin Perez (1-2 minutes)

Perez said a structure replacement project on Wildcat Creek Road is scheduled to begin Monday, August 23, 2021. The project is located approximately 2.4 miles west of N. Scenic Drive. Wildcat Creek Road will be closed to through traffic during construction from N. Scenic Drive to Saddle Rock Road. The project is expected to be completed by Thursday, September 2, 2021 weather permitting.
12. Public Notice - Gary Rosewicz (1-2 minutes)

Rosewicz said a structure replacement project on Senn Road is scheduled to begin Monday, August 23, 2021. Senn Road will be closed to through traffic from Union Road to Walnut Road. The project is expected to be completed by late January 2022 weather permitting.
13. Moody's upgrades Riley County to Aa1 Rating - Tami Robison (5 minutes)

Robison reported Moody's Investors Ratings upgraded Riley County's bond rating from Aa2 to Aa1.

9:50 AM Rich Vargo, County Clerk

14. Request to fill Public Information Officer position

Vargo presented the request to fill the position of Public Information Officer.

Move to approve recruiting to fill the position of Public Information Officer.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for a Public Information Officer, in the County Clerk's Department, at a grade S.

10:00 AM Primary Election Canvass

Vargo presented the 2021 USD 383 Primary Canvass Report.

Vargo asked the Board of County Canvassers to make a motion certifying the 2021 USD 383 Primary Canvass.

Move to approve the 2021 USD 383 Primary Canvass Certification.

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

10:20 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

15. Executive session to discuss confidential legal advice regarding potential litigation issues

Will be rescheduled.

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

16. Law Board Meeting Agenda