



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
August 21, 2023**

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

Cindy Kabriel
785-565-6200

Commission Chambers

8:30 AM

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

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

[District 1 – John Ford, Vice Chair](#)

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
Cindy Kabriel	Senior Administrative Assistant	Present	8:30 AM
Clancy Holeman	Counselor/Director of Administrative Services	Present	8:33 AM
Brittany Phillips	Budget and Finance Officer	Present	8:30 AM
Anna Burson	County Appraiser	Present	8:30 AM
Laurie Harrison	Emergency Management Coordinator	Present	8:30 AM
Elizabeth Ward	Human Resource Director	Present	8:33 AM
David Adams	EMS/Ambulance Director	Present	8:58 AM
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Present	9:15 AM
Gregg Eyestone	Extension Agent	Present	9:30 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Focke's Comments:

Thursday morning, I attended the Good Morning Manhattan breakfast before the BOCC meeting.

After our meeting I met with Brian Foster at his office to go over some drawings they had done for the potential property location in Keats.

Later that afternoon, the Joint City/County/County Meeting was held at the BOCC Chambers. The main agenda item was concerning the opioid/fentanyl grant that Asia Sampson is working under. The grant will end at the end of August and the group discussed how she might be funded through the end of the year. Educational programs have been held in four high schools in the region and other presentations have been made to other agencies, including a film shown at AMC Theaters.

Jenni Ebert gave her experiences when her son, Jayson, died of an apparent fentanyl overdose.

The group requested more information from the health department and the task force that just started having meetings.

The weekend was spent watering and keeping cool with the intense heat. Sunday, several of us went to Hanover for lunch.

Ford's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I met with Julie Gibbs for the Health Department and David Adams from Riley County EMS to discuss several items including putting together some data and information on local trends on fentanyl usage and the need for Narcan local and current work on the "One Pill Can Kill" campaign amongst other things.

Thursday afternoon I attended the August City/County/County meeting here in the BOCC Chambers. Had a very good discussion with members from the City of Manhattan and Pottawatomie County on the substance abuse challenges and our area's obvious need for intervention on the fentanyl and opioid crisis. Sounds like we should be able to keep our Health Educator Asia Sampson in her position on for some time longer to work the new Substance Abuse Task Force and other local partners to hopefully help with these challenges. Heard from parent Jenni Ebert.

Friday morning, I attended to Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening Ceremony at the new Stormont Vail facility up on the campus of Kansas State University. This event was very well attended by the community. We had the opportunity to hear from several different people including members of the Stormont Vail Board, President and CEO of Stormont Vail, Robert Kenagy, and Dr David Rosowsky, Vice President of Research at K-State. K-State and Stormont Vail are working on a health care research collaboration project that will begin shortly as well. Had the chance to talk to a lot of people from the

community and have several meetings to schedule from that dialog as well. This is a wonderful and amazing addition for the health and well-being of the region moving forward as well.

Saturday morning, I attended the monthly Riley County Republican Coffee Talk at DoughBro. Reid Petty from Congressman Mann's office was the guest speaker for the event. We heard from several local officials, and I spoke and gave an update on what we are working on here in Riley County. We also discussed the topic of property tax and elections in more depth and got on update on municipal elections and upcoming events throughout the fall as well.

McKinley's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I attended the Joint City/County/County meeting. It was a very well attended meeting. Asia Sampson gave an update what she has done in her role with the county educating kids and adults about the dangers of drugs and specifically fentanyl. We also heard some tough testimony from Jenni Ebert. I learned a lot more about the fentanyl problem. The health department has formed a Substance Abuse Task Force with area cities and counties to work on these problems. The grant for Asia's position runs out at the end of August and efforts are being made to continue funding.

The weekend was spent finding ways to stay cool.

Holeman asked the Board to add an executive session to the end of the meeting.

Move to add an executive session to the end of the meeting.

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

Business Meeting

3. 2023 Emergency Management Performance Grant Application

Move to approve signing the FFY 2023 EMPG application cover form.

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

AYES:	Ford, Focke, McKinley
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4. Sign Riley County Employee Action Form(s)

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

- Jennifer Sturges, a new hire, as an As Needed Temporary Election Worker, in the Clerk/Election Department, at a Range TEMP.
- Nathaniel Davis, a new hire, as an As Needed Volunteer Firefighter Stipend, in the Riley County Fire District #1 Department, at a Range TASND.

Review Minutes

5. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Aug 17, 2023 9:00 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

RESULT:	ACCEPTED AS AMENDED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Ford, 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

Brittany Phillips, Budget and Finance Officer

8. Budget Review

Phillips said staff discovered there was an expenditure that was doubled up in the Riley County Rural Fire District #1 budget. Phillips

said the mill levy rate will be reduced with the reduction of the doubled expense.

Move to approve the recommendation to approve the reduction of the mill rate from 8.914 to 7.737 for the Riley County Fire District #1.

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

McKinley said he asked for the revenue income to be looked at and brought back to the commission.

McKinley asked that the revenue income be adjusted to a higher amount in the budget so they can lower the mil levy.

McKinley asked for it to be looked at it and for staff to bring it back Thursday.

9:15 AM David Adams, EMS/Ambulance Director

9. Staff Update

Adams presented an EMS/Ambulance Department update.

9:30 AM Press Conference

10. Upcoming garden programs - Gregg Eyestone (3 minutes)

Eyestone said the cool season grass maintenance program will be held Saturday, August 26th at Blueville Nursery at 10:00 a.m.

Eyestone said the fall master gardener training class will begin on September 1st from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Eyestone said the program includes eight classes.

9:35 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

11. Administrative Work Session

12. Pending County Projects County Counselor

Holeman presented an update on the pending county projects list.

9:45 AM

John Ellermann, Public Works Director/County Engineer

13. Request to Exchange Federal Funds

Ellermann presented a request to exchange federal funds.

Move to approve the Chairman sign the Request to Exchange Federal Funds under the Federal-Aid Fund Exchange Master Agreement with the State of Kansas and to deposit the funds in CIP for use on a future transportation related project.

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

9:50 AM

Evan McMillan, Assistant County Engineer

14. Riley County Transfer Station Rate Increase

McMillan discussed the payment options at the transfer station and the costs associated with each option.

Ford asked for better options to be looked at and brought back.

McMillan presented the Riley County Transfer Station rate increase.

Move to approve the transfer station rate be increased to \$64.00 per ton.

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

10:10 AM

Executive Session

Move the County Commission, including Chairwoman Focke, Vice Chairman Ford, and Commissioner McKinley, recess into executive session on a performance matter of non-elected personnel, to protect

the privacy of the employee, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, with Clancy Holeman, Riley County Counselor, attorney for the commission, and Elizabeth Ward, Human Resource Director, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 10:30 a.m.

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

10:30 AM

Move the Board of County Commissioners come out of executive session.

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

Move the record reflect action shall be taken consistent with the consensus reached in executive session.

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

10:35 AM

Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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

12:00 PM

Law Enforcement Agency Meeting

15. Law Board Meeting Agenda

