



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
August 23, 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
Elizabeth Ward	Human Resource Manager	Present	8:30 AM
Troy Coverdale	KMAN	Present	8:30 AM
Robbin Cole	Pawnee Mental Health Services Director	Present	9:00 AM
Alvin Perez	Public Works Operations/Fleet Manager	Present	9:08 AM
Kevin Howser	IT/GIS Director	Present	9:12 AM
Carson Kober	CASA	Present	9:15 AM
Rebecca Clare	CASA	Present	9:20 AM
Greg McClure	Extension Agent	Present	9:30 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Ford's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I met with Riley County Extension Director Gary

Fike, Riley County Planning Director Amanda Smeller, and several others on the development of a rural economic development committee, what that may look like, and what the possible objective of such a committee could be. There will be more to follow on this in the near future. I also chatted briefly with Amanda about the beginning of a comprehensive plan update and what we could do to help with the citizens in the Zeandale area on some resources and or grants on a possible new community center in the future.

Friday afternoon I met and spoke with Kristin Little, District Director for Senator Jerry Moran. We chatted on the subjects of rural broadband and wireless technology capabilities, the current Infrastructure Bill that is in the United States Congress, the Biden Administration's memo on 30 for 30, and the National Heritage Area. The dialog on all these topics was quite in depth and informative and I'm sure we will get back together towards the end of the year to discuss a little more in depth these items and the discussion, direction, and changes on them.

Saturday morning I met with the Riley County Republicans at their monthly Coffee Talk at Vista Drive Inn. I gave an update on behalf of Riley County, discussed the 0.2 Cent Road and Bridge Sales Tax, and answered some question on various topics and concerns. There were several local candidates for the November election in attendance as well, a Representative from Congressman Mann's office gave an update, and Michael Austin a candidate for Kansas State Treasurer also spoke. Several candid conversations were had on the topics on national elections and COVID 19 mitigation policies on mask and vaccines. It was a packed house with just standing room only.

McKinley's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I was able to pick up grandkids from their first full day of school and hear how the day went.

Most of Friday was spent in Topeka with my brothers trying to settle up some of my mother's estate. At home we canned some pizza sauce and pasta sauce and generally working around the house.

Focke's Comments:

Friday morning I attended the Flint Hills Regional Planning Board meeting via Zoom. The staff has been busy with grants and following through on the strategic plan. The board went through the financials and the group is doing well. An agreement was entered into with "EMSI" - Burning Glass (software program) that will include a three

month study on COVID impact (15K), a study on job seekers, developers, and an analysis of skill gaps. The second part of the grant will be for five months. All this is covered by CARES Act monies. A lengthy discussion was held on who will be licensed on the spider technology software (multiple job hosting) sites based on skills identified. It was decided that the entities in the region will have access to the people identified. Other users will be charged \$1,500 per license.

There was a presentation by Child Care Aware of Eastern Kansas that is developing access to high quality child care with free referrals to providers and families needing services. All of the counties in the state and our region (#3) have this access. This was a very good presentation and a slide presentation is available.

The rest of the weekend has been spent recovering from eye surgery. It's been quite a process and my sight is beginning to return.

Business Meeting

3. Sign Recovery Month Proclamation

Move to sign the Recovery Month Proclamation for September 2021 for Pawnee Mental Health Services.

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

Review Minutes

4. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Aug 19, 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

5. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

6. Discuss Press Conference

9:00 AM Robbin Cole, Pawnee Mental Health Services Director

7. Pawnee Mental Health Services update

Cole presented the Pawnee Mental Health Services update.

9:15 AM Alvin Perez, Public Works Operations and Fleet Manager

8. Request to refill a future vacant position

Perez presented the request to refill the Shop Supervisor position. Perez stated they would like to open the position internally for two weeks.

Move to approve the Public Works Department advertise for a Shop Supervisor. The Board agreed to advertise for the position internally for two weeks.

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 a Shop Supervisor, in the Public Works / Operations / Fleet Department, at a grade I.

9:20 AM Carson Kober, CASA

9. CASA's 4th floor space update

Kober updated the Board on CASA's 4th floor space renovation. Kober stated they do not feel the 4th floor will meet their space needs. Kober said they have found another location. Kober asked if they move to another location if the County would allow them to continue to use Riley County IT services.

Howser discussed what would be required to provide remote connections to an outside agency. Howser stated CASA would have to determine if they want data only or phone services as well, which is more costly.

The Board discussed the request.

Ford and McKinley stated they are not in favor of the request.

Move to not provide IT support to the CASA off site.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [2 TO 0]
MOVER:	Greg McKinley, County Commissioner
SECONDER:	John Ford, County Commissioner
AYES:	Ford, McKinley
ABSTAIN:	Focke

9:30 AM**Press Conference**

10. Presentation of the Recovery Month Proclamation - John Ford and Robbin Cole (3-5 minutes)

Ford presented the Recovery Month Proclamation to Robbin Cole.

Cole thanked the Board and expressed the importance of the Proclamation.

11. Riley County Livestock Association Summer Tour – August 29 - Greg McClure (3 minutes)

McClure reported the annual Riley County Livestock Association Summer Tour will be held Sunday, August 29, 2021, starting at 5:00 p.m. at Pacheco Beef, 607 Missouri Avenue, Alma, Kansas.

9:50 AM**Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services**

12. Administrative Work Session

13. Pending County Projects County Counselor

Holeman reviewed the updated County Projects List.

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

- 10:10 AM 14. Executive session to discuss confidential legal advice regarding potential litigation issues

Move the County Commission, including Chairman Ford, Commissioner McKinley, and Commissioner Focke, recess into executive session on potential litigation for the purpose of consultation with Clancy Holeman, Riley County Counselor, attorney for the commission, which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 10:40 a.m. Rich Vargo, Riley County Clerk, will be in attendance for a portion of the executive session to present factual information.

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

- 10:40 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 no binding action was taken during the executive session.

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

10:51 AM

Executive session

Move the County Commission, including Chairman Ford, Commissioner McKinley, and Commissioner Focke, recess into executive session on potential litigation for the purpose of consultation with Clancy Holeman, Riley County Counselor, attorney for the commission, which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 11:10 a.m.

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

11:10 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 no binding action was taken during the executive session.

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

11:10 AM

Executive session

Move the County Commission, including Chairman Ford, Commissioner McKinley, and Commissioner Focke, recess into executive session on potential litigation for the purpose of consultation with Clancy Holeman, Riley County Counselor, attorney for the commission, which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 11:25 a.m.

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

11:25 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

Adjournment

Move to adjourn after the Intergovernmental Luncheon.

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

12:00 PM

Intergovernmental Luncheon

15. Intergovernmental Luncheon Agenda

The BOCC attended the Intergovernmental Luncheon.