



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
August 30, 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
Gary Rosewicz	Assistant County Engineer	Present	8:30 AM
Marvin Rodriguez		Present	8:30 AM
Kristina Jackson	Manhattan Mercury	Present	8:30 AM
Ron Wells		Present	9:05 AM
Sam Hennigh	KMAN	Present	9:06 AM
Kurt Moldrup	Assistant Director of RCPD	Present	9:23 AM
Elizabeth Ward	Human Resource Manager	Present	9:23 AM
Dennis Butler	Director of RCPD	Present	9:25 AM
Gregg Eyestone	Extension Agent	Present	9:30 AM
Josh Kyle	RCPD	Present	9:30 AM
Craig Cox	Deputy County Counselor	Present	9:30 AM
Dana Nayduch		Present	9:50 AM
Alvin Perez	Public Works Operations/Fleet Manager	Present	9:45 AM
Bob Isaac	Planner	Present	10:18 AM
Michael Boller	Noxious Weed Director	Present	10:21 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Rosewicz reported this is the last week the operations crew is on the 4 days, 10 hour shifts and will return to the 5 days, 8 hour shifts.

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Ford's Comments:

Thursday morning I met with Tami Robison, Budget and Finance Officer to get all the information together for me to start the reporting process on Riley County's American Rescue Plan Funding. As you can imagine it took quite a bit of time including a selfie and a video conference chat to finalize.

Thursday afternoon I met with Trent Armbrust from the Kansas Department of Commerce to discuss a few items including area workforce initiatives, which has been a big deal both during and before the Covid Pandemic, and how we can work together to develop a plan and strategy for broadband and wireless technology upgrades here in the region. Had a really good and in depth chat on these items and I certainly appreciated Trent's time on Thursday.

Also on Thursday I stopped out at the Public Works shop to give my best to Gary Rosewicz who is retiring from Riley County here shortly. Certainly sad to see him go, but thankful for everything he's done for Riley County through the years.

Friday afternoon I met with John Armbrust via Zoom to chat and get his wisdom on the upcoming sales tax question in November. He has worked on several of these throughout the years and getting his thoughts and opinions are extremely valuable in this process. I certainly appreciated the time he spent chatting with me on Friday as well.

Lastly I want to give my thought and prayers to everyone being effected by Hurricane Ida in the gulf coast, and my deepest condolences to thirteen members we lost in Afghanistan on Thursday, and to their families and loved ones.

McKinley's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I attended the retirement reception for Gary Rosewicz. Told him thank you for all his service at the county. I have only worked with him a short time, but he was really on top of things. I also talked to two engineers I worked with at Schwab and Eaton years ago. Had a resident talk to me about the 30 by 30 plan and the National

Heritage Area. We did not agree on some of the details, but we had a good discussion and I presented some facts behind my views.

Other than that I stayed around the home working on things.

Focke's Comments:

Thursday: Met with City Commissioners - Reddi and Morse to catch up on activities and ideas affecting the community.

In the evening, I attended a fundraiser for State Treasurer Lynn Rogers at Tom Hawk's house. Saw a lot of people that I hadn't seen for a while. Lynn made a presentation on his activities as State Treasurer and monies that he has located for many counties.

Friday: I was able to do some reading and started review of the packet I received from Tami on the ARPA funds - rules and regulations, compliance requirements, etc. It was good to be able to start catching up on reading and household tasks.

I received a call from a homeowner in Highland Hills Ranch who had been working with Craig Cox on getting their road re-done. I followed up with Craig on this and got back to the homeowner with some information provided. I will be following up on a possible tax district for the area.

Friday night I went to the new restaurant opened in the north end of Kites. The food and service was great. There were a lot of people in town for the weekend. Anxious to see the football season starting this week.

The rest of the weekend I was able to catch up on a lot of outside work that I had been unable to do for several weeks.

Sunday, I performed in the bell choir at my church. We welcomed our new Pastor during the service.

Business Meeting

3. Highway Use Permit, Kansas Gas Service

Move to approve the Highway Use Permit granting Kansas Gas Service permission to work in the right of way to install 6-inch plastic gas main along Wildcat Creek Road.

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 26, 2021 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

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

Review Tentative Agenda

5. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

6. Discuss Press Conference

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

7. Administrative Work Session
8. Pending County Projects County Counselor

Holeman reviewed the Pending County Commission Projects list.

9:20 AM Break

9:30 AM**Press Conference**

9. Presentation of the Riley County Police Department Firearms Range & Training Facility plaque - John Ford and Dennis Butler (5 minutes)

Ford presented the Riley County Police Department Firearms Range & Training Facility plaque to Director Butler.

Butler thanked Ford and the former and current county commission for seeing this project to completion. Butler stated this facility far exceeds what he thought we would end up with. Butler thanked Josh Kyle, Brad Jager, and Kurt Moldrup.

Wells stated he had worked on the project for eight years when he realized the land lease was expiring for the old facility. Wells said it is a beautiful facility and glad to be a part of it.

Rodriguez said when he came on the Board he knew what the current facility was and how it was inadequate. Rodriguez thanked RCPD for their input on the facility. Rodriguez stated it will last for a long, long time.

10. Presentation of retirement plaque to Gary Rosewicz - John Ford (3-5 minutes)

Ford presented Gary Rosewicz a retirement plaque for 17 years of service to Riley County.

Rosewicz said 17 years seems like a long time, but it went fast and it goes fast when you enjoy what you are doing. Rosewicz stated the Board has a lot of great staff in Public Works.

Rosewicz encouraged the Board to continue moving forward on the sales tax for roads and bridges. Rosewicz stated the community just does not understand the importance of the sales tax to fund the maintenance of the road and bridge infrastructure.

11. Fall Master Gardener class - Gregg Eyestone (2-3 minutes)

Eyestone said volunteers interested in learning about gardening and willing to share with the community are invited to sign-up for the Extension Master Gardener course. It begins Thursday, September 2nd at 9:00 a.m. Contact the Extension office for more details at 785-537-

6350.

9:50 AM

Dana Nayduch

12. White Canyon proposed benefit district

Nayduch proposed the White Canyon benefit district.

The Board discussed the request.

Ford discussed holding off on the asbestos removal of the First Christian Church Facility given the uncertainty of the facility. Ford stated the \$18,000 - \$20,000 could be used for other projects.

Move to abstain from the asbestos removal of the First Christian Church.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [2 TO 1]
MOVER:	John Ford, County Commissioner
SECONDER:	Kathryn Focke, County Commissioner
AYES:	Ford, Focke
NAYS:	McKinley

Ford suggested using some community resources for an educational campaign on the .20 % sales tax for roads and bridges.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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