



**Board of Riley County  
Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
September 12, 2024**

115 North 4th Street  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
[www.rileycountyks.gov](http://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**

| <b>Attendee Name</b> | <b>Title</b>                                  | <b>Status</b> | <b>Arrived</b> |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| 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        |
| Bryant Parker        | Deputy County Counselor                       | Present       | 8:30 AM        |
| Brittany Phillips    | Budget and Finance Officer                    | Present       | 8:30 AM        |
| Anna Burson          | County Appraiser                              | Present       | 8:30 AM        |
| Emma Loura           | Manhattan Mercury                             | Present       | 8:47 AM        |
| Shari Morrand        | United Way Committee                          | Present       | 9:27 AM        |
| Tande Lentz          | Assistant Vehicle Supervisor                  | Present       | 9:27 AM        |
| Daryn Soldan         | Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce            | Present       | 9:42 AM        |
| Christian Bishop     | Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce            | Present       | 9:42 AM        |
| Kevin Larson         | Riley County Council on Aging Chair           | Present       | 9:44 AM        |

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment**

1. Public Comments

Holeman said there would not be an executive session at 10:15 a.m. on the agenda today.

**Commission Comments**

2. Commission Comments

Focke's Comments:

Tuesday morning, I was on KMAN's In Focus radio program. Vivienne Leyva, PIO joined me, and we discussed various county business issues, including the 2025 budget and revenue neutral rate, LEPP Grant application deadline, update on the Keats Lagoon project, progress on the EMS building, election information, the Riley County Wildfire Protection Plan, and immunizations available at the Health Department.

That morning and afternoon, I participated in two lengthy committee meetings at my church and later that evening, I watched the Presidential Debate.

Wednesday, I headed to the 911 Memorial Ceremony at Fort Riley, but, long story short, I didn't make it. I did get an updated Visitor Pass.

That afternoon, I went over today's meeting agenda and documents and had a Bone Density test at my doctor's office and later, I practiced with my Bell Choir group.

McKinley's Comments:

Missed a meeting and a few events because of some personal items.

I did make it to the Drug Court Graduation yesterday. They make it a very special event and it is great to see success of the program.

Ford's Comments:

Monday afternoon I met with Tracy Anderson from Anderson Knight Architects and several others to look at and discuss recent design plans for the riverfront along the Kansas River. Pretty in-depth plan with lots of possibilities with the goal to fund through state and federal grants and through charitable means to develop over the long term and maybe even in large phases possibly. They will be coming in front of us at next month's Joint City/County/County meeting to discuss further as well.

Tuesday morning, I provided some opening remarks and a welcome to start the 2024 Kansas Emergency Management Association Conference at the Hilton Garden Inn. Honored to have the opportunity to talk to Emergency Management officials that cover all 105 Kansas counties, the Kansas Department of Emergency Management as well as FEMA. Brigadier General Michael Venderdi, Adjutant General and Director of Emergency Management at Fort Riley as well Fort Riley Garrison Commander Colonel Gerald "Jerry" Nunzitao, Jr, and Manhattan City

Mayor Susan Adamchak also said a few words.

Tuesday evening, I had dinner with the 60+ group out at the City of Ogden in the Community Center there downtown. Had a wonderful fried chicken meal and had the chance to talk and discuss some of the challenges and issues they are facing as a group and I asked some of the questions I've had along the way as well. It really was quite insightful, and I really enjoyed the time spent. I also stuck around to listen to their business meeting as well.

Wednesday morning, I attended the September 11<sup>th</sup> Day of Remembrance breakfast at the Country Club Plaza which was sponsored by the Flint Hills Volunteer Center. The two guest speakers were Brigadier General Bill Turner who was assigned to the office of Chief of Staff of the Army at the Pentagon on 9/11 as well as his wife Alissa he outlined the events of the day and how it's greatly affected him and his family. Second speaker was Kevin "Tank" Walker, and his wife Patti discussed their experience on 9/11 and also when Kevin was nearly killed by an IED in Iraq in May 2004 and how he worked himself back and stayed in the Army to serve.

Also Wednesday morning I attended the September 11<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Ceremony up on Fort Riley. After listening to some opening remarks and an invocation plus the National Anthem, we heard remarks from the new Garrison Commander Gerald Nunziato followed by a moment of silence for those lost on 9/11 and fighting the global war on terror. Garrison Commander Nunziato and Command Sergeant Major John Adkerson laid a wreath at the 9/11 memorial followed by the 3-Volley Salute and the playing of Taps.

Wednesday afternoon I had my first Teams call of the new fiscal year with NACO's Community Economic and Workforce Development committee. After some opening remarks and introductions by our new Chair Angela Conley, Commissioner, Hennepin, County, Minnesota we heard from Kera Package, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Grants Programs, Office of Community Planning HU. She discussed the HUD Section 108 Legacy Challenge/PRO Housing NOFO. Speaker two was Aaron Shroyer, Housing Lead, National Economic Council with the White House and he discussed the recent White House Housing Action Supply Plan update. Next up was our usual legislative update from Capitol Hill from Michael Matthews, Legislative Director, CEWD, NACo and lastly, we had an open discussion and close.

Wednesday afternoon I did take some time to stream the K-State State of the University address given by President Richard Linton and others. Didn't catch 100% of it, but what I did catch indicated to me that we are headed in the right direction for sure which is the most important thing.

Wednesday afternoon and right during the K-State address was a graduation ceremony of the 20<sup>th</sup> member of Riley County Drug Court which was held in District Judge Kendra Lewison's courtroom. Very well attended event with several former Drug Court graduates in attendance and many members of the current graduates families also in the crowd. Sounds like this program has really been successful in a very short amount of time which is wonderful news to hear.

Wednesday evening, I attended the September Business After Hours hosted by Sink Gordon and Associates as well as the K-State Foundation in the new Office Park Building. Very well attended event that included superfan Robert Lipson and K-State men's basketball coach Jerome Tang. If you haven't had the chance to check out the new office building you should, it is immaculate. They finished it two months ahead of schedule and 1 million dollars under budget as well.

### **Business Meeting**

3. Sign Riley County Employee Action Form(s)

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

- Ramsey McVey, a new hire, as a Traffic Control Technician, in the Public Works Department, at a Range 5, at \$19.98 per hour.
- Ethan Wagner, a new hire, as a Volunteer Firefighter, in the Fire District #1 Department, at a Range TASND.

4. Discuss Joint City/County/County Meeting Agenda

- No topics

5. Discuss Intergovernmental Luncheon Agenda and Attendees

- No topics
- Attendees: All BOCC, Clancy, Bryant, and Rich

Holeman presented a Resolution appointing Dr. Cary Herl Local Health Officer to act as consultant directing the Health Department Administrator on program and related medical and professional matters and to act in an advisory capacity to the County Board of Health.

Move to approve "Resolution No. 091224-43, Resolution appointing

Dr. Cary Herl Local Health Officer to act as consultant directing the Health Department Administrator on program and related medical and professional matters and to act in an advisory capacity to the County Board of Health."

|                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>         |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Kathryn Focke, County Commissioner |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Greg McKinley, County Commissioner |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Ford, Focke, McKinley              |

### Review Minutes

6. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Sep 9, 2024 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

|                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>        |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Greg McKinley, County Commissioner |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Kathryn Focke, County Commissioner |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Ford, Focke, McKinley              |

### Review Tentative Agenda

7. Tentative Agenda

### Press Conference Topics

8. Discuss Press Conference

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

9. Administrative Work Session

Holeman did not have a report.

### 9:20 AM Budget and Planning Committee - Brittany Phillips, Budget and Finance

**Officer**

10. Monthly Cash Flow Report for August 2024

Phillips presented the monthly cash flow reports.

**9:30 AM****Shari Morrand, United Way Committee**

11. 2024 Konza United Way Campaign Recap

Morrand presented the 2024 Konza United Way Campaign recap.

Ford drew the name for the 8 hours of PTO.

Ford drew Cindy Kabriel for the additional 8 hours of PTO.

Morrand said the Register of Deeds Office had 100% of participation.

**9:45 AM****Daryn Soldan, Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce**

12. Economic development update

Soldan presented the economic development update.

Bishop discussed Fort Riley activities.

**10:00 AM****Kevin Larson, RCCOA Chair**

13. Riley County Council on Aging update

Larson presented the Riley County Council on Aging update.

**10:15 AM****Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services**

14. Executive session to discuss a performance matter involving non-elected personnel

Cancelled.

**10:17 AM****Adjournment**

Move to adjourn.

|                  |                                    |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]</b>         |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Kathryn Focke, County Commissioner |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Greg McKinley, County Commissioner |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Ford, Focke, McKinley              |