



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
October 14, 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
Christian Bright	Manhattan Mercury	Present	8:30 AM
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Present	8:32 AM
Sam Hennigh	KMAN	Present	9:08 AM
Jason Smith	Chamber of Commerce	Present	9:41 AM
George Kandt	Chamber of Commerce	Present	9:42 AM
Julie Gibbs	Health Department Director	Present	9:58 AM
Tami Robison	Budget and Finance Officer	Present	10:18 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

Ford's Comments:

Thursday afternoon I spoke to Amanda Smeller and Bob Isaac in the Planning Department on some early thoughts and direction on an

update to the Riley County Comprehensive Plan “Vision 2025”. There will be more to come and a presentation on the November 8th County Officials Luncheon.

Thursday afternoon I also had my bi-monthly meeting of the Crisis Intervention Team. Topics of discussion were: gaining a family member to the board, her name is Shelby Bruckerhoff and we will hear more from her during December’s meeting; the CIT International Conference was discussed and the different levels that come with it and what that will look like here in Riley County from Officer Keith Backensto; the 2021 Kansas Mental Health Summit was cancelled; and we got some information on the upcoming KSCITA Meeting as well.

Thursday evening I was invited by John Armbrust to speak to a small discussion group at Meadowlark Hills about the Road and Bridge Sales Tax and several other Riley County items. The dialog went well and I appreciated the opportunity as always.

Friday I came down and donated blood at the Riley County Blood Drive with the American Red Cross. Blood is at a real shortage across the country currently, so I encourage everyone to find a blood drive and make a donation. It really does save lives.

Sunday evening I attended the Riley County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting and Dinner at Pottorf Hall. Jackie McClaskey from the American Royal came and spoke. Several annual awards were handed out and I even won a stainless steel thermos mug in their yearly raffle.

Monday I attended the Annual Riley County Employee Day, which for 2021 was done in a hybrid model. I came away from the event very impressed, thought it was very well planned out, and think this is the direction we should go for this event for many years to come. Enjoyed the morning session and county trivia, even though I only scored an 11 out of 33. The two afternoon breakout sessions were wonderful, thoughtful, full of insight, and it was pretty cool the interaction of the departments that participated. Overall a very good day and afternoon spent.

Tuesday morning I was on KMAN’s In Focus Program. Among the items we discussed on the program were the Road and Bridge Sales Tax, the RFQ on the EMS facility, IT and Web Cybersecurity at the county level, upcoming municipal elections, we discussed the passing of Riley County Historical Director Cheryl Collins, and the retirement of RCPD Director Dennis Butler. It was the first time I was in studio since the start of the Covid-19 Pandemic and was grateful for the opportunity to discuss these topics on air live and in-person.

Tuesday evening I attended the Manhattan Kiwanis meeting with Public Works Director John Ellermann to give a presentation and discuss the Riley County Road a Bridge Sales Tax at the Blue Hills Room. It went very well overall and the question and dialog that proceeded I thought were extremely positive as well. Thanks to the Kiwanis for the opportunity and for all they do in the community as well.

Wednesday afternoon I had a monthly Microsoft Teams call with NACo's National Community Economic Workforce and Development Steering Committee. Among the topics and speakers on the call were Angela Hanks - Acting Assistant Secretary, Employment and Training Administration (ETA) U.S. Dept. of Labor. She discussed the Biden Administration's Workforce Development priorities and the importance of intergovernmental partnership in these efforts. Arabelle Pluta-Ehlers - Program Manager, Children, Youth and Families-NACO, discussed the overview of counties for kids campaign and how your county can get involved. Lastly, Michael Matthews - NACo Associate Legislative Director, CEWD gave a full U.S. Congressional and Legislative update including the Infrastructural Bill that is currently tied up in Washington D.C.

McKinley's Comments:

Last Saturday was the Riley Fall Fest and it was very successful. Large crowds, great weather, and everyone enjoyed it. Unfortunately, I had to miss this because we had a wedding to attend in Texas. The wedding was great, but getting there was not. I-35 from Oklahoma City to Dallas is a mess. Three lanes each way full of people going somewhere. On the way back I used the 2 lane US 75 and had a much better drive.

Monday was the county employee day. Had some good speakers and a fun trivia contest in the morning.

Tuesday morning I attended the Flint Hills Veterans Coalition meeting. There were some Army and Air Force ROTC members there to receive donation checks for their each group. The rest of the meeting was finalizing the Veterans Day parade.

Tuesday evening I attended the Rural Fire Board meeting. Elizabeth was there and discussed the policy manual that is being worked on. They are working on an application and probation process for use by all stations. They are also making the application available online. They are planning to have some recruiting events next year.

Wednesday morning I received my flu shot at the Health Department. The power went out just after I walked in, but I really don't think it was my fault. Afterwards I went over to the museum to see how they are doing. They are all adjusting and keeping things going.

Wednesday noon I gave the sales tax presentation at the Riley senior meals. Received a good response and had a good meal.

Wednesday evening I gave the sales tax presentation to the Randolph City Council and also had a good response.

Focke's Comments:

Monday I attended the county employee day. I had signed up for "Disagree Agreeably" and "Listening Skills for Boosting Communication". I learned a lot about the generational differences in the key note address. The session I enjoyed the most was the Listening Skills, and being able to practice in small groups.

Tuesday and Wednesday I caught up with the regular county business. Did some reading of the Comprehensive Plan that Amanda gave us. I made calls to set up more tax presentations, but didn't have much luck on dates with the conference next week. After that, it will be pretty close to Election Day.

Wednesday I organized materials and forms for the KAC conference next week and spent some time in the office.

Business Meeting

3. West 32nd Ave. Bridge Replacement Project- Contract with King Construction Co., Inc.

Move to approve and sign the Contract Agreement with King Construction Company, Inc., Hesston, KS, in the amount of \$1,284,589.40, for the West 32nd Ave. Road Bridge Replacement Project.

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

4. Highway Use Permit, Evergy

Move to approve the Highway Use Permit granting Evergy permission to work in the right of way to install new underground and overhead primary and poles starting from 4681 Kitten Creek Road approximately 3850 ft North to connect at N. 52nd Street.

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

5. Highway Use Permit, WTC Communications, Inc.

Move to approve the Highway Use Permit granting WTC Communications, Inc. permission to work in the right of way to bore and plow new fiber optic cable along multiple roads in the Zeandale area for the next phase of the project.

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

6. Change Order #1 for the Wieters Road Streambank Rehabilitation Project

Move to approve Change Order #1 with Jueneman Excavation, Inc. for Wieters Road Streambank Rehabilitation for a decrease of \$8,620.00.

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

7. Discuss Joint City/County/County Meeting Agenda

Topic: Discuss KDOT projects for all entities.

8. Discuss Intergovernmental Luncheon

Topics: None

Attendees: All attend.

Review Minutes

9. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Oct 7, 2021
8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

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

Review Tentative Agenda

10. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

11. Discuss Press Conference
- Rich Vargo-2021 General Election update

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

12. Administrative Work Session

Holeman reported the Riley County Legislative Conference will be Thursday, November 4, 2021.

Holeman discussed the Annual KAC Conference.

9:20 AM **Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services**

13. Approval of License Agreement with Flint Hills Wellness Coalition

Holeman presented the license agreement.

Move to approve the Riley County, Kansas Temporary and Limited Real Property License agreement with the Flint Hills Wellness Coalition.

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

9:30 AM Shilo Heger, Treasurer

14. September 2021 Revenue Reporting - Riley County Treasurer

Heger presented the September Treasurer's report.

9:45 AM Jason Smith, Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce

15. Economic development update

Smith presented an economic development update.

Kandt discussed the task force work on child care.

10:00 AM Julie Gibbs, Health Department Director

Move to recess as the Board of County Commissioners and convene as the Board of Health.

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

16. Riley County Health Department Monthly Update

Gibbs presented the Health Department monthly report.

Move to recess as the Board of Health and reconvene as the Board of County Commissioners.

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

10:30 AM Budget and Planning Committee - Tami Robison, Budget and Finance Officer

17. Monthly Cash Flow Reports for September 2021

Robison presented monthly cash flow reports.

Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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