



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
October 27, 2022**

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

Cindy Kabriel
785-565-6200

Commission Chambers

8:30 AM

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

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

[District 1 – John Ford, 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
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Present	8:30 AM
Darell Edie	Budget & Finance Officer	Present	8:30 AM
Elizabeth Ward	Human Resource Manager	Present	8:30 AM
Michele Reid	Payroll & Benefits Spec & HR Associate	Present	8:30 AM
Christian Bright	Manhattan Mercury	Present	8:30 AM
Darrin Hobbs	REACH Chair	Present	8:30 AM
Barry Wilkerson	County Attorney	Present	9:07 AM
Evan McMillan	Assistant County Engineer	Present	9:27 AM
Craig Cox	Deputy County Counselor	Present	9:45 AM
Jessica Larabee	Customer Service Rep/REACH Committee	Present	8:30 AM
Sheryl Weston	Administrative Clerk/REACH Committee	Present	8:30 AM
Vivienne Uccello	PIO	Present	8:30 AM
Christy Calmes	Records Assistant/REACH Committee	Present	8:30 AM
Lori Hanson	Administrative Assistant II/REACH Committee	Present	8:30 AM
Michelle Adams	Administrative Analyst - AP	Present	8:31 AM
Cindy Kabriel	Administrative Assistant II	Present	8:31 AM
Lori Muir	Real Estate Specialist	Present	8:31 AM
Joshua Gering	EMS/Ambulance Asst Director/REACH Committee	Present	8:30 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

1. Public Comments

Hobbs said on behalf of REACH, as employees of Riley County, we appreciate the time the Board has taken to recognize and sustain the employees.

Hobbs recognized Elizabeth Ward and Michele Reid for their work on the salary study and transition to Paylocity.

Hobbs thanked the Board, Ward, and Reid for their support.

Commission Comments

2. Commission Comments

McKinley's Comments:

Tuesday I attended the Flint Hills Veterans Coalition. Finalizing plans for the Veterans Day Parade. With the numbers signed up and expected last minute entries the parade should have 1,700+ participants. The green lights for veterans on Poyntz is all set. They will go up November 6th and come down on November 13th.

Wednesday night I attended the childcare meeting at Public Works. There is group called Thrive Allen County and they have had some success on improving childcare services. Because of this, they have started Zero to Thrive, which will be a statewide coalition to work on childcare and early development. Discussed some bottlenecks in getting childcare at home licensed and staff shortages.

Focke's Comments:

I've spent most of the week working on the logistics and scheduling of the three candidates for the Law Board selection process of hiring a Director of RCPD. The three candidates arrived on Tuesday evening and spent Wednesday at the RCPD facility, meeting with the administrative staff, and going to breakfast and lunch with board members. In the afternoon, the Chamber conducted city tours for the three and then tour of the north county was done afterward. Thanks to all those who helped the Law Board with the candidates. We will be done with the interview and public information processes on Thursday evening. A special Law Board meeting is scheduled for Friday.

I spent time working on the Keats water/sewer treatment issue. I received history of the town from the museum and incorporated that into an information piece (draft) that can be used with citizens of Keats

and possible landowners.

Ford's Comments:

Monday afternoon I met with my nutritionist via video conference to catch up on my action plan from July and to start developing a strategy to move on from these visits in early 2023.

Also Monday afternoon I met with Interim RCPD Director Kurt Moldrup, and Captains Josh Kyle and Brad Jager to discuss space and operational needs, and several other items of recent interest in terms of law enforcement locally. Dialog was good and informative and I certainly appreciated everybody time

Tuesday afternoon I listened in on the Council of Foreign Affairs Home and Abroad Series via Zoom on U.S.-China relations. This panel discussion featured Oriana Skylar Mastro, Center Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute Studies (Stanford University); Evan S. Medeiros, Penner Family Chair in Asian Studies (Georgetown University) and Former Special Assistant to the President, National Security Council (2013-2015); and Jessica Chen Weiss, Professor of China, and Asia-Pacific Studies (Cornell University). Richard Haass, President, Council on Foreign Relations, presided over this panel discussion and it was informative and yet eye-opening as well.

Also Tuesday afternoon I attended via Zoom the monthly meeting of the Pawnee Mental Health Services Board of Directors. I started with a Finance Committee Meeting before the actual meeting. We had an executive session on personnel matters. We got a Chief Executive Officer's Report from Robbin Cole. Diane Hinrichs-Toburen gave us an update on a Pawnee logo change and this month's Driving the Dream event. We had an update on all the financial and committee reports and other business included a KanCare attestation form, board intention for continued service, and the annual board self-evaluation form. Our next meeting will be on December 6th.

Tuesday evening, I attended the Political-Diplomatic-Military Lecture Series at the K-State Alumni Center. The featured speaker was Lieutenant General John R Evans, Jr., Commander United States Army North (Fifth Army) and Senior Commander, Fort Sam Houston and Camp Bullis.

Wednesday afternoon I met and had lunch with RCPD Director candidate and the Chief of Police in Edwardsville, Kansas Mark Mathies. We had lunch here downtown at Tallgrass Taphouse, had a great conversation and realized we both have connection here in town as

well as in the Leavenworth/Wyandotte county area.

Wednesday evening, I spent some time catching up on things for today's RCPD Director interviews and open public forum that will take place this evening at the Manhattan Fire Department so I wasn't able to attend the Childcare Forum that was held at the Public Works Conference room, but I certainly hope it went well.

Business Meeting

3. High Plains Ranch Road Asphalt Overlay Bid Recommendation

Move to accept the bid submitted by Shilling Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$146,653.00 for the High Plains Ranch Road asphalt overlay project.

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

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Jamie Bohnenblust, an Election Assistant, in the Election Department, at a grade TSAND, at \$15.17 per hour.

Review Minutes

4. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Oct 24, 2022 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes.

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

Review Tentative Agenda

5. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

6. Discuss Press Conference
 - Rich Vargo - November General Election

9:00 AM Barry Wilkerson, County Attorney

7. Staff update

Wilkerson presented the County Attorney's update.

Wilkerson thanked the Board for the support of staff with compensation.

9:15 AM Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

8. Administrative Work Session

Holeman discussed scheduling the Riley County Legislative Session.

9. Resolution of Support for Riverfront MHK

Holeman presented the resolution for support of the Riverfront MHK.

The Board asked for "technical assistance" to be removed from the resolution.

Move the Board pass the resolution with the following changes "technical assistance" to be removed from the resolution.

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

9:35 AM Evan McMillan, Assistant County Engineer

10. Change Order #2 for the W. 32nd Avenue Bridge Replacement Project

McMillan presented change order #2 for the W. 32nd Ave. Bridge Replacement.

Move to approve Change Order Number 2 Final in the amount of \$4,750.00 for W. 32nd Avenue bridge replacement with King Construction.

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

9:45 AM

Craig Cox, Deputy County Counselor and John Ellermann, Public Works Director/County Engineer

11. Lakeside Heights Sewer #3 and University Park Water #4 Project Cost Increase

Cox presented the Notice of Hearing.

The commission expressed concern with such a significant cost increase on the project.

Move to approve the "Notice of Hearing for Increased Construction Costs for Lakeside Heights Sewer #3 and University Park Water District #4."

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

10:05 AM

Vivienne Uccello, PIO

12. September 2022 Monthly Communications Update

Uccello presented the PIO Communications update.

10:20 AM

Evan McMillan, Assistant County Engineer

13. Bid opening for a shredder

The Board of County Commissioners opened the following bids for a shredder.

Company	Total Bid
Besa Equipment 1082 Spur Road Souderton, PA 18964	\$89,780.00

Move to refer the bids to staff for evaluation and recommendation.

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

Ford said he will be part of the MRC panel discussion on the Washington trip.

Ford stated the Economic Development Liaison would like a representative to attend a meeting in Washington, D.C. in February. Ford said he will plan on attending.

10:30 AM Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

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