



**Board of Riley County  
Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes  
April 30, 2026**

115 N 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, Vice-Chair](#)

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

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

**8:30 AM**

**Call to Order**

| Attendee Name     | Title                                    | Status  | Arrived  |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------|---------|----------|
| Kathryn Focke     | County Commissioner                      | Present | 8:30 AM  |
| John Ford         | County Commissioner                      | Present | 8:30 AM  |
| Greg McKinley     | County Commissioner                      | Present | 8:30 AM  |
| Cindy Kabriel     | Senior Administrative Assistant          | Present | 8:30 AM  |
| Jacob Hansen      | County Counselor                         | Present | 8:30 AM  |
| Anna Burson       | Appraiser                                | Present | 8:30 AM  |
| Michele Reid      | Human Resources Manager                  | Present | 8:30 AM  |
| Cory Meyer        | IT/GIS Director                          | Present | 8:30 AM  |
| Rob Voelker       |                                          | Present | 8:30 AM  |
| Evan McMillan     | Assistant County Engineer                | Present | 8:37 AM  |
| Russel Stukey     | Emergency Management Director/Fire Chief | Present | 8:43 AM  |
| Mr. & Mrs. Porter |                                          | Present | 8:47 AM  |
| Ken Sullivan      |                                          | Present | 9:13 AM  |
| John Ellermann    | Public Works Director/County Engineer    | Present | 9:13 AM  |
| Amy Manges        | Register of Deeds                        | Present | 9:25 AM  |
| Amanda Webb       | Planning/Special Projects Director       | Present | 9:34 AM  |
| Shilo Heger       | Treasurer                                | Present | 10:13 AM |
| David Adams       | Emergency Services Director              | Present | 10:21 AM |
| Melody Kikkert    | Montgomery County Appraiser              | Remote  | 10:35 AM |

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment****Commission Comments**

## Ford's Comments:

Monday at noon I attended the April Intergovernmental Luncheon at Rockin K's up on K-State. Agenda included a presentation by Chip Redmond, Meteorologist K-State Weather Data/Mesonet Manager. He discussed weather and the climate trend in Manhattan. Dick Carter, The Carter Group discussed and gave a summary from the 2026 Kansas Legislative Session. Eric Reid, USD 383 Superintendent discussed the legislative impacts to the district. The group also discussed other legislative impact to the region. We followed up with other various items and announcements. We will not be meeting in May.

Monday afternoon I met with Mike Rezkalla, CEO Pawnee Mental Health, several members of the Pawnee Foundation Board, Jacob Hansen, County Counselor, and John Ellermann Public Work Director to discuss the building and property over on Claflin. Looks like they have a path forward and will be developing a plan to come back with it later.

Tuesday and Wednesday I spent at work at Florence. Nice to get two full days in for a change. Felt very productive for the two days.

## McKinley's Comments:

Monday was the Intergovernmental Luncheon. Heard an interesting presentation on Kansas Mesonet by Chip Redmond. Mesonet has a great deal of information on weather and climate for all areas of Kansas. After that we heard some updates on the recently completed state legislature.

Wednesday I met with Megan Lewis to go over things going on in the county. I then met with Chris from Tuttle Creek Developers. We discussed several projects in the north county area he is working on and some he has proposed. There is a housing project in Randolph that is waiting on state funding for an expansion of the existing water system. In the afternoon I met with Anna Burson.

## Focke's Comments:

Monday I attended the Intergovernmental Luncheon at Rockin K's restaurant. Presentations were made by the Kansas State University meteorologist who showed all the features available on their weather website. It is much more in-depth and accurate than the apps and aids the farmers and ranchers use with all sorts of information they need. The web site is: [mesonet.ksu.edu](http://mesonet.ksu.edu). Other presentations were made by Dick Carter on a legislative update and Eric Reid on the impacts of legislation on USD 383. There is no meeting in May due to Memorial Day.

Tuesday I came to my office but couldn't do anything due to the Blood Drive people that were

in the commission chambers.

This week I have had several doctor appointments, including my yearly physical. I have also been studying and discussing the various documents we have to go through this week and next.

### Business Meeting

1. 2026 Bituminous Chip Seal Project Vance Brothers

Move to approve the Contract Agreement with Vance Brothers, LLC., for the 2026 Bituminous Chip Sealing Project.

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner John Ford                  |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |

2. Riley County Purchasing Card Request

Move to approve the Riley County Purchasing Card Request Form.

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner John Ford                  |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |

3. Approve payroll/accounts payables (when completed)

Move to approve the payroll vouchers in the amount of \$790,835.82 and the following warrant vouchers for May 1, 2026:

#### 2026 Budget

|                           |               |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| County General            | \$ 450,952.75 |
| Disaster Fund             | 6,793.00      |
| Health Department         | 104,541.20    |
| Motor Vehicle Operations  | 394.43        |
| Capital Improvements Fund | 43,359.91     |
| Emergency 911             | 255.81        |
| Solid Waste               | 332,415.51    |
| County Building           | 872.29        |
| Road & Bridge Cap Project | 37,381.05     |
| RCPD Levy/Op              | 29,473.84     |
| Riley Co Fire Dist #1     | 13,723.27     |
| 2023 R&B Project Sales Tx | 33,359.50     |
| University Park W&S       | 3,561.66      |

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Hunters Island Water Dist | 3,548.26 |
| Carson Sewer Benefit Dist | 28.07    |
| Deep Creek Sewer          | 350.64   |
| Moehlman Bottoms          | 1,736.81 |
| Valleywood Operations     | 72.19    |
| Terra Heights Sewer       | 556.25   |
| Konza Water Operations    | 5,549.29 |
| Lakeside Heights Sewer    | 19.39    |
| University Park Lagoon    | 2,808.00 |
| KDOC Adult Services       | 6,281.16 |
| KDOC Juvenile Services    | 4,945.61 |
| KDOC Juv Reinvestment     | 1,165.91 |
| RL Salary Appropriations  | 1,146.40 |
| Adult Services Carry-Over | 84.90    |

TOTAL. . . . . \$1,085,377.10

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner John Ford                  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |

### Review Minutes

4. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - Apr 27, 2026 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes of April 27th as presented.

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner John Ford                  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |

### Review Tentative Agenda

5. Tentative Agenda

Move to remove Matt Stiles from the May 4, 2026 tentative agenda.

|                  |                              |
|------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner Greg McKinley   |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner Kathryn Focke   |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | John Ford                    |

### Press Conference Topics

**9:00 AM Jacob Hansen, County Counselor**

## 6. Administrative Work Session

Hansen said HB2043 has been vetoed.

## 7. Executive session to discuss personnel matters of non-elected personnel

9:02 a.m. Move that the County Commissioners, including Chairwoman Focke, Vice Chairman Ford, and Commissioner McKinley, with Jacob Hansen, County Counselor, attorney for the commission, Russel Stukey, Emergency Management Director/Fire Chief; and Michele Reid, Human Resources Manager, recess into executive session pursuant to the non-elected personnel matters, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, in order to evaluate the working conditions of an employee, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 9:15 a.m.

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner John Ford                  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |

9:15 a.m. Move the Board of County Commissioners come out of executive session.

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner John Ford                  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |

Move the record reflect action shall be taken consistent with the consensus reached in executive session.

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner John Ford                  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |

**9:20 AM John Ellermann, Public Works Director/County Engineer**

## 8. Public Hearing - Lasita Rd Vacation

Focke opened the public hearing.

Ellermann said the landowners on both sides of the road are for the road vacation.

Both landowners, Porters and Sullivan said they agree to the road vacation.

Ellermann said with the closing of the road the bridge will no longer be Riley County's responsibility and will revert to Sullivan since he owns land on both sides.

Focke closed the public hearing.

Move to approve "Resolution No. 043026-14, Resolution providing for an order vacating a portion of Lasita Road in Riley County, Kansas" from Bala Road south 1/4 mile to the Ft. Riley property line.

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner John Ford                  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |

**9:35 AM Amy Manges, Register of Deeds**

9. 2026 Year-To-Date Revenue

Manges presented the Register of Deeds revenue report.

**9:50 AM Amanda Webb, Planning/Special Projects Director**

10. Solid Waste Management Plan - Annual Review

Webb presented the Solid Waste Management Plan annual review.

Move to approve "Resolution No. 043026-15, A Resolution by the Board of County Commissioners of Riley County, Kansas, adopting the annual review of the Solid Waste Management Plan." and forward to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner John Ford                  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |

**10:00 AM Cory Meyer, IT/GIS Director**

11. IT/GIS Staff Update

Meyer presented an IT/GIS update.

**10:15 AM Jacob Hansen, County Counselor**

12. Keats Sanitary Sewer Benefit District Project Contract with Bayer Construction

Hansen presented the contract agreement with Bayer Construction for Keats Sanitary Sewer Benefit District Project.

Move to authorize the Chair, and related County staff, to execute the contracts and other related documents for the Keats Sanitary Sewer Benefit District Project with Bayer Construction Company, Incorporated.

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner John Ford                  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |

13. Multiple Occupancy Private Space Policy

Hansen presented and discussed the Multiple Occupancy Private Space Policy.

Move the Board adopt the Multiple Occupancy Private Space Policy modified to add the Treasurer for the 110 Courthouse Plaza location.

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner Kathryn Focke              |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |

**10:30 AM Amanda Webb, Planning/Special Projects Director**

14. NACo High Performance Leadership Academy Participant Recommendation

Webb recommended Nathan Dixon as a NACo High Performance Leadership Academy participant.

Move to approve Nathan Dixon for the NACo program in 2026.

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner John Ford                  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |

**10:35 AM John Ford, Riley County Commissioner**

15. Insight on County Administrator role from a Department Head perspective - Melody Kikkert, Montgomery County Appraiser

Ford thanked Melody Kikkert for taking time to meet with the commission.

Kikkert presented an insight on a County Administrator role from a department head.

**Adjournment**

Move to adjourn.

|                  |                                         |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>RESULT:</b>   | <b>Passed</b>                           |
| <b>MOVER:</b>    | Commissioner John Ford                  |
| <b>SECONDER:</b> | Commissioner Greg McKinley              |
| <b>AYES:</b>     | Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford |
| <b>NAYS:</b>     | None                                    |