



**Board of Riley County
Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes
May 28, 2026**

115 N 4th Street
Manhattan, KS 66502
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
Rich Vargo	County Clerk	Present	8:30 AM
Jacob Hansen	County Counselor	Present	8:30 AM
Cory Meyer	IT/GIS Director	Present	8:30 AM
Michele Reid	Human Resources Manager	Present	8:30 AM
Jeremy Noll	Custodial Manager	Present	8:30 AM
Beaunca Keys	Custodian	Present	8:30 AM
Jerry Howard	Facility Supervisor	Present	8:30 AM
Jonathan House	Custodian	Present	8:30 AM
Kyna King	Custodian	Present	8:30 AM
Victoria Fisher	Custodian	Present	8:30 AM
Shilo Heger	Treasurer	Present	8:30 AM
Ashlyn Easterday	REACH Chair	Present	8:30 AM
John Ellermann	Public Works Director/County Engineer	Present	8:30 AM
Carley Harris	Administrative Analyst Levy	Present	8:30 AM
Lamar Davis	Custodian	Present	8:30 AM
Evan McMillan	Assistant County Engineer	Present	8:30 AM
Anna Burson	Appraiser	Present	8:30 AM

Megan Lewis	Community Corrections Director	Present	9:15 AM
Angela Shepard	Flint Hills Regional Council	Present	9:15 AM
David Adams	Emergency Services Director	Present	9:39 AM
Michael Hawthorne	Assistant County Counselor	Present	10:26 AM
Amanda Webb	Planning/Special Projects Director	Present	10:26 AM
Doug Russell	Deputy Fire Chief	Present	10:33 AM
Jake Konrardy	Deputy Fire Chief	Present	10:50 AM
Sherie Taylor	GIS Analyst	Present	10:50 AM
Tyler Siefkes	RCPD Dispatch Director	Present	10:50 AM
Brittany Phillips	Budget and Finance Officer	Present	10:55 AM
Peggy Weddle	5500 Anderson Avenue	Present	10:50 AM
Mark Weddle	5500 Anderson Avenue	Present	10:50 AM
KayLynn Mead	5504 Anderson Avenue	Present	10:50 AM
Nathan Mead	5504 Anderson Avenue	Present	10:50 AM
Joyce Troyer	5524 Anderson Avenue	Present	10:50 AM

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Jake Voegli and Andrea DeJesus reported the Fair Board approved alcohol sales at the Fair this year. They asked if the Board could put it on as an agenda item to present.

The Board approved the request by consensus.

Easterday presented the Employee of the Month Award to Lamar Davis.

Davis said thank you and stated everyone has been very friendly. He said he tries to be a good team player. He thanked his supervisor and Ellermann for their patients. Davis thanked Human Resources for their assistance.

Commission Comments

Ford's Comments:

Hopefully everyone had a wonderful Memorial Day holiday and was able to get out with family and or friends and reflect on the day.

Thursday afternoon I listened in on the National Association of Counties webinar on the BUILD America 250 Act which will reauthorize federal surface transportation and advance key county priorities in the bill. Members of NACo's staff presented of what is in the bill,

what didn't make it and what is next.

Friday I met with MATC President Jim Genandt at the school on a possible Life and Health Sickness Career Accelerator in coordination with Fort Riley using funding through the DCIP Grant. This facility will help installation resilience, medical readiness, and help with community capacity with the training of capable staff who will be staying in the area to provide those services.

Saturday afternoon I had some friends come into town, had a late lunch at Bourbon and Baker which was great as usual, and we caught up on old times.

Sunday I spent at home watching one of my favorite documentary mini-series "Band of Brothers" which has become a tradition of sorts for me.

Monday I had to catch the Fort Riley Memorial Dasy ceremony on-line as I haven't picked up my pass yet and I wasn't going to be able to do it on Monday of course. The ceremony was good as usual, and the weather was cooperative this year as well, which means it was well attended.

Tuesday I attended the May Board of Directors meeting of Pawnee Mental Health via Zoom. Started off with our usual Finance Oversight Committee meeting first to get caught up and review the budget and financial numbers up to date. The general meeting started with some opening remarks and introductions including several new board members. We then got a 'STARS Kid Camp' update from Kimberly Sanchez, Central Youth Community Services Program Supervisor. Then we got a Chief Financial Officer report from Lindsay Miller who gave the financials from March and April, and a draft review of the FY27 budget. We also gave a Finance Oversight Committee report. After that we heard a Chief Executive Officer of Marketing and Development report to the board. Other business included an insurance review and a summary from the recent Pawnee Board retreat. We finished the meeting out with two executive sessions. We will meet again in June.

Spent Wednesday at work and catching up on correspondence and going through the agenda for today's meeting.

Thursday morning, I went in to pay my motor vehicle renewal here at the county offices. Went off without any issues as usual. Got in and got out, the online appointment process is definitely the way to go, and I appreciate the fact that we have it available for use.

McKinley's Comments:

Sunday my brothers and their wives came out to plan the family reunion we are having this summer. Just our three families total 45 but with cousins coming we will be over 60.

Tuesday evening, I attended the Riley City Council meeting. Someone asked about the water tower going up at Public Works and the superintendent pointed out that Riley's water tower is over 100 years old and will not last forever. They are working on a new sign out at Tuttle Creek Boulevard and Hwy 24. They also updated their animal control ordinance to match

RCPD animal control.

Focke's Comments:

Wednesday I met with several people in the county and RCPD going over county business and RCPD budget.

Memorial Day I spent time at Sunrise Cemetery, decorated some graves and visited with people. That evening, I went to the Municipal Band Concert – the first of the season. It was a great time, and they are so good.

Tuesday I caught up on county business, Law Board issues and returned phone messages. I reviewed today's agenda and documents later in the day.

Wednesday I had lunch with a friend, then went to my office and reviewed today's agenda, had a meeting with the county attorney and went to the Rural Economic Development Advisory Board meeting. The group focused on how to get information on various grants and projects to rural communities. I had a good discussion with them on various projects and initiatives I'd like to see going forward.

Business Meeting

1. Agreement for Professional Services — Green Randolph Road Project G.3-9.0 - Schwab Eaton P.A.

Move to approve the Agreement for Professional Services with Schwab Eaton, P. A. for Green-Randolph Road over Crooked Creek.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner John Ford
SECONDER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

2. Highway Use Permit 2026-007 Larson Construction

Move to approve the Application for Highway Use Permit granting Larson Construction permission to bore a 4" casing for a water line.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
SECONDER:	Commissioner John Ford
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

3. Outstanding Check Resolution

Move to approve Resolution No. 052826-21, Resolution voiding outstanding checks issued by Riley County prior to April 30, 2024.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner John Ford
SECONDER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

4. CIP Project Amendments

Move to approve the CIP Project Amendments for the HD/FCRC Space Needs Study, IT/GIS Remodel, and HVAC replacement projects for PW Facilities as presented.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
SECONDER:	Commissioner John Ford
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

5. Riley County Employee Action Form

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

- Sam Thompson, a Volunteer Firefighter, in the Fire District #1 Department, for Separation from County Service, effective May 19, 2026.
- Dickie Green, an Election Worker, in the Clerk/Election Department, for Separation from County Service, effective May 20, 2026.
- Mia Coley, for a promotion, as a full-time Paramedic, in the EMS/Ambulance Department, at a Range Paramedic, at \$24.32 per hour, effective May 23, 2026.
- Anthony Pearson, a new hire, as an On-Call Juvenile Intake Officer, in the Community Corrections Department, at a Range 1, at \$18.87 per hour.
- Delores Cobbins, a new hire, as an On-Call Juvenile Intake Officer, in the Community Corrections Department, at a Range 1, at \$18.87 per hour.
- Samuel Myers, a Facility & Grounds Technician I, in the Public Works/Parks Department, for Separation from County Service, effective June 12, 2026.
- Lauren McCaffrey, a new hire, as an Intern, in the Health Department, at a Range TASND.

Move to approve the requested Riley County Employee Action Forms.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner John Ford
SECONDER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

6. Approve payroll/accounts payables (when completed)

Move to approve the payroll vouchers in the amount of \$824,718.50 and the following warrant vouchers for May 29, 2026:

2026 Budget

County General	\$ 914,677.28
Disaster Fund	207,093.49
Health Department	37,333.88
War Memorial	180.00
County Auction	2,365.50
Motor Vehicle Operations	208.78
Capital Improvements Fund	24,898.25
Economic Development	2,500.00
Emergency 911	395.96
Solid Waste	325,139.68
County Building	10,760.72
Road & Bridge Cap Project	60,987.30
RCPD Levy/Op	20,373.00
Landfill Closure	607.45
Riley Co Fire Dist #1	96,004.09
2023 R&B Project Sales Tx	61,392.93
University Park W&S	8,910.80
Hunters Island Water Dist	3,156.18
Carson Sewer Benefit Dist	35.72
Deep Creek Sewer	245.35
Moehlman Bottoms	1,179.04
Valleywood Operations	97.19
Terra Heights Sewer	1,416.90
Konza Water Operations	6,617.52
Lakeside Heights Sewer	19.08
University Park Lagoon	4,028.50
KDOC Adult Services	13,943.51
KDOC Juvenile Services	3,981.32
KDOC Juv Reinvestment	414.64
City Alcohol Funds	260.00
RL Salary Appropriations	592.86
Daniel Keating Foundation	1,515.24
Adult Services Carry-Over	2,000.00

TOTAL. \$ 1,813,332.16

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
SECONDER:	Commissioner John Ford
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

Review Minutes

7. Board of Riley County Commissioners - Regular Meeting - May 21, 2026 8:30 AM

Move to approve the minutes of May 21, 2026 as presented.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner John Ford
SECONDER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

Review Tentative Agenda

8. Tentative Agenda

Press Conference Topics

9:00 AM

Jacob Hansen, County Counselor

9. Administrative Work Session

Hansen discussed HB 2481 to extend liquor sales due to the FIFA World Cup.

Hansen asked if the Board has any interest in expanding hours during the FIFA World Cup.

The Board agreed by consensus to wait until they have a request from a business.

Hansen said he will be bringing the First Christian Church topic back to the Board in the near future.

9:20 AM

Megan Lewis, Community Corrections Director

10. Staff Update

Lewis presented a Community Corrections staff update.

9:35 AM

Angela Shepard, Ogden City Planner/Zoning Administrator

11. FY2026 Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Planning and Demonstration Grant application letters of authorization

Shepard presented the letter of support authorizing Riley County's participation in the Flint Hills Regional Council's multi-jurisdictional application for Safe Streets and Roads for ALL (SS4A) Planning and Demonstration Grant. She said the grant application is for \$1.7M.

Move to approve the letter of support authorizing Riley County's participation in the Flint Hills Regional Council's multi-jurisdictional application for the Safe Streets and Roads for ALL (SS4A) Planning and Demonstration Grant.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner John Ford

SECONDER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

9:40 AM **Break**

10:05 AM **John Ellermann, Public Works Director/County Engineer**

12. Request to Fill Facility & Ground Technician

Ellermann requested to fill the Facility & Ground Technician and the Public Works Operator positions.

Move to approve the request for Public Works to fill the vacant Facility & Grounds Technician position.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner John Ford
SECONDER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for a Facility & Grounds Technician II, in the Public Works Department, at a Range 6.

13. Request to Fill Public Works Operator

Move to approve the request for Public Works to fill the vacant Public Works Operator position.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner John Ford
SECONDER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for a Public Works Operator II, in the Public Works Department, at a Range 7.

10:15 AM **Anna Burson, Appraiser**

14. Appraiser's Office Staff Update

Burson presented the Appraiser's Office staff update.

15. Request to Refill Residential Appraiser I Position

Burson presented the request to fill the Residential Appraiser I position.

Move to approve refilling the Residential Appraiser I position at the earliest opportunity.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
SECONDER:	Commissioner John Ford
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for an Appraiser I - Residential, in the Appraiser's Department, at a Range 6.

10:35 AM Liz Holle, Big Lakes Developmental Center Director

16. Big Lakes Developmental Center update

Cancelled.

10:50 AM Amanda Webb, Planning/Special Projects Director

17. Public hearing for a road renaming/renumbering

Focke opened the Public Hearing.

Webb gave background on the proposed road renaming/renumbering.

Siefkes, RCPD Dispatch Director, showed a mapping error cause for emergency response locations due to the current addressing.

Russell, Fire District #1, spoke about the added steps required to find the appropriate response location.

Focke asked why the current addresses do not show on the road appropriately.

Russell stated it is not on Google as a road, but as a driveway.

Taylor said Anderson Lane is considered an east/west road and discussed the grid, per the State's NexGen 911 system, requirements to address properties correctly.

Webb stated the recommendation is to rename and number the addresses.

Mead thanked the emergency services and Board for their service. He said he is thankful for the timely responses to this point. He stated the signage is clearly marked and they are willing to improve the signage. He said in Google their address is marked correctly and all services have no problem delivering to them. He asked the Board to not change the address numbers but change the road name.

Weddle said the primary roll of the Board is the citizens. He said he understands the need for regulation, but sometimes it is done for the matter of convenience. He stated they felt they made a compelling argument last time of how the road name change with existing numbers works. He said emergency services has not had any trouble responding to their addresses.

Troyer stated her personal concern is the work it requires for residents to change their

addresses and remembering their addresses. She asked the Board to leave the addresses as is.

Focke closed the Public Hearing.

Webb said the Committee strongly recommends the renaming and renumbering. She said doing one or the other does not work.

Focke stated they just need to get it on the grid for emergency services only.

Webb said if the road name is changed then the current numbers do not show up on the grid.

Taylor said anyone can go out to Google Maps and change a road name.

McKinley said address changes are not easy. He stated he just moved a few months ago and there are things to do, but it was not that difficult.

Ford stated this is not a logistical issue but a technical issue. He said uniformity is necessary and if you make an exception for one you have to make it for everyone.

Move to approve "Resolution No. 052826-22, Resolution naming a private road and the numbering or renumbering of existing business and residence addresses in the unincorporated area of Riley County, Kansas."

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
SECONDER:	Commissioner John Ford
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None

Adjournment

Move to adjourn.

RESULT:	Passed
MOVER:	Commissioner Greg McKinley
SECONDER:	Commissioner John Ford
AYES:	Greg McKinley, Kathryn Focke, John Ford
NAYS:	None