



Manhattan Free Press

Vol. 20 Number 3

An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, June 30, 2011



The Manhattan City Commission: (Left to right) Mayor Jim Scherow, Commissioners Loren Pepperd, John Matta, Wynn Butler and Rich Jankovich.

State of Kansas Owes Billions

By Gene Meyer
KansasReporter

TOPEKA, Kan. - Kansas' theoretically balanced state budget is actually \$5.2 billion out of whack, a governmental accounting watchdog group calculates.

In fact, only four states - Wyoming, North Dakota, Nebraska and Utah - have enough money in their state treasuries or assets in their possession to cover all their financial obligations including promised pension payments and health care benefits for retirees, according to the Institute for Truth in Accounting, a Chicago organization that advocates more open accounting for government finance.

Kansas, like most states, follows what are known as Governmental Accounting Standards Board rules in preparing financial reports for the public. But the Institute believes those states and the rules should be even more open in how they account for future obligations such as pensions and retiree health care, said Sheila Weinberg, its founder and chief executive.

Portions of those benefits are earned in each pay period and should be counted among compensation costs earlier than is commonly done, she said.

"Instead, most states handle many of the benefits on a pay as you basis, which obligates future taxpayers to cover these past costs," Weinberg said.

Based on fiscal year 2009 state financial reports, which were the latest available when Institute researchers began their state by state examinations, the rest are swimming in varying oceans of theoretical red ink that work out to between \$300 and \$41,200 per taxpayer.

Kansas, where that theoretical deficit works out to \$5,800 per taxpayer, ranks 24th on that list, just between Texas which would owe \$5,700 per taxpayer and Washington state, at \$6,500. States with some of the biggest imbalances reported include Massachusetts at about \$20,100 per taxpayer; Kentucky, at \$23,800; Hawaii, at \$25,000; Illinois, at \$26,800; New Jersey, \$34,600 and Connecticut, at \$41,200 per taxpayer.

Institute researchers originally estimated Kansas' deficits to be much higher, totalling \$8.6 billion, or \$9,500 per taxpayer when they ran numbers in January. Midway through the state by state examinations, however, the group changed its methodology for counting very illiquid capital and assets that originally were included.

Detailed reports for individual states which reflect those changes are expected to be available in a few weeks, said Nancy Mathieson, an institute spokesperson.

Eisenhower Middle School Recognized

Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School received Gold Level recognition from the Kansas Association of Middle School Administrators (KAMSA) at the organization's annual conference May 8-9, 2011 in Topeka, KS. High performing schools were honored during the May 9 KAMSA awards luncheon at Washburn University. Dr. John Heim,

Executive Director of the Kansas Association of School Boards, was the featured speaker at the luncheon. EMS was recognized along with 60 other middle schools across the state.

Additionally Marvin Rupe, EMS Assistant Principal, was recognized as an Exemplary Middle School Assistant Principal by the organization.

What Are These Three City Commissioners Doing?

Editorial
By Jon A. Brake

Tuesday night the Manhattan City Commission voted 4 to 1 to pull out of the Manhattan/Riley County Health Department.

In May the Commission by a 3-2 vote removed the "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" from the Discrimination Ordinance. And in April the Commission voted to rewrite the Rental Inspection Program.

Many people want to know - What are these three City Commissioners Doing? The Answer is simple...they are doing what they were elected to do.

For the last fifteen to twenty years Manhattan Commissioners, most who were getting a government paycheck, took this City down a road of Debt. This Debt is hurting the City and taxpayers. In April the vot-

ers of this City took the Commission in a different direction.

To answer the question "What are these three City Commissioners Doing?" They are doing what they were elected to do!

New Commissioners John Matta and Wynn Butler have join hold over Commissioner Loren Pepperd in reshaping the thinking of the City.

Look at what they have done:

1. The Manhattan / Riley County Health Department.

This Department has grown into a monster taking money from the City and County with little input from either.

The Department was set up to make a yearly report to each Commission but refused to do so.

At budget time the City had only one vote in 10.

City taxpayers are being hit twice for the Health

Department. They pay City taxes and then turn around and pay County taxes that go to the Department.

In most Counties the Health Department is under the control of the County Commission.

Tuesday night's action was a good move on the part of the City.

2. The Discrimination Ordinance.

The City Commission changed the Discrimination Ordinance last year (under the old commission) to include "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" with very little help in defining either.

And they put into the ordinance that anyone convicted on a first offence could be fined \$25,000. On second offence the fine could be \$50,000.

The Commission did a good job in taking the Ordinance back to the original.

3. The Rental Inspection Program.

Here the City Commission fell on their face. Commissioner Wynn Butler went against what he had told voters and voted with Mayor Jim Scherow and Commissioner Rich Jankovich in removing some of the Ordinance and not doing away with it.

The Commissioners were amazed to find out that the City Administration would put people in Jail on a Rental Inspection, but that's what they did. Now, no one served time but they did receive the sentence and could have gone to jail for 15-days.

It was another case of giving little people power, lots of power.

Yes, these three Commissioner, Pepperd, Matta and Butler and doing things different. And that is a good thing. Keep up the good work.

Time To Ax Federal Jobs Programs

By Chris Edwards and Daniel Murphy: Cato Institute

With the nation's unemployment rate still above 9 percent and a steady stream of worrisome labor news (the latest statistic: 429,000 new unemployment claims last week), federal policymakers are facing pressure to do something about joblessness. The giant 2009 stimulus bill was supposed to cut unemployment to less than 7 percent by now — but that clearly hasn't worked as planned.

Some policymakers are now looking at expanding job training and other federal employment programs. Even conservative House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan (R-Wis.) proposed to "strengthen" these programs in his recent fiscal plan. Alas, the history of waste and failure in these programs argues for termination, not expansion.

Federal programs for unemployed and disadvantaged

workers now cost \$18 billion a year, yet the Government Accountability Office recently concluded that "little is known about the effectiveness of employment and training programs we identified." Indeed, many studies over the decades have found that these programs — though well intentioned — don't help the economy much, if at all.

As Congress scours the budget looking for spending cuts, employment and training programs would be good targets.

Worse, federal jobs programs have long been notorious for wastefulness. The word "boondoggle" was coined in the 1930s, to describe the inefficiencies of New Deal jobs programs. Laborers on Works Progress Administration projects were generally viewed as slackers, and a popular song of the era went, "WPA, WPA, lean on your shovel to pass the time away."

The modern era of jobs pro-

grams began in the 1960s, under Presidents John F. Kennedy and Lyndon B. Johnson, who created an array of employment services. Indeed, so many overlapping programs were created that, in 1969, Labor Secretary George Shultz called the organization chart for jobs programs a "wiring diagram for a perpetual motion machine."

In the 1970s, President Richard Nixon created — and President Jimmy Carter then expanded — the Public Service Employment Program, which used federal dollars to create hundreds of thousands of jobs in local governments and community groups. The program was "scandal-ridden," according to Congressional Quarterly, and led to many "newspaper exposés of local instances of nepotism, favoritism and other kinds of fraud."

Luckily, President Ronald Reagan killed the entire program. Unfortunately, he then backed a wasteful "conserva-

tive" solution to high unemployment — expanded job training. Reagan said the Job Training Partnership Act of 1982 would not be "another make-work, dead-end bureaucratic boondoggle."

But in his book, *Lessons from the University of Oregon*, labor professor Gordon Lafer found that "from its start, JTPA was plagued by widespread abuse and mismanagement." A 1994 official study on JTPA found that job-training programs created no significant benefits for most participants.

Subsequent legislation has allegedly improved these programs. But, Lafer notes, "as successive generations of job-training programs fail to produce the hoped-for results, policymakers have cycled through a stock repertoire of procedural fixes that promise to solve the problem."

They don't, but politicians keep trying.

Ryan now argues that the budget "is dotted with failed,

unaccountable and duplicative job-training programs." But rather than repealing them, his recent budget plan wants to make them more "targeted."

Ryan's budget-reform efforts are laudatory, but he should follow his own plan's advice to "limit government to its core constitutional roles" — and terminate federal jobs programs.

The good news is that federal job-training and employment programs don't fill any critical need that private markets can't fill in the modern economy. The vast majority of U.S. job training, for example, is done by individuals and businesses without government help in the normal pursuit of higher wages and profits. U.S. organizations spent more than \$120 billion a year on employee learning and development, according to the American Society for Training and Development.

Other Labor Department activities are also redundant. The department helps fund 3,000 offices nationwide that

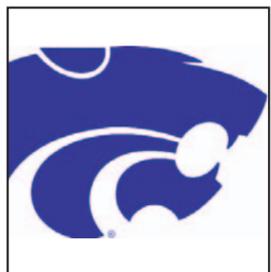
provide unemployed workers with job-searching and job-matching services. In turns out that remarkably few people use these services, even with today's high unemployment.

Instead, job seekers mainly rely on the Internet, personal networking, temp agencies and other market institutions. Essentially, Monster.com has made federal employment offices obsolete.

To solve the federal budget mess, policymakers need to restrain their impulses to "help" the economy with spending programs. Federal help usually doesn't work — it just consumes resources that would have created jobs and growth if left in the private sector.

As Congress scours the budget looking for spending cuts, employment and training programs would be good targets.

Chris Edwards is editor of the Cato Institute's Downsizing Government.org. Daniel Murphy is a former special assistant in the Labor Department.



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Wamego Hospital Earns Award for Community Contributions

WAMEGO, Kansas—Wamego City Hospital was presented the KACAP (Kansas Association of Community Action Program) Award for Collaborative Excellence at a special ceremony. "The annual awards recognize outstanding initiative in community collaborations and those who serve as advocates for the poor," explained Jesyca H. Rodenberg, Communications Coordinator for KACAP. "KACAP's mission is to provide training and technical assistance to enhance the capacity of its member agencies. We are working to eliminate poverty and increase economic security for all of Kansas."

Wamego City Hospital was nominated for the KACAP Award by representatives of the Northeast Kansas Community Action Program (NEK-CAP), an organization that works to improve the lives of low-income people and communities. The hospital contributed to NEK-CAP's Meals on Wheels, Community Garden and Christmas Bureau programs, as well as counseling and parenting classes.

"We are honored to have been selected for this award," said Shannan Flach, CEO, Wamego City Hospital. "I cannot say enough how proud I am to be a part of this hospital that cares for the people in our community with such passion, and it is being recognized throughout our state."

Rodenberg elaborated on Wamego City Hospital's selection. "They provided rooms to meet in, they participated in the Christmas Bureau. But the program they were highly involved with from beginning to end was the Community Garden. It's a sustainable solution providing fresh produce to local providers and area food pantries, helping to feed more than 40 families."

Rodenberg added, "A total of 383 people were directly assisted by the Community Garden. Without Wamego City Hospital, that number would have been lower. And the garden offers more than just food. It also gives you a resource for exercise, outdoor

activity and nutritional education."

Following the awards ceremony, Flach noted, "It was a great honor to receive this award surrounded by people that have been positively impacted by our contributions. You don't think about how resonant delivering a meal to disabled or elderly individuals or providing fresh vegetables to a child that hasn't eaten for two days can be until you listen to some of the stories being told at the program today."

Wamego City Hospital, which offers emergency and inpatient health care services as well as occupational therapy and preventative programs, has been a center of the Kansas community for nearly 100 years.

According to Flach, "We've created a culture where team members love to serve both inside our hospital's four walls and out in the community. We're proud to provide a work environment where our employees are inspired to give back."

The KACAP Award comes after Wamego City Hospital was also recognized as the number one small hospital in the nation for "Best Places to Work in Health Care" in Modern Healthcare Magazine.

About Wamego City Hospital Wamego City Hospital is a 25-bed, critical access hospital serving Pottawatomie, Wabunsee and the surrounding counties since 1915. Housing its own emergency/trauma, laboratory, radiology, physical and occupational therapy departments along with state-of-the-art CT and MRI equipment, Wamego City Hospital can offer a full range

of services with one visit, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Wamego City Hospital's mission is to deliver high quality healthcare in an environment of compassion, integrity and fiscal responsibility. More information is available at www.wamegocityhospital.com.

About KACAP The Kansas Association of Community Action Program (KACAP) is the statewide membership association for Community Action Agencies in Kansas. The organization provides training and technical assistance to enhance the capacity of our members; advocates for public policies that strengthen communities and focus on eliminating poverty; and serves as a liaison between local community action agencies and the broader, anti-poverty network. More information is available at www.kacap.org.

Obituaries

Gin-Mei Chu Chang



Gin-Mei Chu Chang, age 83, passed away Saturday June 25, 2011, in Manhattan, Kansas.

She was born on April 28, 1928, in Yuan-Lee, Taiwan, the eldest daughter of Der-Fong Chu and Ah-Shiang Tseng Chu. She attended Yuan-Lee Elementary School during the Japanese occupation of Taiwan. She managed to survive a B-29 bombing and shooting during World War II when one day she was working on a vegetable field after school. Gin-Mei didn't have much opportunity to attend other schools during her time, but she always told her children the importance of education. Gin-Mei independently raised three sons and a daughter after she was widowed at the age of 28. Despite all the extraordinary hardship she faced, Gin-Mei was able to give her children good education opportunities. She always wanted her children to know that hard working is the real key to success and that it's better to give than to receive.

Gin-Mei moved to Manhattan, Kansas in 1985 to live with her son and daughter-in-law. Sometimes, she also lived with her eldest son and his family in Lawrence, Kansas. She enjoyed nature, flowers, birds, trees, and hills. She loved to cook all kinds of food for her family and friends. She liked gardening, walking, and making friends. Gin-Mei spent a great deal of time and energy handweaving sweaters or scarves for her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. She enjoyed watching K-State sports, NBA games, as well as other sports on TV with her family.

Preceding her in death was her husband, Tien-Song Chang, and two brothers, Dong-Miao Chu and Zong-San Chu.

She is survived by her three sons, Yang-Chuan and his wife Liang-Jui of Lawrence, Kansas,

John Young-Pei and his wife I-Ching of Tamsui, Taiwan, Yang-Ming and his wife Shu-Ching of Manhattan, Kansas; her daughter, Shu-Li and her husband Sheng-Jin Hwang of Pan-Chiao City, Taiwan; 9 grandchildren; and 3 great-grandchildren. Other survivors include her brother, Charn-Lung Chu, and sisters, all in Taiwan.

The family will receive friends during a visitation from 4:30P.M. to 6:30P.M. Friday at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londean Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be left for the family by clicking on "Send Condolences" on this page.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Salvation Army, Manhattan, Kansas. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londean Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66502.

J.M. (Jay) Quiring



J.M. (Jay) Quiring of Manhattan, Kansas died June 27, 2011 in Manhattan, Kansas. He was 64.

Jay was born the son of J. Melvin and Virginia (Ready) Quiring on October 27, 1946 in Wichita, Kansas. He was raised in Wichita, graduating from Wichita High School West in 1964. He moved to Manhattan that same year to begin his collegiate career and lived in the Manhattan and Wamego area the rest of his life.

A 1968 Kansas State University graduate with a degree in business, Jay devoted his entire career of 45 years to Burnett Automotive, beginning as a college student in 1967. He served as a gas station attendant, mechanic, service advisor, and store manager. He managed the Manhattan Westside location for many years, where his dedication, integrity and personable approach earned him many loyal customers and friends. He retired in October of 2010, continuing in a part-time capacity until the time of his death.

Jay served honorably in the

Army Reserves for 6 years during the Vietnam War era, including 6 months of active duty stateside.

As a young man Jay enjoyed building and racing his own cars at the local dirt tracks, where his success and antics on the track earned him a sizable following among local race fans. Later hobbies included attending NASCAR races and participating in regional car shows.

He married Alice Swaim. They had two children, Jeffery and Kimberly, and they were later divorced.

He married Deb Garrett. They later divorced, but remained friends for the remainder of his life.

On October 3, 2003 he was united in marriage to Julie Fitch in Manhattan. Together they celebrated 8 years of marriage. She survives of the home.

In addition to his wife, Julie, Jay is survived by a son, Jeff and wife Lora and granddaughter Alexandra

of Rockwall, Texas; a daughter Kim Quiring and partner Kevin and grandchildren David, Trenton, Cierra, Zachary, and Jacob; his mother Virginia Quiring of Manhattan, Kansas and sister Susan Quiring of College Station, Texas; stepson Nathan Wurst of Lenexa, Kansas; stepdaughter Erika Wurst of Minneapolis, Minnesota. Jay was preceded in death by his father and grandparents.

A memorial service will be held Thursday June 30, 2011 at 2:00 P.M. at the First Congregational United Church of Christ in Manhattan. Reverend R. Kent Cormack will officiate and Dave Rogers will also speak. Private inurnment is planned.

Memorial contributions may be made to Manhattan Area Technical College Auto Tech Program, or the Good Shepherd Hospice House.

Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home is responsible for arrangements.

Roselea L. Dresser



Roselea L. Dresser, age 86, of Manhattan, died June 25, 2011, at Via Christi Village in Manhattan.

She was born December 13, 1924, in Bigelow, Kansas, the daughter of Samuel Jesse and Elizabeth Agnes (Digman) Ensley, and moved to Manhattan in 1958.

Roselea was a pastry cook at Duckwalls and later a sales clerk for ALCO retiring in 1986.

She was a former member of Strong Methodist Church and converted to the Catholic faith while residing at Via Christi Village. She was a former member and president of the Strong School PTA, and volunteered for RSVP, the Riley County Seniors' Service Center and at Wharton Manor Nursing Home and was honored as the Volunteer

of the Year at Wharton Manor. Roselea enjoyed working with ceramics for many years.

Survivors include two children: Nancy L. Lauby and her husband Bill of Palm Harbor, FL, and Robert F. Dresser and his wife Sandra of Lincoln, NE; six grandchildren: Jeffrey Dresser, Denice (Dresser) Arnold, Erin Dresser, and Tony, Rick and Daniel Lauby; eleven great-grandchildren; and one brother Gordon Ensley of Topeka, KS.

Roselea was preceded in death by seven siblings: Faye Harrison, Roy Ensley, Lawrence Ensley, Elvira Ensley, Ray Ensley, Milton Ensley and Mildred Kurtz.

Mass of the Christian Burial was at 1:00 P.M. Tuesday, June 28,

2011, at St. Thomas More Catholic Church with Father Loren Werth as Celebrant. Burial will follow in the Antioch Cemetery near Blue Rapids, KS.

The family received friends from 7:30 until 8:30 P.M. Monday, June 27, 2011, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londean Funeral Home.

Online condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at www.ymlfuneralhome.com.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Terry C. Johnson Center for Basic Cancer Research. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londean Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66502.

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Editorial Why All Issues Are Social Issues



Paul A. Ibbetson

The push continues in the political arena to minimize what have commonly been designated social issues and replace them with what are advertised as the more pressing issues of the day. The economy has grown to be the number one factor of importance in the American people's mind and if we are not careful, the American people may vote for the first presidential candidate that promises better future economic times. The economy is truly a critical issue but what is more critical is how we will judge the criteria for selecting those who will govern this country and just who we believe will ultimately take care of our nation's current economic dilemma.

The first misconception is that there is a divide between social, economic and national security issues. There never has been and there never will be more than one single designation of where these issues stand. While we might not agree on all aspects of politics, I think Joseph Farah of World Net Daily is absolutely accurate when he says that all issues are social issues. While we as a nation face challenges that cover almost every aspect of life in the United States, the answers to our country's most perplexing problems are found by answering a single question: What is the American people's relation-

ship with God? The separation of national concerns in to areas of national security, economy and the myriad of other subcategories has done less to pinpoint strategies for solving problems and has done more to delude the national consciousness about where the answers to all of our problems can be found.

For modern-day liberals this strategy helps keep the conservative majority off balance. When Jon Stewart in his interview with Chris Wallace talks about the trivial nature of national discussions about gays in the military and gay marriage, he does so by stating that these concerns are trivial in relation to what Americans are really concerned about, jobs and the economy.

Ironically, only days after the Wallace interview, New York passed a very contentious gay marriage law. Would Stewart be shocked to know that while the economy is in the doldrums, liberals still seem to care about shaping the landscape on this pivotal social issue? Hardly. The truth is that Stewart as a liberal activist knows that the more people segregate social issues into other categories, or keep them from being biblically inspected, the more battles liberals will win. Liberals win because when all issues are not social issues, moral tradeoffs tend to start taking place. As the Devil offered Jesus the riches of all the lands within view for simply his allegiance, and ultimately his soul, the American people are on the verge of being offered the same deal if not from the Devil then potentially from the Republican Party. Take a look at some of the candidates that are offered as part of the rescue plan to save the country from four more years of Barack Obama.

Ron Paul advocated this year for the legalization of heroin and prostitution in the United States. Just to make sure there was no confusion over Ron Paul's moral compass on this social issue, the Texas congressman recently teamed up with Massachusetts Democrat Barney

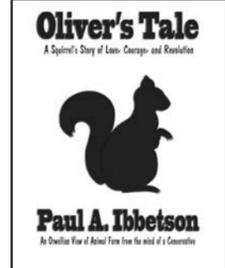
Frank to forward a bill proposal to limit the federal government's ability to keep marijuana from being legalized within the states. Former New Mexico governor and presidential hopeful Gary Johnson also supports the pro-dope platform and admits to illegally smoking marijuana in the past. Jon Huntsman, who wishes to become the Republican Party's 2012 presidential nominee, comes straight out of the Obama administration with his own history of big government spending and staunch advocacy for the purely atheistic, big government green environmentalism that America is getting to know so well. Mitt Romney, with his past lifetime pro-abortion stance, man-made global warming affinity, not to mention his own version of forced healthcare in Massachusetts, wishes to be the champion of conservative values for the Republican Party. These candidates continue to be pitched as reasonable alternatives to Barack Obama. And why? Because they are advertised as potential saviors of the failing economy, and the economy is advertised as the ultimate concern of American life and a non-social issue. This is atrocious false advertising.

Have we as a nation drifted so far from our traditional moorings that we will believe that our country will

have security and economic prosperity without the direct intervention of the Almighty? Have we truly categorized social morality and biblical responsibility so far from national consequence that it is but a third-or-fourth-tier issue of importance? If that is so, it will be reflected in more than just the Republican Party's defeat in 2012. It will be reflected in this country's utter downfall. America's exceptionalism and its blessings are directly tied to our national devotion to God. The individual responsibility to be accountable to God in all actions is the unique formula by which the citizens and government officials have been guided and rewarded throughout our history. This is not a time to stray from what is the mainstay of our greatness, the hope of our nation's salvation. This is a time that we must acknowledge that all issues are social issues and with that comes our accountability to square each one with God's laws and commandments. Our people of today and our leaders of tomorrow should not avoid, but should embrace the social standards that have traditionally brought forth not only the economic, but also the spiritual blessings of God.

Paul A. Ibbetson is a former Chief of Police of Cherryvale, Kansas, and member of the

Montgomery County Drug Task Force. Paul received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Criminal Justice at Wichita State University, and is currently completing his Ph.D. in Sociology at Kansas State University. Paul is the author of several books including the 2010 release "Oliver's Tale: A Squirrel's Story of Love, Courage, and Revolution." Paul is also the radio host of the Kansas Broadcasting Association's 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 award-winning radio program, *Conscience of Kansas* airing on KSDB Manhattan 91.9 FM, www.ibbetsonusa.com. For interviews or questions, please contact him at ibbetson91.9@gmail.com



Paul Ibbetson's new book is "Available at Amazon and the Manhattan Hastings Store."

Editorial Letters to Tom

Where is Her Justice?

I planned to write a column about the 4th of July, Independence Day, but that will have to wait until next week. Early last Sunday I was walking our puppies, Dave and Zim on Kimball Avenue, heading toward CICO Park. We had just passed the intersection of Hudson and Kimball when I saw a line of home made signs along Kimball. At first I thought they were advertisements for a yard sale, but on closer examination I saw that each sign contained the message: "Where is the Justice?" After reading the message I was angry and sad; here is what it said:



Mike Kryschal

Where is the Justice?
The man who attacked me is out there somewhere, free to attack and rape someone else. He walks free, while I, his victim, am confined in a secret agony. Someone has to know something. Come forward please. Call the RCPD at 785-537-2112 and talk to Detective Goggins.
Where is the Justice?
If you agree with me that one year is too long to wait for a DNA analysis, call the KBI, call the

Governor, call your Representative, your Congressman, your Senator. Tell them one year is not acceptable! How many other victims will there be? Am I important to the state of Kansas only if I had died? If this was your loved one, would you be willing to wait for a year, or more, for DNA results? This was a brutal crime and I'm still waiting for the criminal to be brought to justice.
Where is the Justice?
WHERE IS HER JUSTICE? Later, I searched the internet to get information on the backlog of DNA analysis at the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI). The only reference that I found was that in September 2010, then-Attorney General Stephen Six claimed: "A longstanding backlog of untested DNA samples at the state's crime lab has been reduced by 70 percent and will be eliminated by February, 2011." Perhaps the former Attorney General misspoke or exaggerated because he was in the middle of his unsuccessful campaign for reelection. If the backlog of untested DNA samples was eliminated last February, why has-

n't the sample for this case been tested? If the backlog still exists, why isn't anything being done to resolve this issue? I guess it's a matter of priorities. When Governor Brownback moved to privatize the Kansas Arts Commission his action became an almost daily feature in local media. The last mention of the DNA backlog was made in SEPTEMBER 2010. <Crickets chirp.> Where is the media?
In 2009, the most recent year for which statistics are available, 1,127 women were raped in Kansas, a number that has remained fairly constant over the last 20 years. In 2009, 172 (13.5%) of these rapes were committed by a stranger unknown to the victim. It seems to me that this number of incidents should not result in a backlog of DNA samples for analysis. Further, since rapists who are not caught are likely to rape again, apprehending them should be a high priority. A higher priority than the Arts Commission, or the salaries of our political masters and their staff. Where are our elected officials? It's time to stand up and be counted.

The first and most important mission of government is to secure the safety of its citizens. If the only time we hear from you about this is when you are looking for our votes, then don't be surprised when only 20% of registered voters turn out for elections. Crime prevention is more important than Rental Inspections, LGBTQ, Busses, or Hot Dog vendors.
WHAT CAN BE DONE? What can you and I do? The first thing we can do is to respond to the request of our neighbor: call the Governor, the Attorney General, your Member of Congress, your State Senator, your State Representative. If you have time write a letter, if not send them an e-mail. I spoke with the Deputy Chief of Staff for Communications and Budget of the Kansas Department of Justice and alerted him to this issue. He promised me a response; I will inform you of the results. Another thing that we can do is to take back our streets. If we allow the predators to keep us shut in, we are no longer free citizens. When I was in college I was the victim of an armed robbery - I

know what it is like to look over your shoulder - but I will not let this scum win. Be safe, travel in groups, and maintain situational awareness, but remember you are not the problem, the criminals are the problem. To our dear neighbor who was attacked, you are not alone and you are not forgotten.
Mike Kryschal, Colonel (Retired), United States Army, has a Bachelor's Degree from John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio and a Master's Degree in International Relations from Boston University. He served in the United States Army from 1972 to 1999. He was a platoon leader in the 25th Infantry Division, company commander in the 82d Airborne Division, battalion commander in the 1st Infantry Division, and brigade commander in the 2nd Infantry Division. He served in the 1st Infantry Division in Desert Storm. Since retirement, Mike has been an adjunct professor of history, political science, and leadership.
He lives in Manhattan, Kansas with his wife, Karen and their Siberian Huskies.



Riley Co Adult Services	6,304.10
Capital Improvements Fund	49,136.92
Emergency 911	404.84
Workers Compensation Rsrv	930.18
Solid Waste	7,569.32
County Building	2,277.00
Road & Bridge Cap Project	400,000.00
RCPD Levy/Op	28,622.10
Resourceful KS Energy Grt	2,613.50
Landfill Closure	818.99
Riley Co Fire Dist #1	4,592.07
University Park W&S	4,075.70
Hunters Island Water Dist	1,760.72
Deep Creek Sewer	132.45
Moehlman Bottoms	933.73
Terra Heights Sewer	965.00
Terra Heights Sinking	857.60
Konza Water Operations	4,092.09
Konza Water Cap Reserve	1,206.80
Univ Park W&S Cap Reserve	1,186.80
TOTAL	\$1,344,916.33
2011 Budget	
Solid Waste	345.46
Hunters Island Water Dist	1,029.98
Moehlman Bottoms	484.69
Terra Heights Sinking	857.60
TOTAL	\$2,717.73

Women Voters; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; and Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury, attended.
Regester presented the year to date revenue, which is above budget for the Register of Deeds.
9:30 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services
Administrative Work Session
Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; and Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury, attended.
Holeman presented a review and possible approval of an MOU for Demonstration of "Tree Debris Disposal" at Riley County Transfer Station by Garick, L.L.C.
Holeman said Public Works has routed to him for review a draft MOU (Memorandum of Understanding), supplied by Mike Marsollek, of "Garick, L.L.C." Mr. Marsollek indicates he wants an opportunity to demonstrate his company's ability to grind brush pile material at the transfer station. Mr. Marsollek presents this as an opportunity to demonstrate his company's ability to perform such work, and to do so at no charge to Riley County.
Holeman said he has reviewed the attached draft and made some revisions to its text and said revisions have been approved by Public Works. Holeman said he has no legal objections to the attached form of the MOU. This "demonstration," if approved by the BOCC, will take place in advance of any RFP drawn up by Public Works.
Johnson moved the Memorandum of Understanding be approved by the Chair as presented. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.
Holeman asked if the Board wants to amend the existing "Pledge" resolution on the county-wide 1/2 cent sales tax projects. Holeman stated the Board is not required to amend the pledge resolution.
Johnson moved to proceed with the amendment of the pledge resolution on the countywide 1/2 cent

sales tax. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.
9:41 Johnson moved that the County Commissioner recess into executive session on a personnel matter for the purpose of consultation with an attorney for the County Commission which would be deemed privileged in the attorney-client relationship, an exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act, the open meeting to resume in the County Commission Chambers at 9:47. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.
9:47 Lewis moved to come out of executive session. McCulloh seconded. Carried 3-0.
No binding action was taken during the executive session.
10:00 Jennifer Wilson, County Extension Director
Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; and Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury, attended.
Wilson said 110 youth attended the 4-H Camp.
Wilson reported on the dates of following upcoming events:
Lamb Camp, June 17th
Manhattan Area Garden Tour, June 18th
Farmer's Market Cooking Classes for children grades 3-5, July 2nd & July 23rd
So Easy to Preserve Workshops: Tomatoes & Salsas July 6th, Pickling August 10th, and Jams & Jellies, September 7th
Riley County Fair, July 21-25, 2011.
Wilson stated there were only 63 days the fairgrounds were not used and 489 events were held March 1, 2010 - March 31, 2011.
10:15 Brad Schoen, Riley County Police Department Director
Hank Nelson, RCPD; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; and Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury, attended.
Schoen presented the Edward Bryrre Memorial Justice Assistance Grant application for 2012. Schoen stated the grant will be used to purchase radios without the need for matching funds. Schoen stated the public hearing will be held at next Monday's Law

Board meeting.
Schoen said Manhattan City's representatives to the law board will bring some concepts on the RCPD budget as it relates to the City's budget.
Lewis moved to affirm the application for the Edward Bryrre Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. Johnson seconded. Carried 3-0.
10:44 Johnson moved to adjourn after the City/County meeting. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.
4:00 City/County Meeting (at City Offices)
4:00 Joint Manhattan City/Riley County/Pottawatomie County Meeting (at City Offices)
Representing the City of Manhattan were Jim Sherow, Rich Jankovich, John Matta, and Wynn Butler - City Commissioners; Loren Palmer, Assistant City Manager; Karen Davis, Community Development Director; Gary Fees, City Clerk; Rob Ott, City Engineer; Chad Bunger, Planner; Eric Cattell, Assistant Director Planning; Dale Houdeshell, Public Works Director; and Ron Fehr, City Manager. Representing Riley County were Karen McCulloh, Alvan Johnson, and Dave Lewis - County Commissioners; Laurie Harrison, Emergency Management Coordinator; Steve Higgins, Zoning Enforcement Officer; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Monty Wedel, Planning/Special Projects Director; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk. Representing Pottawatomie County were Gary Yenzler and Pat Weixelman - County Commissioners; Robert Reece, County Administrator. Brad Schoen, Riley County Police Department Director; Chuck Murphy, Riley County-Manhattan Health Department Director; Steve Samuelson, Water Resources; Stephanie Rolley, Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board Member; John Strickler; and Susie Kufahl, Riley County-Manhattan Health Department, attended.

Riley County Minutes

The Board of County Commissioners Of Riley County, Kansas June 16, 2011

The Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners met at the Riley County Plaza East Building June 16, 2011 with the following members present: Karen McCulloh, Chair; Alvan Johnson, Vice Chair; Dave Lewis, Member; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk.
9:00 Public Comment & Business Meeting
Debra Regester, Register of Deeds; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Joan Strickler, League of Women Voters; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; and Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury, attended.
Johnson said Roxanne Wagner who lives off of White Canyon Road called and claimed that where Riley County dumped the rock along side the road it is now washed out against the road, which has caved in.
Hobson stated it is not a township road or county road; it is a private road.
Hobson said he will take a look at the ownership of the road. Hobson then said it may be Corps of Engineers' property.
Johnson said Carl Friedrich, mayor of Randolph, called and said where the county fire trucks turn around the asphalt is breaking up and asked if Riley County would repair the asphalt.
Hobson said Riley County would be doing the repairs in the

Randolph city limits.
Hobson said he would contact Pat Collins to see if the Fire District will pay for repairs to the road.
Lewis stated Riley County's allocation to the Juvenile Detention Center will increase by approximately \$10,000. Lewis discussed the Juvenile Detention Board meeting.
Johnson moved to sign a letter to the City of Manhattan to request annexation of a portion of highway right-of-way representing Marlatt Avenue from Riley County. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.
Johnson moved to approve a Quit Claim Deed and legal description for that portion of Scenic Drive recently annexed by the City of Manhattan. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.
Johnson moved to sign a letter of support for the Big Lakes Developmental Center, Inc.'s grant request to KDOT for its Public Transportation Assistance Project. Lewis seconded. Carried 3-0.
Johnson moved to approve the payroll vouchers in the amount of \$213,574.56 and the following warrant vouchers for June 17, 2011:
2011 Budget
County General \$813,263.37
Special Prosecutor Trust 648.83
War Memorial 490.00
Juvenile Intake Case Mgr 120.00
Riley Co Juvenile Service 6,190.62
Motor Vehicle Operations 4,690.79
21st Jud Dist Teen Court 1,032.81

Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Joan Strickler, League of

Women Voters; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; and Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury, attended.
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PUBLISHED WEEKLY EVERY THURSDAY

Manhattan Free Press

Jon A. and Linda L. Brake, Publishers
Chris Taylor, Page Layout and Design

Web site: manhattanfreepress.com
Subscriptions: eFreePress subscriptions are Free

Street Address:
103 North 3rd Street -
Mailing Address:
Box 1191, Manhattan, Kansas, 66505
E-Mail:
jonbrake@kansas.net or freepress@kansas.net

785-537-8953

"Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."
- Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Riley County

Ott presented an overview of the June 2010 watershed precipitation levels. Ott presented an overview of the June 2011 watershed precipitation, which was significantly larger than June 2010's.

Sherow said we need to take a proactive approach and presented a preliminary proposal on how to come to terms with this. Sherow proposed a Wildcat Creek Watershed multi-jurisdictional working group to review the flash flooding event on June 1, 2011 and June 2, 2011, and make short term, medium term and long term recommendations to various governing entities, agencies, organizations, property owners, stakeholders, residents, etc. to mitigate property damage and other negative impacts along the Wildcat drainage basin.

McCulloh stated an ad hoc citizens group has been working on this and suggested including them and some staff to assist in the process.

Jankovich said the approach is a good start.

Rolley, a member of the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board, asked for a time frame.

Sherow said the intent is to move as quickly as possible.

Rolley asked about the deadline to complete and the resources available.

Sherow stated the intent is to complete it as soon as possible.

McCulloh noted we will need some State and Federal assistance to complete the project.

Fehr stated there will be short, mid-term, and long-term improvements.

Rolley said they hope to see a staff member dedicated to the project.

Samuelson, State Water Resources staff member, discussed the Division of Water Resources drainage maps.

Samuelson stated grants are available for buyouts of flooded properties.

Strickler suggested the committee work with an outside facilitator in moving forward on solutions.

Lewis suggested the committee be formed prior to the next city/country meeting.

Murphy discussed public health's priorities.

Murphy stated the Riley County/Manhattan Health Department is asking for \$311,997.00 from the City of Manhattan and \$381,330.00 from Riley County.

McCulloh stated the Health Department does an amazing job with the little money the City of Manhattan and Riley County provide.

Matta said the Manhattan City Commissioners want to discuss the interlocal agreement on the Health Department and talk about Riley County taking the Health Department as a Riley County department.

McCulloh stated it is a transitional year for the Health Department with Chuck Murphy retiring and the Board of Health would prefer to wait a year on any change in the structure.

Lewis stated the discussion on a possible transition to the Health Department becoming a Riley County Department should take place, but after a new Health Director has been hired.

5:11 Adjourned. The Board of County Commissioners Of Riley County, Kansas June 20, 2011

The Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners met at the Riley County Plaza East Building June 20, 2011 with the following members present: Karen McCulloh, Chair; Alvan Johnson, Vice Chair; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk. Dave Lewis, Member, was absent.

8:30 Public Comment & Business Meeting

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Linda Teener; Laurie Harrison, Emergency Management Coordinator; and Paul Foltz, attended.

Harrison said each year the City of Wamego is the host for the growing outdoors event on July 4th. With the growing crowds and multiple locations, they are concerned that their communications and command and control may outgrow their current system. They have asked for use of the Mobile Command Post to provide a central point for command and control for the one day event.

Harrison said Emergency Management received the Mobile Command Post through Homeland Security grant funds. This would be a very effective way to utilize its regional communications capability in a planned event. There should be an understanding that in the event we need it returned for our own incident, it will be an expedient coordinated release.

Johnson moved to send the Mobile Command Post to Wamego for the July 4th event. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh discussed the

Regional Planning meeting.

Johnson moved to approve the minutes of June 16, 2011 as amended. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh presented a draft letter in support of the transit agreement between the City of Manhattan and Riley County.

Johnson moved to approve the letter from Riley County on the Transit Agreement support letter. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

9:03 Rod Meredith, Assistant Public Works Director/Parks Director

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; Linda Teener; Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; and Fred Willich, attended.

Meredith said the Riley County Park Board met on June 14th. The advisory board recommended the 2012 budget be submitted as proposed.

Meredith said Linda Teener of UFM is proposing to utilize the FEMA buyout land located on Hunters Island for expanding the Community Garden program.

Meredith said Doug Phelps is proposing to develop an archery park on Hunters Island as well. There are two other locations he is also considering.

Teener stated the Community Garden has been in existence since 1973. Teener said they would like to start with four acres. Teener said thirty families are on a waiting list for garden sites.

Johnson asked if they had worked with the Hunter's Island community out there.

Meredith said he will meet with the Hunter's Island community about the gardens.

The Board agreed the community garden group should put a proposal together and bring it to the Board.

The Board agreed Meredith can work with the archery group on a possible site on Hunters Island.

9:20 Lyle Butler, Manhattan Chamber of Commerce and John Pagen, Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; Linda Teener; Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; Dan Yunk; Neil Horton; Rod Meredith, Assistant Public Works/Parks Director; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Dan Page, KMAN; and Fred Willich, attended.

Butler discussed the 2012 Economic Development budget request.

The 2012 budget request includes a \$35,000 increase which is a 70% increase.

Pagen presented a PowerPoint presentation on the economic success of Riley County in previous years.

Pagen stated the \$35,000 increase is for support for the community Military attendance at the Kaw Valley Rodeo and the Manhattan 24/7 campaign.

9:45 Press Conference

Larry Couchman, EMS Director; Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; Laurie Harrison, Emergency Management Coordinator; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; Rod Meredith, Assistant Public Works/Parks Director; and Dan Page, KMAN, attended.

Couchman said the Country Stampede will be held June 23rd - 26th. Couchman discussed emergency management's preparations and precautions for the stampede event.

Harrison reported Small Business Administration is providing disaster assistance at the Manhattan Public Library.

Meredith stated Riley County's asphalt seal program will begin this week on the Green/Randolph Road, RC Road 378.

Vargo reported the Riley County Commission Redistricting map options 1-3 are available on the Riley County website. Vargo said work sessions will be held later this summer and the public is invited to attend.

Vargo reported the 2011 July Certified Assessed Valuation is \$510,821,012. Vargo said this equates to the value of the mill being \$510,821 in preparation of the 2012 budget. This is a 2.14% increase.

10:10 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

Administrative Work Session
Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; and Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters, attended.

Holeman said state law on the funding of the Riley County Police Department budget says each entity shall budget adequately to fund their portion of the budget.

Holeman said Captain Moldrup reported another spike in water pressure on the LEC facility.

Holeman stated County Attorney Barry Wilkerson is preparing information on high level felony juvenile cases. Holeman said the information will be beneficial for the Board in considering

the 2012 budget request from attorneys on the indigent panel.

Holeman discussed the County Counselor's Association meeting he and Craig Cox attended last Friday.

Holeman stated Shelly Williams asked if it would be appropriate for her to send a letter of support for the fixed route transit agreement. Holeman said Community Corrections clients will use the service for appointments and to get to work.

The Board agreed a support letter from Williams to Mayor Sherow would be appropriate.

10:24 Emily Wagner, Manhattan Emergency Shelter

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; and Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters, attended.

Wagner presented the Manhattan Emergency Shelter's 2012 appropriation request.

10:36 Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; and Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters, attended.

Hobson presented two highway use permits.

Johnson moved to approve a Highway Use Permit for the City of Manhattan, Kansas to install a 16-inch ductile iron pipe waterline along the east side of Messenger Road. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

Johnson moved to approve a Highway Use Permit for Westar Energy to install two anchors and remove one span overhead, install one span underground primary at north edge of right of way of Anderson Avenue, 1/8 mile west of Silver Creek Road, west of Keats. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

Hobson discussed the Wildcat Creek Road project.

Hobson said the right of way for the road at White Canyon is public, but the road was not built to Riley County standards and has never been accepted as a Riley County road. Hobson stated he does not have authority to fix the road without the Board's direction to do so.

McCulloh said she is concerned with setting a precedent in fixing a private road.

McCulloh suggested the residents bring the road up to Riley County's standard for it to be accepted as a township or county road.

McCulloh asked staff to look at the road damage and to report back to the Board.

Hobson agreed. Hobson discussed Public Works projects.

Hobson said the estimate for the Konza water project has increased to \$1.8 million, which does not include the right of way. Hobson

estimated completion of the Konza project to be spring of 2012.

11:00 Grant Bannister, Indigent Defense Panel Attorney

Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Brad Dornes, Manhattan Mercury; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; and Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters, attended.

Bannister presented the following breakdown of per attorney per month:

Option A: If high level juvenile felonies are included in the contract, then \$5,377.75 per month per attorney. This amount reflects no raise in the hourly basis used to compute the last four contract years, but it does represent a material increase in the total amount, due to significant increases in reported time. The panel's administrative attorney will receive an additional \$309 per month. This reflects no increase in this respect.

Option B: If high level juvenile felonies are excluded from the contract, then \$4,276.50 per month per attorney. This would reflect only a minimal increase, despite the significant increased workload. The panel's administrative attorney will receive an additional \$309 per month. This reflects no increase in this respect.

McCulloh asked for breakouts of types of cases served.

Bannister said he can provide some of those numbers.

11:20 Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer

Rod Meredith, Assistant Public Works Director/Parks Director; Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director; Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; and Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters, attended.

Meredith presented pictures of the road damage in front of the Randolph fire station.

Meredith stated the problem stems from the fact only 2" of asphalt was originally placed on the road 15-20 years ago.

Johnson said the City of Randolph is willing to pay a portion of the cost.

Meredith estimated the cost would be \$5,000 - \$6,000 from Riley County Fire Station property line to property line.

Meredith said he will present the City of Randolph the information on the road repair to the street in front of the fire station.

Johnson moved to approve the following warrant voucher for June 20, 2011:

2011 Budget
Road & Bridge Cap Project
2,971.00
TOTAL \$2,971.00
McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

11:29 Johnson moved to adjourn. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

12:00 Law Enforcement Agency Meeting



Manhattan City Minutes

MINUTES CITY COMMISSION MEETING TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2011 7:00 P.M.

The Regular Meeting of the City Commission was held at 7:00 p.m. in the City Commission Room. Mayor James E. Sherow and Commissioners Loren J. Pepperd, John Matta, Wynn Butler, and Richard B. Jankovich were present.

Also present were the City Manager Ron R. Fehr, Assistant City Manager Jason Hilgers, Assistant City Manager Lauren Palmer, City Attorney Bill Frost, City Clerk Gary S. Fees, 13 staff, and approximately 130 interested citizens.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Sherow led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

Mayor Sherow recognized Howard Harrison, Nick Arena, Heidi Mosher, and Lorne Rendor, recipients of the Mayor's Community Service Award.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayor Sherow proclaimed June 10-11, 2011, Relay for Life of Riley County Days. Nick Arena and Heidi Mosher, Co-Chairs, Riley County Relay for Life Planning Committee, were present to receive the proclamation.

Mayor Sherow proclaimed June 18, 2011, Juneteenth. Don Slater, Chair, Juneteenth Committee, and Master Sergeant King and Jonathon Anderson, Juneteenth Committee members, were present to receive the proclamation.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Sherow opened the public comments.

Russel Weisbender, 700 Fairman Drive, voiced concerns with the recent flooding occurring along Wildcat Creek River and informed the Commission that he has been flooded three times; each time it has been progressively worse. He urged the Commission to look at development along Wildcat Creek and the influence it is having. He also asked for aid to be sought for those that were affected by the flooding.

Mayor Sherow informed the community that the Commission received an update during

Discussion/Briefing on the recent flooding events and current status of the situation.

Marti Meek, 155 Bethany Drive, expressed her appreciation to the City Commission and to the Fire Department personnel that warned and assisted them in time to remove a sleeping toddler from a crib downstairs. She informed the Commission that the flooding is getting worse and asked for help in addressing a huge problem to prevent the loss of property and the potential loss of lives.

Myron Calhoun, 2001 Dunbar Road, expressed concerns with the 100-year flood plain and stated that something needs to be done to resolve the issue.

Ladonna Piper, 939 Village Drive, informed the Commission that her home was placarded due to the flood and appreciated the Fire Department's help. She stated that she has not experienced flooding before and asked for help.

Brice Ebert, Vice President, Alliance Property Management, voiced concerns in handling flooding problems of this magnitude and asked for advice and assistance from the City.

Joey Hoke, 929 Village Drive, provided information on the flooding damage to his property and thanked the Manhattan Fire Department. He requested that remedies be looked at to provide advanced warnings and to provide a monitoring flow measurement system for Wildcat Creek.

Jerome Berry, 157 Bethany Drive, informed the Commission that he had over two feet of water in the living area of his house and that their furniture and majority of clothing were not salvageable. He expressed concerns with the flooding experienced and informed the Commission that he has lived in this house for 20 years without worrying about flooding until recently.

Stan Hoerman, 2021 Bluehills Road, informed the Commission that he grew up in south Manhattan and provided information on Wildcat Creek. He stated that the solution is to clean out the trees in Wildcat Creek, with cooperation from the City, the County, and the federal government.

Pat Keating, 156 Bethany Drive, informed the Commission that up

until two years ago, he hadn't experienced any problems with water. He voiced concerns with something major happening in the area during the last few years and asked that the issue be addressed.

Will Tiao, Co-Owner, Evergreen Apartments, informed the Commission on the damage sustained from last year's flooding event and provided an update on the water damage to their property and to the property of their tenants. He provided additional background information on the issue and voiced concerns with the stormwater and damage experienced to their property. He urged that the City take responsibility for what is happening and to be proactive.

Robert Buel, 2916 Tattarrax Drive, Owner, Garden Way Apartments, voiced concerns with the recent flooding and downstream issues associated with the Optimist fields. He asked to look into a community emergency response system to better respond to help people and save buildings from damage.

Sonja Berry, 157 Bethany Drive, thanked the Manhattan Fire Department for their assistance, but stated that she did not want this to happen again. She voiced concern with the development along Wildcat Creek and wanted assurance that this will not happen again.

Charly Pottorff, property owner, 3761 Cumberland Road, informed the Commission that he had more water at his property this year than he did last year and voiced concerns with the additional construction that has occurred. He stated that something needs to be done and recommended a moratorium on construction in this area until it is figured out.

After discussion and comments of the Commission, Ron Fehr, City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission. He provided additional information on the item regarding notifications, discussed the after action review plan by the agencies involved, explained the emergency declaration process, discussed the need for future initiatives to coordinate volunteer cleanup efforts, and discussed initiatives to take a community and multi-jurisdictional approach to look at the watershed area and options to deal effectively with events in the future.

Jerry Snyder, Director of Fire Services, provided additional information on assessments for the properties flooded to-date and informed the Commission that they are waiting for additional data.

Karen Davis, Director of Community Development, provided information on Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the potential eligibility requirements.

After additional discussion and comments of the Commission, Mayor Sherow thanked everyone for their comments and informed the community that the Commission will take a proactive approach to find a prudent, well-thought out plan. Hearing no other

comments, Mayor Sherow closed the public comments.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Jankovich commended the K-State Flying Club in hosting an excellent fly-in at the Manhattan Regional Airport. He wished Mayor Sherow a happy birthday, on June 8, 2011.

Mayor Sherow commended City staff, agencies, and the many volunteers that worked during the recent devastating flooding. He extended birthday greetings to the previous mayor, Bruce Snead.

CONSENT AGENDA

(* denotes those items discussed)

MINUTES

The Commission approved the minutes of the Regular City Commission Meeting held Tuesday, May 17, 2011.

CLAIMS REGISTER NO. 2673

The Commission approved Claims Register No. 2673 authorizing and approving the payment of claims from May 11, 2011, to May 31, 2011, in the amount of \$6,351,832.66.

LICENSES

The Commission approved a Tree Maintenance License for calendar year 2011 for Sedalia Terra Bellus, 1228 Westloop Place #317; an annual Cereal Malt Beverage Off-Premises License for Little Apple Express, 809 N. 3rd Street; and a Fireworks Display Application for Rainbow Fireworks, 76 Plum Avenue, Inman, Kansas, at CiCo Park, on July 4, 2011.

See Manhattan Page 5A

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Manhattan

from page four

ORDINANCE NO. 6898 - ANNEX - PORTIONS OF SCENIC DRIVE AND ANDERSON AVENUE

The Commission approved Ordinance No. 6898 annexing portions of Scenic Drive and Anderson Avenue rights-of-way, as requested by Board of Riley County Commissioners.

FIRST READING - REPEAL - REGULATING FAMILY DAY CARE HOMES

The Commission approved first reading of an ordinance repealing Ordinance No. 6806 related to the regulation of family day care homes.

***PETITION - CREATE - SOUTH PROJECT AREA TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Jason Hilgers, Assistant City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission and provided clarification on the item.

The Commission ratified the Mayor's signature on the petition and found the petition sufficient for the South Project Area Transportation Development District.

***RESOLUTION NO. 060711-A - SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE - SOUTH PROJECT AREA TRANSPORTATION AREA DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Jason Hilgers, Assistant City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission and provided clarification on the item.

The Commission approved Resolution No. 060711-A setting the date for a public hearing relative to the creation of the South Project Area Transportation Area Development District.

***FIRST READING - CREATE - SOUTH PROJECT AREA TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Jason Hilgers, Assistant City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission and provided clarification on the item.

The Commission approved first reading of an ordinance creating the South Project Area Transportation Development District.

RESOLUTION NO. 060711-B - REVISED PETITION - MILLER RANCH, UNIT THREE, PHASE TWO, STREET IMPROVEMENTS (ST1102)

The Commission found the revised petition sufficient and approved Resolution No. 060711-B, rescinding Resolution No. 071106-E and finding the project advisable and authorizing construction for Miller Ranch, Unit Three, Phase Two, Street Improvements (ST1102).

SUBMIT APPLICATIONS - GEOMETRIC IMPROVEMENT AND "KLINK" RESURFACING PROGRAM

The Commission authorized City Administration to submit applications for Geometric Improvement and "KLINK" Resurfacing Programs for fiscal year 2014 to the Kansas Department of Transportation.

AWARD CONTRACT - STREET MAINTENANCE PROJECT, CONCRETE PANEL REPLACEMENT (ST1105)

The Commission awarded a construction contract in the total amount of \$281,465.00 for the Street Maintenance Project, Concrete Panel Replacement (ST1105) to Carley Construction, of Wamego, Kansas.

***AWARD CONTRACT - STREET MAINTENANCE, ASPHALT MILL AND OVERLAY PROJECT (ST1106)**

Commissioner Jankovich announced he had a conflict of interest and would abstain from voting on this item.

AWARD CONTRACT - CLAFLIN ROAD AND BEECHWOOD TERRACE INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT (ST1015)

The Commission accepted the Engineer's Estimate in the amount of \$555,872.90 and awarded a construction contract in the amount of \$494,849.70 to the low bidder, Emery Sapp and Sons, Inc., of Columbia, Missouri, for the Claflin and Beechwood Terrace Intersection Improvement (ST1015).

PURCHASE EQUIPMENT - SETH CHILD INTELLIGENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM PROJECT (SP1106)

The Commission authorized City Administration to purchase the equipment for the Seth Child Intelligent Transportation System Project (SP1106) in the amount of \$47,367.50, from Gades Electric Inc., of Wichita, Kansas.

AWARD CONTRACT - AGGIEVILLE PEDESTRIAN RELAMPING PROJECT (SP1103)

The Commission awarded the Aggieville Pedestrian Relamping Project (SP1103) in the amount of \$58,880.00 to IES Commercial Inc., of Holdrege, Nebraska, to be paid from the Energy Efficient Community Block Grant.

***AWARD CONTRACT - LEE MILL HEIGHTS, UNIT THREE, PHASE 2, AND UNIT FOUR, PHASE 3 - STREET (ST1101), SANITARY SEWER (SS1102), WATER (WA1102), AND STORM WATER (SM1101) IMPROVEMENTS**

Commissioner Jankovich announced he had a conflict of interest and would abstain from voting on this item.

The Commission accepted the Engineer's Estimate in the amount of \$493,219.00 and awarded a construction contract to Bayer Construction Company, Inc., in the amount of \$465,142.58 for the Lee Mill Heights, Unit Three, Phase 2, and Unit Four, Phase 3, Street (ST1101), Sanitary Sewer (SS1102), Water (WA1102), and Storm Water (SM1101) improvements.

***CHANGE ORDER NO. 6 - WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE AND EXPANSION PROJECT (SP0705)**

Commissioner Jankovich announced he had a conflict of interest and would abstain from voting on this item.

The Commission approved Change Order No. 6 to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade and Expansion Project (SP0705), resulting in a net increase in the amount of \$301,976.00 (+1.5%) to the contract with Walters-Morgan Construction, Inc., of Manhattan, Kansas.

CHANGE ORDER NO. 5 - WATER TREATMENT EXPANSION PROJECT (WA0611)

The Commission approved Change Order No. 5 to the Water Treatment Expansion Project (WA0611), resulting in a net increase in the amount of \$334,744.00 (+4.2%) to the contract with Grimm Construction, Inc., of Gardner, Kansas.

CONTRACT AMENDMENT - RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION SERVICES - KONZA WATER MAIN EXTENSION (WA1006)

The Commission approved Contract Amendment No. 3 to the Agreement with Schwab Eaton, P.A., of Manhattan, Kansas, in the amount of \$58,950.00 for right-of-way acquisition services for the Konza Water Main Extension (WA1006).

CONTRACT ADDENDUM - PRODUCTION READY ART AND ILLUSTRATIONS FOR THE FLINT HILLS DISCOVERY CENTER

The Commission authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a contract addendum with Verner Johnson, Inc., of Boston, Massachusetts, in an amount not to exceed \$131,000.00 for Production Ready Art and Illustrations for the exhibits of the Flint Hills Discovery Center.

APPLICATION - TAKE CHARGE CHALLENGE AWARD GRANT

The Commission authorized City Administration to submit the Take Charge Challenge Award grant application to the Kansas Energy Office according to the priorities recommended by City Administration (See Attachment No. 1) and authorized the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the grant agreement and any other documents necessary to access the grant funds, if awarded.

BOARD APPOINTMENTS

The Commission approved appointments by Mayor Sherow to various boards and committees of the City.

Airport Advisory Board

Re-appointment of Jackie L. Hartman, 110 Anderson Hall, to a three-year KSU term. Ms. Hartman's term will begin June 27, 2011, and will expire June 26, 2014.

Re-appointment of Ken Mortensen, 702 North Washington, Junction City, to a three-year Junction City term. Mr. Mortensen's term will begin June 27, 2011, and will expire June 26, 2014.

Appointment of Jeff Hancock, 6353 Harbour Haven Drive, to fill the unexpired At-Large term of John Roberts. Mr. Hancock's term begins immediately, and will expire June 26, 2012.

Appointment of Dick Hayter, 1920 Grandview Drive, to fill the unexpired Chamber term of Richard Jankovich. Mr. Hayter's term begins immediately, and will expire June 26, 2012.

Code Appeals Board

Re-appointment of Anthony Allison, 1120 Hostetter Drive, to a three-year Master Electrician term. Mr. Allison's term begins immediately, and will expire May 31, 2014.

Re-appointment of Steve Kirby, 8838 Quail Lane, to a three-year Journeyman Plumber term. Mr. Kirby's term begins immediately, and will expire May 31, 2014.

Re-appointment of Warren Martin, 1906 Hayes Drive, to a three-year Journeyman Mechanic term. Mr. Martin's term begins immediately, and will expire May 31, 2014.

Historic Resources Board

Appointment of Mike Mesceri, 1015 Leavenworth Street, to a three-year Historic

Preservation/Architectural Designer term. Mr. Mesceri's term begins immediately, and will expire April 30, 2014.

Housing Appeals Board

Re-appointment of Mark Bachamp, 1213 Hylton Heights, Ste. 129, to a three-year term. Mr. Bachamp's term will begin July 1, 2011, and will expire June 30, 2014.

Re-appointment of William Muir, 2040 Shirley Lane, to a three-year term. Mr. Muir's term will begin July 1, 2011, and will expire June 30, 2014.

Appointment of Derek Richards, 321 North 14th Street, to a three-year term. Mr. Richards' term will begin July 1, 2011, and will expire June 30, 2014.

Neighborhood Grant Review Committee

Re-appointment of Sara Fisher, 811 Osage Street, to a one-year term. Ms. Fisher's term begins immediately, and will expire December 31, 2011.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Appointment of Ashalen Sims, 827 Colorado Street, Apt. No. 1, to a four-year term. Ms. Sims' term will begin July 1, 2011, and will expire June 30, 2015.

After discussion, Commissioner Jankovich moved to approve the consent agenda, as presented. Commissioner Butler seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0, with the exception of Item J, AWARD CONTRACT - STREET MAINTENANCE, ASPHALT MILL AND OVERLAY PROJECT (ST1106); Item N, AWARD CONTRACT - LEE MILL HEIGHTS, UNIT THREE, PHASE 2, AND UNIT FOUR, PHASE 3 - STREET (ST1101), SANITARY SEWER (SS1102), WATER (WA1102), AND STORM WATER (SM1101) IMPROVEMENTS; and Item O, CHANGE ORDER NO. 6 - WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPGRADE AND EXPANSION PROJECT (SP0705), which carried 4-0-1 with Commissioner Jankovich abstaining from the items due to a conflict of interest.

GENERAL AGENDA

FIRST READING - AMEND - RESIDENTIAL RENTAL LICENSING AND INSPECTION PROGRAM

Brad Claussen, Building Official, presented an overview on the item. He then responded to questions from the Commission regarding repeal of the current ordinance, amending the current program, the inspection and registration process, refunding policy, recommended inspections and process, program costs, and provided additional information and components of the amended program.

Jerry Snyder, Director of Fire Services, and Brad Claussen, Building Official, responded to additional questions from the Commission.

Regina Schroeder, President, Emerald Property Management, responded to questions from the Commission and provided clarification on the item.

Gary Olds, 3308 Frontier Circle, stated that the International Property Maintenance Code applies to all properties and that if an inspection fee is going to be imposed, then all businesses should pay an inspection fee to maintain a level playing field for all businesses.

Robert Buel, 2916 Tattarax Drive, provided additional information on the item and informed the Commission that he liked the idea of everyone paying for a property inspection and that some kind of inspection would be good for all properties.

Dave McFarland, 2030 Hunting Avenue, asked the Commission to consider the benefits the current ordinance provides to ensure the safety and health of the renters. He also voiced concerns with mold issues and presented examples of poor housing.

Dixie West, 1014 Houston Street, Rental Inspection Committee member, stated that the bottom line is providing safety for a large population in the community. She encouraged the Commission to consider addressing issues related to mold and plumbing inspections and to not repeal the current ordinance.

Stan Hoerman, 2021 Blue Hills Road, provided examples of tenant deaths that would not have been prevented with a rental inspection program. He stated that tenants should be required to take a safety course and fined if they remove batteries from smoke detectors.

Tim Davenport, 3004 Pecanwood Drive, Manhattan firefighter, informed the Commission that the inspection program provides a safe place for everyone, including the firefighters and tenants.

Richard Hill, 3513 Stagecoach Circle, stated the need for safety in owner-occupied homes too and asked the Commission to repeal the current ordinance. He then responded to questions from the Commission about registered versus licensed.

Anne Hill, 1518 Barrington Drive, asked what penalties are imposed for those not registering their properties and asked why it is

a crime for a landlord to make a profit. She then questioned the fairness of the current program and three-year inspection proposal.

Roger Seymour, 1181 Rock Springs Lane, asked the Commission to repeal the ordinance and stated that every property is inspected every time it sells. He stated that if tenants are old enough to get a driver's license, they should be old enough to pick a safe rental. He encouraged the need for a registration of every tenant in every property.

Larry Limbocker, 2108 Snowbird Drive, recommended the Commission scrap the Rental Inspection Program and start over. He stated that the ordinance needs to be repealed and that a licensing structure is not needed.

Brad Claussen, Building Official, provided additional information on notices to landlords and fines for code violations.

Felicia Benedetto, renter in Manhattan, informed the Commission that the current inspection program is successful and that landlords defer the fees back to the tenants. She stated that renting in Manhattan is more expensive than in Kansas City and asked the Commission to protect renters in the community.

Conn Harrison, 8720 Hughes Road, informed the Commission that he was supportive of fire inspections for all properties and asked that the current ordinance be repealed. He asked that additional consideration be given to tenant education and responsibilities.

JoAnn Sutton, Executive Director, Manhattan Housing Authority, informed the Commission that she served as an ex-officio on the Rental Inspection Committee and that there are tenants that are afraid to call the Code Office in fear of retaliation from their landlord. She stated that there are good landlords and some that are not so good.

Rick Roffler 1006 Karla Lane, property owner in Manhattan, stated that this ordinance should be repealed and modified with some kind of registration process.

Russel Weisbender, 700 Fairman Drive, landlord, informed the Commission that this whole program has been blown out of proportion and the landlord community is being punished for the sins of a few. He stated that his biggest problem has been with tenant's being destructive and asked that the current ordinance be repealed.

Bill Frost, City Attorney, responded to questions from the Commission.

After discussion and comments of the Commission, Commissioner Matta moved to approve first reading of an ordinance repealing the Residential Rental Inspection and Licensing Program and to direct City staff to come back to the Commission within 90 days with possible amendments to the program, along the fire inspection process and tiered for larger units being inspected, with the main point to repeal the current Rental Inspection Ordinance. Commissioner Pepperd seconded the motion.

After additional discussion of the Commission, Ron Fehr, City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission regarding fees for annual commercial fire inspections.

Commissioner Pepperd called for the question on the motion. On a roll call vote, motion failed 3-2, with Mayor Sherow and Commissioners Butler and Jankovich voting against the request.

After discussion of the Commission, Bill Frost, City Attorney, provided clarification on the procedure and motion on the table to repeal.

After additional discussion of the Commission and clarification of the motion, on a roll call vote, motion failed 3-2, with Mayor Sherow and Commissioners Butler and Jankovich voting against the motion.

After additional discussion of the Commission, Commissioner Butler moved to approve first reading of an ordinance amending the Residential Rental Inspection and Licensing Program using the life safety model. Commissioner Jankovich seconded the motion.

Mayor Sherow clarified that this motion would include life safety inspections.

After discussion, on a roll call vote, motion carried 3-2, with Commissioners Pepperd and Matta voting against the motion.

At 10:05 p.m., the Commission took a brief recess.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission regarding opportunities for additional input and timing of second reading of the ordinance to amend the Residential Rental Inspection and Licensing Program. **CONTRACT - DESIGN SERVICES - POYNTZ AVENUE IMPROVEMENTS**

Jason Hilgers, Assistant City Manager, presented the item and responded to questions from the Commission.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, informed the Commission that the scope will include working with Downtown Manhattan, Inc., (DMI)

to establish priorities for improvements.

Gina Scroggs, Executive Director, DMI, provided additional information on the priority for Poyntz Avenue projects and responded to questions from the Commission.

After discussion, Commissioner Jankovich moved to authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to execute a contract for the initial phase design in the amount of \$41,120.00 with Bowman, Bowman, Novick, of Manhattan, Kansas, for the Poyntz Avenue improvements. Commissioner Butler seconded the motion.

After additional discussion, on a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

FIRST READING - PUSH CART MOBILE FOOD VENDING - and - PEDDLERS LICENSE REVISIONS

Lauren Palmer, Assistant City Manager, presented background information on the item. She then responded to questions from the Commission regarding licensing and required clearance on public sidewalks.

Ralph DeZago, Owner, pushcart mobile food business, informed the Commission that the proposed ordinance addresses earlier concerns and was well crafted. He asked about the proration of fees if a business starts in the middle of the year and provided additional information on his operations.

Bart Thomas, 5640 Anderson Avenue, representing a number of Aggieville business owners, voiced concerns with the proposed ordinance and stated that many businesses have expressed concerns with allowing this to happen. He read a prepared statement from Dennis Erickson with Burger King in Aggieville, voicing his concerns in allowing food push carts and negative impact on local businesses.

Ewing Evans, Owner, Big D Burger Shack, informed the Commission that he has made a substantial financial commitment in this community and that it is an unfair advantage for a push cart vendor to sell food next to him and other restaurants. He asked that this be a level playing field for those that have made a financial addition to the community. He then responded to questions from the Commission.

Ralph DeZago, Owner, pushcart mobile food business, informed the Commission that he works only on Saturdays and provided additional information on the food inspection of his business.

Lauren Palmer, Assistant City Manager, provided clarification on the food inspections conducted by the State of Kansas.

Ewing Evans, Owner, Big D Burger Shack, provided additional information on the item.

Gina Scroggs, Executive Director, DMI, provided additional information on the item and voiced appreciation for the restrictions that have been made to the ordinance. She stated that restaurants provide a huge portion of the vitality downtown and businesses believes this promotes an unfair advantage.

Katie Jackson, Assistant City Attorney, and Lauren Palmer, Assistant City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission on the ability for restaurants to provide food push carts, potential of waived or discounted fees, food inspections, and the distinction between public and private property.

After discussion, Commissioner Jankovich moved to approve Ordinance No. 6894 repealing the existing mobile food vending ordinance; and to approve Ordinance No. 6895 amending Chapter 24 relating to canvassers, peddlers, and solicitors. Commissioner Matta seconded the motion.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, and Lauren Palmer, Assistant City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission.

After discussion, on a roll call vote, motion failed 3-2, with Mayor Sherow and Commissioners Pepperd and Butler voting against the motion.

After additional discussion of the Commission, Commissioner Butler moved to approve Ordinance No. 6894 repealing the

existing mobile food vending ordinance; approve Ordinance No. 6895 amending Chapter 24 relating to canvassers, peddlers, and solicitors; and approve first reading of the new mobile food vending ordinance, subject to adjustments at second reading of the ordinance. Commissioner Pepperd seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 3-2, with Commissioners Matta and Jankovich voting against the motion.

FIRST READING - REPEAL - DRIVING WHILE LISTENING OR TALKING ON WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Katie Jackson, Assistant City Attorney, provided a brief presentation on the item. She then responded to questions from the Commission.

John Doehling, Assistant Director, Riley County Police Department, asked the Commission to retain the ordinance because of safety and the dangers in driving while talking on a cell phone. He stated that the driver's attention is diverted from the task at hand and said the ordinance also allows officers to be proactive with distracted drivers. He then responded to questions from the Commission about inattentive driving.

Bill Frost, City Attorney, provided additional information on inattentive driving.

Ron Fehr, City Manager, responded to questions from the Commission regarding additional signage within the city and potential locations for signs.

Katie Jackson, Assistant City Attorney, provided clarification on the definition of bicycles as identified in the ordinance.

David Pauls, 3604 Brenda Court, asked if bicycles have to abide by the same laws as motor vehicles.

Bill Frost, City Attorney, provided additional information on the Standard Traffic Ordinance and applicability of bicycles and motor vehicles.

After discussion, Commissioner Matta moved to approve first reading of an ordinance repealing the provision of the City's 2010 Standard Traffic Ordinance that relates to listening or talking on a wireless communication device while driving. Commissioner Pepperd seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion failed 3-2, with Mayor Sherow and Commissioners Butler and Jankovich voting against the motion.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:36 p.m., Commissioner Pepperd moved to recess into Executive Session until 11:50 p.m., for the purpose of discussing matters, that presently need to remain confidential, and are related to employer-employee negotiations between City Administration and Local 2275, International Association of Fire Fighters, the Union representing certain members of the Manhattan Fire Department. Commissioner Jankovich seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, motion carried 5-0.

At 11:50 p.m., the Commission reconvened with Mayor Sherow and Commissioners Pepperd, Matta, Butler, and Jankovich in attendance. Commissioner Pepperd moved to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Matta seconded the motion. On vote motion carried 5-0.

At 11:51 p.m., Commissioner Pepperd moved to recess into Executive Session until 12:10 a.m. for the purpose of discussions with the City Attorney regarding pending legal matters that need to be confidential and that are deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client relationship. Commissioner Jankovich seconded the motion. On vote, motion carried 5-0.

At 12:10 a.m., the Commission reconvened with Mayor Sherow and Commissioners Pepperd, Matta, Butler, and Jankovich in attendance.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Pepperd moved to adjourn. Commissioner Matta seconded the motion. On vote, motion carried 5-0. At 12:10 a.m., the Commission adjourned.

Letter To The Editor

I am very pleased with three of the city commissioners and their decision last Tuesday evening regarding the proposed fixed route transit system.

They showed the will power not to buckle under the pressure propelled against them.

Commissioner Pepperd brought up major points regarding the additional cost of proposed bus-stops including signs, benches and shelters apart from the initial operating costs. Commissioner Pepperd went on to list the ticking time bomb regarding FEMA's unfunded mandate of certifying the city levees as well the unknown expense of fund-

ing the Discovery Center.

Commissioner Butler echoed concerns over putting the City of Manhattan and its tax-paying citizens into a position where we become ever more dependent on a system supported by State & Federal grant-moneys that carry absolutely no guarantee of permanence.

Commissioner Matta deserves "Extra Credit" for doing his own research on the dismal fiscal records of public transit systems elsewhere across the country (short version: there isn't a single system anywhere in the country that operates "in the black" -- they all

require ever-increasing subsidies from taxpayers year after year).

In response to the commissioner's decision of not accepting the "revenue neutral" fixed route system a female voice from the back yelled "shame on you!"

My response to this comment was a silent sigh of relief that three of the current city commissioners were principled enough to look out for the total population of Manhattan.

The time has come for each person to take responsibility for their own form of transportation. I choose to ride a bicycle to work not for "green reasons" but for the sim-

ple fact that it is a cheap form of transportation.

Granted the A.T.A. bus does serve those who have needs and I have no argument with this program. However the expansion of this program into a fixed route system would prove to be a bottomless money pit where expenses would continually out strip the tax sponsored revenue stream.

Commissioners Butler, Matta and Pepperd, thank you and BRAVO for your sound fiscal decision.

Rob Friesen
Manhattan, KS

39⁹⁵
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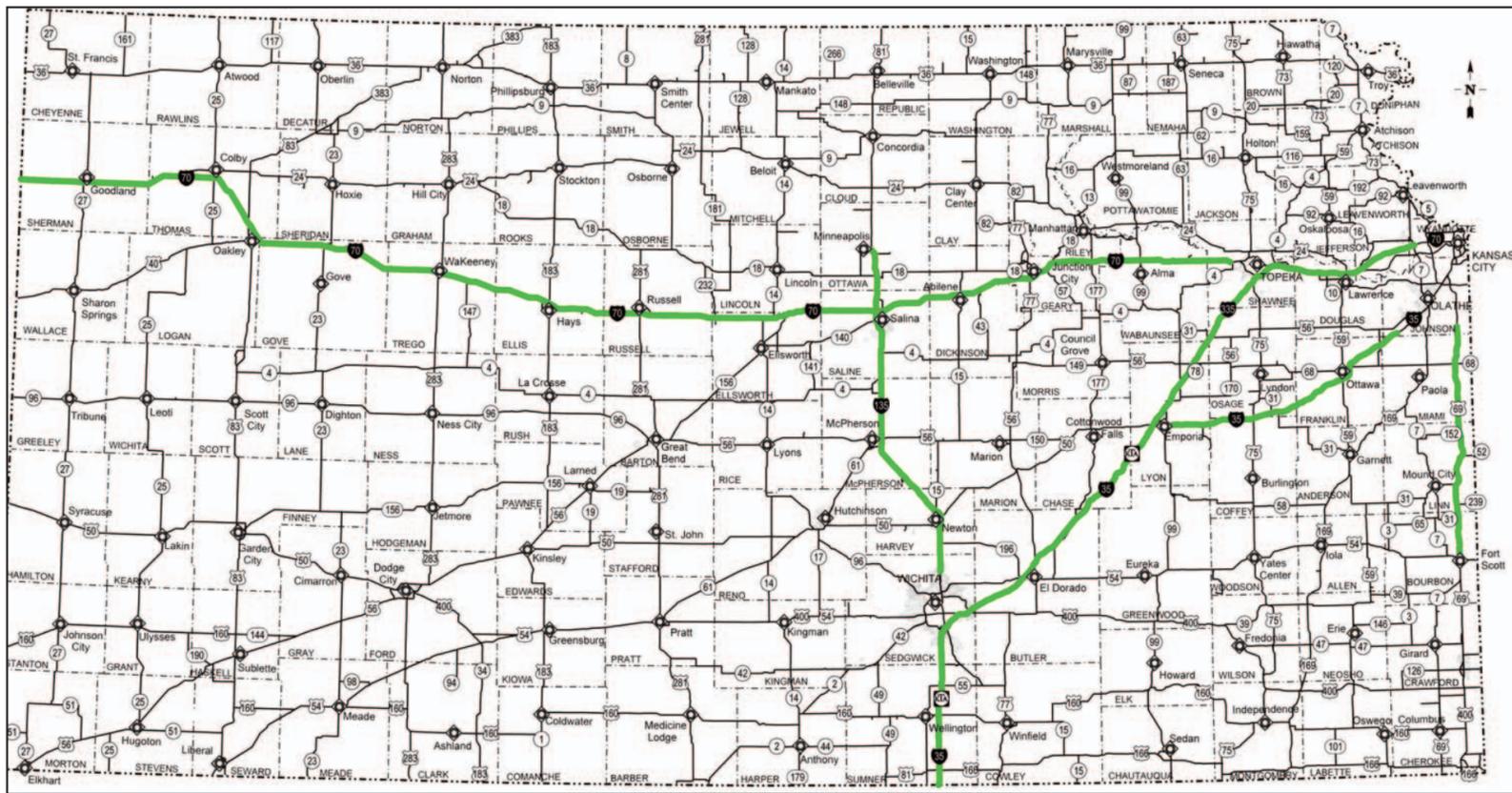
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Kansas Highways with 75 MPH Speed Limit as of July 2011



The speed limit on rural stretches of Kansas interstate highways, as well as segments of two U.S. routes, will be boosted to 75 miles per hour.

The 75-mph routes include:

- I-70 from the Colorado state line to just west of Topeka in Shawnee County.
- I-135 from a half-mile north of the 85th Street interchange in Harvey County to I-70 near Salina.
- I-35 from U.S. 50 just east of Emporia to a mile east of the Sunflower/Edgerton Interchange in Johnson County.
- U.S. 81 from I-70 near Salina north to K-106.
- U.S. 69 from just six-tenths of a mile north of the north junction of U.S. 54 in Bourbon County to the 199th Street Interchange in Johnson County.
- The Kansas Turnpike from the Oklahoma state line to K-7 in

Wyandotte County.

The new maximum speed limit was passed by the 2011 Legislature, authorizing the Secretary of Transportation to consider any separated, multilane highway for the new speed limit. All of the routes chosen for the increased speed limit are freeways, which have controlled access and interchanges. No expressways, which have at-grade intersections with cross traffic, were selected. A total of 807 miles of roadway will have the 75-mph speed limit.

"These routes were selected by a task force made up of KDOT representatives and the Kansas Highway Patrol. The Kansas Turnpike Authority has also approved the speed limit changes," said Chris Herrick, director of KDOT's Division of Planning and Development and a member of the task force.

"We considered a number of factors, such as traffic volumes, crash history and roadway geometrics, to determine where to raise

the limit. We will continue to monitor these routes under the new speed limit and consider whether it makes sense to increase the maximum speed on other highways."

Among the other factors considered were whether the road was in a rural or urban area, the amount of commuter traffic it carries and the speed limit in surrounding states.

KDOT will begin the process of affixing aluminum overlays with the new 75-mph speed limit to the existing 70-mph signs on Thursday, June 30. However, it will not be legal to travel at 75-mph until the new law takes effect on July 1. Starting the process a day before the law takes effect will allow KDOT crews to have most, if not all, of the signs updated before the start of the holiday travel weekend.

Classifieds

Adoption

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Misc.

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Misc.

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Misc.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
The United States Department of Agriculture, Commodity Credit Corporation and the State of Kansas propose to enhance existing public access programs in Kansas through a new grant program authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill, the Voluntary Public Access - Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP). A Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) have been prepared for this action and are available for review. The Programmatic EA and FONSI can be reviewed or downloaded at the following website:
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/FSA/webapp?area=home&subject=ecre&topic=nep-cd>
Public and agency comments are being accepted on this project until July 29, 2011 and can be sent to Jake George, Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, 512 SE 25th Ave, Pratt, Kansas, 67124 or via email: jake.george@ksoutdoors.com.

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