



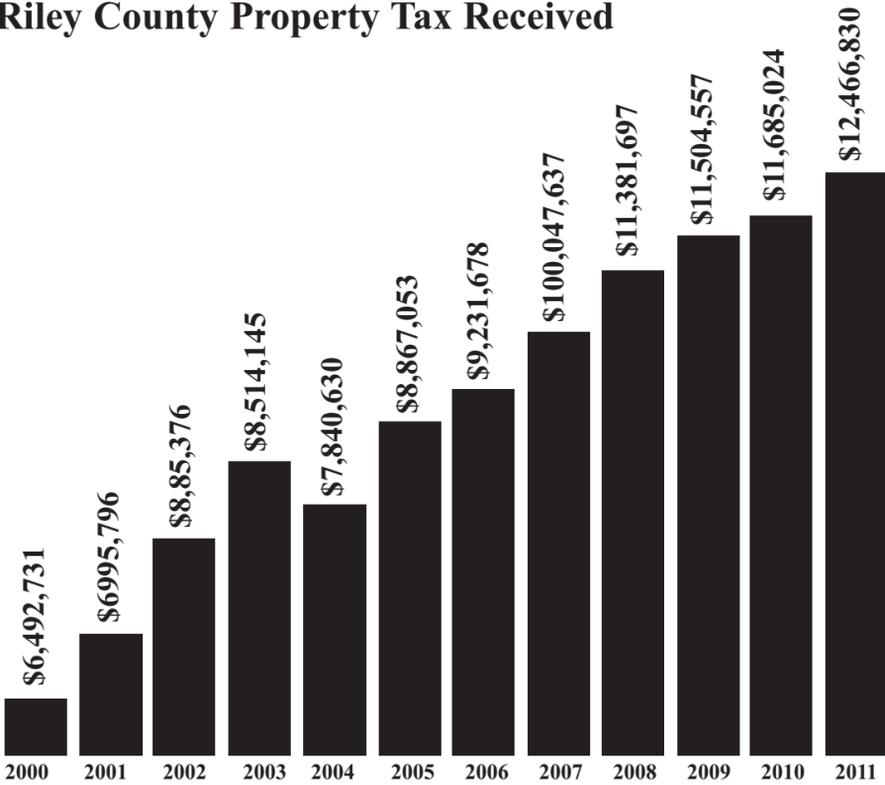
# Manhattan Free Press

Vol. 20 Number 42

An Award Winning Weekly Newspaper

Thursday, March 29, 2012

## Riley County Property Tax Received



The Riley County Commission and the City of Manhattan Commission are looking at prolonging the 2002 1/2 cent sales tax for "Roads and Bridges" for another 10-years. When the Sales Tax passed the County was taking in \$8.8 million in property tax, now they are taking in \$12.4 million but we still need to extend the Sales tax. Wait until you see what the County Sales Tax increase over the same time, no not the 1/2 cent sales tax for "Roads and Bridges" just the regular County-wide Sale Tax.

## City Grabs The Most Money

When you are \$257 million in debt, you need lots of money. Even the newly elected City Commissioners Tuesday night want more money. Here is a memo the City Commission used to decide that they should pick door number 2 with the biggest prize.

### Discussion Regarding Ballot Options for the Renewal or replacement of the 2002 Riley County "Roads and Jobs" Half-Cent Sales Tax

In 2002, the voters of Riley County approved the so-called "Roads and Jobs" half-cent sales tax measure. State law mandated that Riley County share the proceeds of the tax with all municipalities within the County. The ballot reflected Riley County's voluntary pledge to use its portion of the proceeds to "pay the costs of developing, improving, and maintaining the system of roads, bridges, and culverts located in the County." The ballot also reflected the City of Manhattan's voluntary pledge to commit its portion of the proceeds for "economic development initiatives that occur within Riley County." The sales tax generates approximately \$4 million annually. Of that amount, the City receives approximately \$2.2 million annually. The City's funds have been used for such projects and companies as the Florence Corporation, Manhattan/K-State Innovation Center, Meadowlark Hills, the National Bio and Agro Defense Facility (NBAF), GTM Sportswear, Regional Jet Service via American Eagle Airlines, among others. The sales tax is set to expire in December 2012.

pros and cons of each approach:

1. Half-Cent Riley County Sales Tax (no interlocal agreement)

- Pros:
- Previously approved by the City Commission on November 1, 2011.
  - Generates approximately \$2.7 million annually for the City.
  - Other cities in Riley County continue to share in proceeds.

Cons:

- Riley County would receive approximately \$1.5 million annually, or about \$330,000 less than what is generated under the current sales tax and interlocal agreement.

2. Half-Cent City of Manhattan Sales Tax

- Pros:
- Generates approximately \$800,000 more annually than a half-cent County sales tax.

- The City could enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Riley County to maintain or increase the current level of funding to Riley County. The City would not dictate how Riley County utilizes its portion of proceeds.
- The City could complete economic development projects in the Pottawatomie County portion of Manhattan without requiring approval from the Riley County Commission.

Cons:

- Riley County would need to decide if it wants to share any of its proceeds with the smaller cities in Riley County.

3. Quarter-Cent City of Manhattan Sales Tax and a Quarter-Cent Riley County Sales Tax

- Pros:
- The City would receive approximately \$2.5 million in annual proceeds.

- The City may proceed with its own ballot language, election date, and education campaign independent of further negotiations with Riley County.

Cons:

- Two ballot questions may be perceived as competing, which could confuse or dissuade the voting public.

- The combined proceeds of a quarter-cent county sales tax (\$2.1million annually) and a quarter-cent city sales tax (\$2.5 million annually) are less than the proceeds from a half-cent city-wide sales tax (\$5.0 million annually).

In order to proceed, the Riley County Commission and/or the Manhattan City Commission must adopt a resolution to call the election(s) for November. In addition, if a County ballot is to contain language addressing the City's use of its proceeds, the City Commission will need to adopt an ordinance pledging the general purposes proposed for the use of the proceeds received from the County-wide sales tax. For either a city or county question, City Administration recommends adopting a policy resolution to further clarify how the Commission will make decisions regarding the use of funds. A draft policy resolution was discussed on January 24, 2012. Based on that discussion, City Administration will finalize the policy for formal consideration by the City Commission at the appropriate time, once the issues regarding the ballot question have been resolved.

## Casino Cash For Pension Fund

By Gene Meyer  
Kansas Reporter

TOPEKA — The house always wins.

The phrase is trite yet poignant, because it's mostly true. Las Vegas, as they say, wasn't built because of winners.

Some Kansas lawmakers, including Republican Gov. Sam Brownback, want to take that idea and give it a legislative twist.

Kansas would take some \$47 million — conservatively speaking — in casino revenue to fix the state's pension fund, which is riding a seemingly terminal losing streak. The pension fund — and its stakeholders — get some chips to play with.

But taxpayers, for the most part, would get the equivalent of a complimentary breakfast.

Kansas House Minority Leader Paul Davis, D-Lawrence, last week proposed, and the Kansas House approved, a plan that would invest three-quarters of the state's share of the casino take — which, primarily, emanates from two new state-owned casinos in Kansas City and near Wichita — toward paying down the \$8.3 billion unfunded liability.

The \$47 million, annually, is an estimate from Davis, who predicted as much as \$200 million as the three state casinos — including Dodge City — become better established. The Kansas Legislative Research Department has yet to disclose an official prognostication. Hollywood Casino in Kansas City and Kansas Star Casino in Wichita have been open less than a year, and Boot Hill Casino in Dodge City less than two years.

Keith Kocher is gaming activities director at the Kansas Lottery, which regulates gambling in Kansas. He made some quick calculations and predicted the initial revenue stream could be closer to \$60 million, based on the latest revenue reports. Revenue from the lottery was not considered as part of the House bill.

Kansas Public Employees Retirement System, or KPERS, is the state's largest pension fund, and it's in big trouble. According to a state estimate, a gap of some \$8.3 billion exists between the benefits pledged to 260,000 KPERS recipients by 2033 and the actual money to pay them.

Some say the shortfall is larger — much larger.

Economists Joshua Rauh, of

Northwestern University, and Robert Novy-Marx, at University of Chicago, for example, calculated in a 2010 study that all state pensions funds, including Kansas', understated funding shortfalls. The reported \$8.3 billion in Kansas, the study concluded, was closer to \$22 billion.

People receiving KPERS benefits — as well as those who expect to later — represent a small percentage of Kansas' nearly 1.5 million-member workforce, according to the 2010 U.S. Census. The KPERS system has about 280,000 members.

The Kansas Expanded Lottery Act of 2007, which led to the casinos, gives casino operators 73 percent of house revenue to run their respective business and, of course, to turn a profit. Another 5 percent goes to administer programs targeting problem gamblers and to local governments in areas where the casinos operate.

The remaining 22 percent, under the Expanded Lottery Act Revenues, or ELAR, must be used to retire state debt, help reduce state and local property taxes, or improve state infrastructure.

## Frank Martin Named South Carolina Coach

By University South Carolina  
Sports Information

COLUMBIA, S.C. - Frank Martin has been named the head men's basketball coach at the University of South Carolina, announced today by Gamecocks' Athletic Director Eric Hyman. Martin becomes the 32nd head coach in the history of the South Carolina program, which enters its 105th season as a varsity sport in 2012-13.

Martin, 46, has spent the past five seasons as the head coach at Kansas State University, leading the Wildcats to the NCAA Tournament four times, including a trip to the Elite Eight during the 2009-10 campaign when the squad won a school-record 29 contests. Martin's Wildcats won at least 21 games in each of his five seasons at the helm, compiling a record of 117-54 (.684) under his direction. During that time, Kansas State posted a 50-32 (.609) record in Big 12 Conference games, finishing fifth or higher in each season, while finishing third or higher three times. Martin was the first Wildcat head coach to post a 20-win season in each of his first five seasons and the first coach to guide the school to the postseason in his first five years at the helm. In all, Martin has helped coach four All-Americans since he became coach in 2007.

During his first season as a college head coach during the 2007-08 campaign, Martin led his squad to a 21-12 overall record and finished third in the Big 12 with a mark of 10-6 in league contests. The third-place finish by the Wildcats was the program's best finish since the inception of the league. The squad advanced to the NCAA Tournament, and Martin led his team to the program's first NCAA Tournament victory since the 1988



Coach Frank Martin (Photo by Ben Brake)

campaign.

The 2008-09 squad earned an at-large bid to the Postseason NIT, and his 2009-10 team followed with one of the best seasons in program history, compiling a school-record 29 wins, en route to the program's first NCAA Tournament Elite Eight appearance in over two decades. Martin was the runner-up for the Associated Press' National Coach of the Year award in 2010, while he was a finalist for the Naismith Men's College Basketball Coach of the Year and the CollegeInsider.com's Jim Phelan National Coach of the Year awards. He earned Big 12 Coach of the Year honors that season from the league's

coaches, the AP and Sporting News among others.

The 2010-11 team posted the fourth 20-win season under Martin, as the squad collected an overall record of 23-11, including a 10-6 mark in league play (tied for third). The team also advanced to the NCAA Tournament's third round, the squad's third appearance in the Tournament under the fourth-year head coach. The team struggled through the early portion of the Big 12 campaign, dropping five of its first seven league contests. The team rallied to close the season, however, posting wins in nine of its last 11 regular-season contests.

Martin's 2011-12 squad posted an

overall mark of 22-11 and once again advanced to the NCAA Tournament third round. The NCAA selection marked KSU's school-record sixth-straight season with a postseason berth and fifth under the direction of Martin. The Wildcats posted a 10-8 mark in Big 12 play to finish fifth, which made Kansas State and cross-state rival Kansas as the only Big 12 schools to receive a bye into the quarterfinals of the Phillips 66 Big 12 Championship in each of the last six seasons (five under Martin).

Before his appointment as head coach at Kansas State, Martin served one season as the top assistant and recruiting coordinator at the school for then-head coach Bob Huggins during the 2006-07 campaign. He helped coach two all-conference players that season and helped KSU post one of the nation's top recruiting classes in 2006, as the group was ranked No. 1 by Scout.com and Rivals.com. The class included the nation's No. 1 recruit in Michael Beasley and No. 6 Bill Walker.

Martin first joined the Kansas State staff after spending two seasons as an assistant coach at Cincinnati. He first served as an assistant for Bob Huggins during the 2004-05 campaign, and then for Andy Kennedy in 2005-06. The Bearcats advanced to the postseason in both of those seasons, including a trip to the NCAA Tournament in 2005. Martin's first college coaching position came as an assistant at Northeastern (2000-2004), where he helped coach eight all-conference players.

Prior to his time on the sidelines in the college ranks, Martin spent 15 years in high school coaching in Miami, Fla., including the last seven as a head coach. He was part of five state championships as an assistant at

Miami Senior High School (1985-93), before earning two titles as the program's head coach (1995-99). Highlighting Martin's stint as the head coach of the program were consecutive 30-win seasons and consecutive Florida 6A State Championships in 1996 and 1997, with his 1997 squad earning a 36-1 overall record and ranking No. 4 in the USA Today Top 25 Poll. He helped develop 14 players that went on to play NCAA Division I basketball, while all 21 of his players graduated with 19 of those attending college.

Martin also served as the head coach at North Miami Senior High School (1993-95) and spent one season at Booker T. Washington High School (1999-2000).

A native of Miami, Fla., Martin earned his bachelor's degree in physical education from Florida International in 1993. He and his wife, Anya, have three children, Brandon, Amalia and Christian.

Coaching Experience:  
Miami Senior High, 1985-93  
Varsity Boys' Assistant

Coach Junior Varsity Boys' Head Coach  
North Miami High, Head Coach, 1993-95  
Miami Senior High, Head Coach, 1995-98  
B.T. Washington High, Head Coach, 1999-2000

Northeastern, Assistant Coach, 2000-04  
Cincinnati, Assistant Coach, 2004-06  
Kansas State, Assistant Coach, 2006-07  
Kansas State, Head Coach, 2007-12

All-Time Record, Big 12 Record (Big 12 finish), postseason:

2007-08: 21-12, 10-6 (3rd),  
NCAA Tournament Second Round  
2008-09: 22-12, 9-7 (t-4th), NIT  
2009-10: 29-8, 11-5 (t-2nd), NCAA  
Tournament Elite Eight  
2010-11: 23-11, 10-6 (t-3rd), NCAA  
Tournament Third Round  
2011-12: 22-11, 10-8 (5th), NCAA  
Tournament Third Round  
Overall: 117-54 (.684); Big 12: 50-32 (.609)

Richard S. "Dick" Endacott



Richard S. "Dick" Endacott, age 90, of Manhattan, Kansas, died March 24, 2012 at the Meadowlark Hills-Collins Landing in Manhattan. He was born on October 28, 1921, in Kansas City, Kansas the son of Lawrence H. and Grace (Kiner) Endacott. Richard was a longtime Manhattan resident where he attended public schools, graduating from Manhattan High

School. He later took business courses at Sacred Heart Academy in Manhattan. During World War II, Richard served in the Pacific Theater with the U. S. Marine Corps until his honorable discharge. On March 5, 1944, in Arkansas City, Kansas, he was united in marriage to the former S. Elaine (Stoner) Endacott. She preceded him in death on August 17, 2009. He was also preceded in death by his parents and by two brothers: John and Elton Endacott. Richard was a simple man that loved his wife, family and work. He and Elaine, together, built Endacott Electric and then Endacott Lighting into successful companies. An electrical contractor from 1949 to 1976 Richard taught several local electricians the trade and they in turn taught many others. In

1967, Richard and Elaine began selling light fixtures. They had Endacott Lighting in Kansas City for 32 years as well as their store in Manhattan which is still family owned and operated. Richard and Elaine were tireless workers whose time and partnership together, both at home and at work, meant a great deal to them. Despite his schedule Richard always had time for family, especially his grandchildren who were often around the house during the summers. He was a member of the Trinity Presbyterian Church and former member of the Sertoma Club, both of Manhattan. He is survived by one son: Jeff Endacott and his wife Nancy, Manhattan, KS; and one daughter: Susan Sayson and her husband Kai, of Manhattan. Also surviving are

seven grandchildren: Rob Mermis, Brett Mermis, Jason Endacott, Kezia Endacott, Betsy Randall, Jane Endacott and Molly Randall, six great grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. The family will receive friends during a visitation from 6:00 until 7:00 p.m. Monday, March 26, 2012, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home. Funeral services were held 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, March 27, 2012, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Chapel with The Reverend Tim Macguffee officiating. Interment followed in the Sunrise Cemetery in Manhattan. On-line condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website located at [www.ymlfuneralhome.com](http://www.ymlfuneralhome.com). A memorial has been estab-

lished for the Greater Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Manhattan Community Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502. Contributions may be left in care of the

Gary E. Shaver

Gary E. Shaver, age 67, of Manhattan, died March 22, 2012, at Mercy Regional Health Center in Manhattan after an extended battle with scleroderma. He was born May 21, 1944, in Randolph, Kansas, the son of Ellis and Jane (Nelson) Shaver. He graduated from Clay County Community High School in 1962. Following his high school graduation he attended Barber School in Topeka. Gary was a

barber in Aggieville in Manhattan until 1979 when he went to work at Jeffrey Energy Center in mechanical maintenance. He retired in 2000. Gary was a member of the Wamego Masonic Lodge and the ARAB Temple. He enjoyed boating, camping, fishing, drag racing, his corvette, spending time in his yard, feeding and watching the birds, his salt water fish tank and so enjoyed visiting and joking with his many friends..

On June 23, 1963, in Clay Center, Kansas, he was married to Donna I. Conner. She survives of the home. Additional survivors include his son, Troy Shaver of Manhattan; one granddaughter, Courtney Shaver of Manhattan; and one sister, Shirley Eads of Bullhead City, Nevada. Cremation is planned. The family will receive friends from 5:00 until 7:00 P.M. Thursday, March 29th, at the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen

Funeral Home. Online condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at [www.ymlfuneralhome.com](http://www.ymlfuneralhome.com). Memorial contributions may be made to the National Scleroderma Foundation. Contributions may be left in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home, 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66502.

Donald Allan Kesinger

Donald Allan Kesinger, 73, of Manhattan, passed away Friday, March 23rd, at the Mercy Regional Health Center. Don was born in Whitehall, Illinois on June 17, 1938, the son of the late Velma (Hayes) and Merrill Kesinger. He was united in marriage to Carolyn Beth Naylor on Nov. 16, 1996 in Amarillo, Texas and she survives of the home. He was a pharmaceutical representative for Pfizer Pharmaceutical Company, Roerig Division retiring in 1998. Don attended and graduated from KSU in 1961 with a bachelors degree in Feed Technology. While attending

KSU he was a member of the golf team from 1956 to 1960 and was still very active in playing golf. He was also an alumni of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. Don was an avid supporter of KSU athletics, the Ahearn Scholarship fund, a member of the KSU Presidents Club, a member of the Friends of International Programs Board, and the Friends of the Beach Museum of Art at KSU. Don served in the US Army between 1961 and 1963, and was a member of the American Legion in Manhattan. Dan and his wife Beth are members of the First United Methodist Church in Manhattan. Survivors include his wife,

Beth of the home; two daughters, Kimberley Balstad, and husband Robert, of New Milford, Connecticut; Julie Garster, and husband James, of Springfield, Virginia; two stepsons Terry J.Morton and his wife of Elisa, of Nuremberg, Germany; and Lee Morton, of Grand Junction, Colorado; and grandchildren Hannah Morton of the home; Brady, Bethany and Benjamin Balstad; and Kevin, Claire and Mary Kate Garster. Visitation was held on Tuesday, March 27 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm, and on Wednesday, March 28 from 9:00am to 8:00pm with the family receiving friends from

6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home & Cremation, 1317 Poyntz in Manhattan. A funeral service will be at 10:00am on Thursday, March 29th, at the First United Methodist Church, in Manhattan, burial will follow in the Sunrise Cemetery. The family request donations to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, 7611 State Line Rd, Kansas City, MO 64114 or the Kansas State University Foundation, 2323 Anderson Avenue #500 Manhattan, KS 66502. To send an online condolence visit [irvinparkview.com](http://irvinparkview.com) or at Irvin-Parkview Funeral Home & Cremation on Facebook.

Bernice Snyder

Bernice Snyder, age 101, a lifelong resident of Manhattan, Kansas died Thursday March 22, 2012 at the Westmoreland Care Center, Westmoreland, Kansas. She was born on August 21, 1910 in Manhattan, Kansas the daughter of Vere Paul and Cora (Henton) Morris. She graduat-

ed from Manhattan High and Manhattan Business College. She was a Riley County Tax Assessor for many years. Bernice enjoyed creating art, especially painting. She had a very big heart for animals. She especially loved being with her family and friends. Survivors include her two

sons: Kelly Snyder of Manhattan, Kansas and Martin Snyder and his wife Debra of Manhattan, Kansas; 4 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. Bernice's wishes were to be cremated with no Memorial Services. Private inurnment will be at

a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the donor's choice in care of the Yorgensen-Meloan-Londeen Funeral Home 1616 Poyntz Avenue, Manhattan, Kansas 66502. Online condolences may be left for the family through the funeral home website at: [www.ymlfuneralhome.com](http://www.ymlfuneralhome.com).

Messiah Chorus, Orchestra To Perform

The Flint Hills Messiah Chorus and Chamber Orchestra will perform George Frideric Handel's "Messiah" on Palm Sunday, April 1st, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. at the Historic Columbian Theatre in Wamego, Kansas. The theatre is located in downtown Wamego at 521 Lincoln Street and is handicapped assessable. The Flint Hills Messiah Chorus traces its roots to the late 1980's when the KANZA

Conference of the United Methodist Church organized an ecumenical performance of Handel's "Messiah" three times before the Wamego Council of Churches and a steering committee of volunteers from the area took the reins of the organization in 1991 and named it The Flint Hills Messiah Chorus. Since then, the all-volunteer chorus, directed by Christine Day, has gathered each year, except in 2000, to perform Handel's "Messiah" during the Season of Lent.

Ten years ago, a chamber orchestra was added to the performances. The orchestra is comprised of local musicians including students from regional colleges. The assistant conductor, Janet Armstead, rehearses the chamber orchestra several weeks prior to the performance. Tickets may be obtained by contacting Claudia Leeds at 785.532.6008. Additional information can be found at [www.flinthillsmessiah.org](http://www.flinthillsmessiah.org)

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**Manhattan Free Press**

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

Web site: [manhattanfreepress.com](http://manhattanfreepress.com)  
 Subscriptions: eFreePress subscriptions are Free

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## Discovery Center Visitors



Just prior to the conclusion of National Wildlife Week, the Boys & Girls Club of Manhattan received an exclusive sneak peak of the Flint Hills Discovery Center on March 22, 2012. Youth ages 5-10 were the first group of children to learn about wildlife in the Flint Hills while they scurried through the Discovery Burrow, visited 7 interactive learning stations and created arts and crafts in the Flint Hills Discovery Center's second-floor family Fun Zone. According to the children, the Flint Hills Discovery Center is bound to be a hit! On Left (Back Row): Bob Workman, Director of the Flint Hills Discovery Center, joins the children and staff members of the local Boys & Girls Club. Third from the Right (Back Row): Hannah Odette, Program Development Director of the Boys & Girls Club was also in attendance.

## Why Religious Liberty Is Important for Institutions

**Ryan Messmore**  
Heritage Foundation

Obamacare's anti-conscience mandate has raised many questions about freedom. One of them is whether religious liberty is only for individuals or also for institutions.

America's founders thought that the Constitution's "first freedom" is for both, a view backed up by the U.S. Supreme Court as well as numerous federal and state statutes.

Why is religious liberty important for institutions? Because of our relational nature as humans.

We are relational beings at our core. Everyone exists in some form of relationship to others. In fact, we become who we are—we develop our own unique habits and views—in the context of these relationships. We need to think of ourselves and others not merely as self-standing individuals but as persons in community.

There is something deep within human nature that prompts us to seek out membership in communities of purpose—to desire to be on the inside of a meaningful group and to participate in something larger than oneself. This "quest

for community," as Robert Nisbet calls it, plays out largely through social institutions.

In their essence, institutions are structured relationships. They are habits of activity that bind people together in a common purpose through time.

Schools bring people together to engage in teaching and learning. Hospitals bring people together around the purposes of healing and health. Businesses coordinate work activity toward a common productive goal. Churches bind members together to worship and follow God.

All of these institutions facilitate joint, fundamental activities and relationships of human life. We live and move and accomplish basic needs in institutions. Through institutions, we gain a sense of connection with the larger social realities of life. We form and express our identity through institutions. As relational beings, that's how we're wired.

True liberty must take account of the relational aspect of human nature. And true religious liberty, in particular, must entail the freedom to exercise one's faith in the various relationships and joint activities of

day-to-day life. In other words, religious freedom applies to participation in institutions.

Each one of those institutions—our particular school, church, workplace, etc.—takes on a certain culture or identity. And that identity is shaped in large part by the values, beliefs, and habits of its members. A school might follow a particular dress code; a church follows certain standards of behavior or worship; a place of work sets certain working conditions and provides certain employee benefits. All of these particular value-laden marks of an institution help to form its identity and accomplish the tasks for which it was formed. And since participation in institutions is basic to human life, true freedom includes the ability to form and shape, enter and leave institutions that reflect our deepest values and convictions.

Historically, the Judeo-Christian tradition has understood this relational aspect of being human and emphasized the communal nature of faith. In fact, the Latin root of religion is religio, meaning "to bind." Religious communities and institutions bind people vertically to God and horizon-

ally to one another. And they play a significant role in human life and society—in terms of not only spiritual fulfillment or self-realization but also addressing social challenges and sustaining democratic order.

For example, faith-based institutions like religious schools, hospitals, and charities often provide loving forms of assistance and care that government programs simply cannot offer. Furthermore, America's founders asserted that religious institutions are important for fostering the virtues necessary for self-government.

As Stanley Carlson-Thies, president of the Institutional Religious Freedom Alliance, argues, religious freedom must protect "the work of faith-based non-profits and other institutions," for it is often through them that "people of faith put their convictions into action in the world."

Sadly, Obamacare's anti-conscience mandate threatens the freedom of not only individuals but also institutions.

### Telling the Truth

#### Local Leader:

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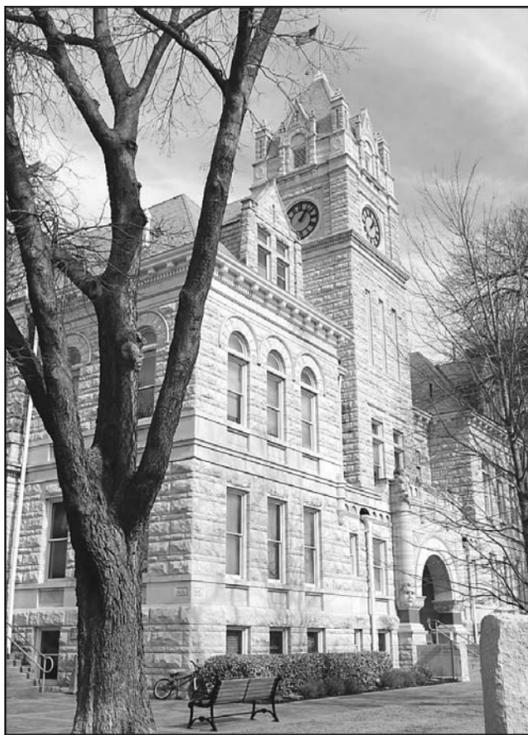
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## Riley County Commission Minutes

The Board of County Commissioners Of Riley County, Kansas

The Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners met at the Riley County Plaza East Building March 19, 2012 with the following members present: Alvan Johnson, Chair; Karen McCulloh, Member; and Rich Vargo, County Clerk. Dave Lewis, Vice Chair, was absent.

8:30 Public Comment & Business Meeting

Clancy Holeman, Counselor /Director of Administrative Services; Paul Foltz; Shelly Williams, Community Corrections Director; and Leon Hobson, Public Works Director /County Engineer, attended.

Foltz presented K.S.A. 18-181, maps and other documents regarding the Riley County boundaries. Foltz said he feels Riley County should pursue the Riley County boundary change.

Holeman stated the current boundary was established upon by a joint survey authorized by Riley County and Geary County in approximately 1960. Holeman stated the applicable statute says the boundary cannot be changed after that survey.

McCulloh stated realistically there is no way Riley County would take back land from Pottawatomie County.

McCulloh moved to sign a letter reappointing Linda Morse to the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board and approve "Resolution No. 031912-12, A Resolution appointing a representative to the Manhattan Urban Area Planning Board" - term expiration April 30, 2015. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Position Action Form for a HIV/AIDS Case Manager in the Health Department at a grade M.

Williams presented CY12 County Alcohol Tax Applications.

McCulloh moved to approve the CY12 County Alcohol Tax Applications for Friends of Riley County High School After Prom Committee (RCHS) in the amount of \$1,125.00; Blue Valley High School in the amount of \$600.00; and Ogdan Community Center in the amount of \$2,000.00 as recommended by the Joint

Corrections Advisory Board (JCAB). Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to sign a letter to Tim Norton, President of the Kansas Association of Counties, with concerns over HB 2769, which would provide a 'blanket' property tax exemption to privatized military housing on all Kansas' military bases, including Fort Riley, benefiting private business and not the military. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to sign a letter to Senator Roger Reitz, Senator Mark Taddiken, Representative Sharon Schwartz, Representative Vern Swanson, Representative Sydney Carlin, and Representative Tom Phillips with concerns over HB 2769, which would provide a 'blanket' property tax exemption to privatized military housing on all Kansas' military bases, including Fort Riley, benefiting private business and not the military. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to approve a Contract Agreement with Flint Hills Landscape to install the Public Works Administration Building Irrigation System in the amount of \$22,341.00. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

9:00 Rich Vargo, County Clerk

Clancy Holeman, Counselor /Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Susie Kufahl, Riley County Health Department Director; Paul Foltz; Bob Isaac, Planner; and Burk Krohe, Manhattan Mercury, attended.

Vargo said prior to the transition of placing the Riley County Health Department positions under our County pay system, the position of Emergency Response Coordinator was combined with the Information Technology position. Vargo said during the transition of positions, the Information Technology position was moved under the County's Information Technology Department. Vargo said to help accommodate this move, the emergency response function of the position was then combined with the then vacant LPN position.

Vargo said the individual that was hired for the LPN/Emergency Response position has now separated service from the County. Vargo said this leaves the LPN and Emergency Response duties currently unfilled.

Vargo said after further evaluation of the requirements of both positions, the funding that is awarded through KDHE for the emergency response programs, and the clinic responsibilities of the LPN position, the Health Department Administrator, Susie Kufahl, has determined that these positions should be separated.

Vargo said the LPN position allows for increased clinic efficiency, providing support for the Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) so that their time is used more appropriately. Vargo said having the full-time LPN position will help the clinic meet professional standards tied to clinic funding and will serve the public in a more efficient capacity.

Vargo said the Emergency Response position is funded by a grant through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment with the emphasis on public health. Vargo said this funding has been awarded based upon responsibilities for a local emergency response coordinator as well as the region coordinator including Geary and Pottawatomie Counties. Vargo said in order to fulfill the grant requirements and continue with the funding, the emergency response position should be kept as a full time position.

Vargo said funding of these two full time positions has been included into the 2012 Health Department budget.

Vargo said funding for the Emergency Response position is fully grant funded by Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Vargo said funding for the LPN position is included into the primary care departmental budget of the Riley County Health Department Fund. Vargo said this is a fee-based department, however, collections from patients prohibit it from being self-sustaining. Vargo said therefore, budget and grant funds are used to offset the shortage of fees.

Johnson asked if the position would go away if grant funding is ended.

Susie stated it would be brought to the Board to consider.

McCulloh moved to approve the separation of the LPN and Emergency Response Coordinator position into two full-time positions within the Riley County Health Department. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

9:10 Bob Isaac, Planner  
Clancy Holeman, Counselor /Director of Administrative Services; and Burk Krohe, Manhattan Mercury, attended.

Isaac presented the Riley County Planning Board's review of the Riley County Comprehensive Plan.

Isaac said, as required by K.S.A. 12-747(d), the Riley County Planning Board has completed the annual review of the Comprehensive Plan during the February 16, 2012 meeting. Isaac said the Board has determined that the goals, objectives, policies, and other elements of the Vision 2025 - A Comprehensive Plan for Riley County, adopted October 2009, are satisfactory and no changes are suggested at this time. Isaac said the Board is looking forward to the completion and

adoption of the new development regulations, which will help implement the plan.

Isaac said, as per the plan, the Planning Board is presently working with staff to review the LESA element of the Development Guidance System on a quarterly basis to evaluate its overall effectiveness and need for revisions.

9:30 Press Conference  
Eileen King, County Treasurer; Jennifer Wilson, County Extension Director; Greg McClure, County Extension Agent; Anne Smith, aTa Bus Director; and Jeff Burkhart, KMAN, attended.

King presented important upcoming dates for the Treasurer's Office:

May 1, 2012 - New "Go Live" date. (All County Treasurer's office in State)

April 5, 2012 - Statewide performance test 8:00 - 9:00 am. All clerks across the state will test the ability of the system to handle last of the month volume.

April 30, 2012 - Last day to use the current motor vehicle operating system.

May 1-6 State conversion of all records. No motor vehicle or driver's license transactions at all. Treasurer's Office will be open for tax payments.

May 7 - Do mail-in renewals only.

May 8 - First possible day to do face-to-face transactions for customers.

King said if you have received correspondence from the state, it is imperative you comply with the request immediately for records to be converted correctly.

King said online web tag renewals will be shut down around April 27.

King said no driver's license service in the Treasurer's Office from May 1-7 or at the main office on Anderson.

King said, as with all new computer systems, there will be problems, but she promises her office will be as prepared as possible. King said they are one of only a couple of Treasurer's Offices that has been practicing in the sandbox (beta testing) every week for over a year.

King said if you have any questions to call (785)537-6320 or (785)537-6322.

Wilson encouraged residents to enroll in Kansas State Research and Extension's "Board Leadership Series". All sessions will be from 6:00-8:00 p.m. and the cost of attending all sessions will cost \$25. Wilson said sessions include:

April 2: Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members/Effective Meetings

April 9: Understanding Fellow Board Members /Conflict Management

April 16: Fundraising and Fund Management / Legalities /Ethics

April 23: Strategic Planning

McClure said the Riley County Livestock Association (RCLA) spring meeting will feature tours of the new Large Animal Research Center and the new KSU Sheep Unit, both located on Denison Avenue, just south of Marlatt Avenue, in Manhattan. McClure said the first stop will be at 5:00 p.m. at the Large Animal Research Center, where RCLA members will get a quick tour of the facilities.

McClure said at the new sheep unit tour participants will first tour the unit, then eat supper, followed by a presentation about ongoing research at the Large Animal Research Center. McClure said Dr. Denver Marlow, from the College of Veterinary Medicine at Kansas State University, will address the group.

McClure said reservations are needed by March 23, 2012 and can be made by calling the Riley County Extension Office at (785)537-6350, or by emailing [sriffey@ksu.edu](mailto:sriffey@ksu.edu). McClure said there is a \$5 meal charge for RCLA members. McClure said new members receive a complimentary meal when they pay their \$12 RCLA dues.

McClure said due to being two to three weeks ahead of schedule the wheat crop is setup for a potential freeze problem at the jointing stage.

McClure said wheat needs to be fertilized before jointing. McClure said corn should be planted after April 1st. McClure said soybeans and sorghum should be planted after mid-May. McClure said alfalfa weevil larvae are active.

Smith reported aTa Bus had 10,767 rides over 23 days of operation in February. This was the most ever in a month. Smith said they provided 1,173 rides on Fake Patty's Day. Smith said aTa Bus will provide two fixed routes from Monday to Saturday in the City of Manhattan beginning April 23, 2012.

Smith said the architects are working on the aTa Bus building design.

10:00 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services  
Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer, attended.

Holeman provided a copy of the memorandum he provided the Board on August 18, 2011 regarding the boundary between Riley County and Pottawatomie County.

Holeman suggested the Board not pursue an Attorney General's Opinion on the matter. Holeman said the Board does have the authority to ask for an Attorney General's Opinion if they wish.

Holeman discussed HB 2769 taxation of privatized housing

on military posts and HB 2609 Local Ad Valorem Tax Reduction (LAVTR) and tax lid bill.

Holeman said there is a Senate Concurrent Resolution 1612 on Proposition 19 to allow the legislature to limit valuation increases on single family residential real estate owned and occupied by a person who is 65 years old or older.

10:11 McCulloh moved to adjourn. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

### The Board of County Commissioners Of Riley County, Kansas

The Regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners met at the Riley County Plaza East Building March 22, 2012 with the following members present: Alvan Johnson, Chair; Karen McCulloh, Member; and Cindy Kabriel sitting in for Rich Vargo, County Clerk. Dave Lewis, Vice Chair, was absent.

8:30 Public Comment & Business Meeting

Clancy Holeman, Counselor /Director of Administrative Services; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Eileen King, County Treasurer; and Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer, attended.

McCulloh moved to sign a Highway Use Permit for the City of Manhattan to install new water service at 4850 Eureka. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

The Board of County Commissioners signed a Riley County Personnel Action Form for Nancy Haile, a new hire, as a Medical Clerk, in the Health Department, at a grade G step 1, at \$14.00 per hour.

McCulloh moved to approve the payroll vouchers in the amount of \$263,186.62 and the following warrant vouchers for March 23, 2012:

2012 Budget	
County General	\$261,222.69
Health Depart	55,183.37
Teen Court Collected Fund	337.48
County Auction	237.75
Riley Co Juvenile Service	8,450.58
Motor Vehicle Operations	5,135.42
21st Jud Dist Teen Court	1,115.66
Riley Co Adult Services	7,377.34
Capital Improvements Fund	131,557.07
Economic Development	300,000.00
Solid Waste	126,652.56
County Building	3,902.17
Road & Bridge Cap Project	4,300.57
RCPD Levy/Op	128.94
Landfill Closure	1,031.85

## See Commission Minutes page 5



Workers for Manko Window were working high on the Roosevelt Grade School upgrade Monday. A large section of the building will be glass.

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# President Willing To Give In On Russia's Defense Demands

By Michaela Bendikova  
Heritage Foundation

The United States does not need to protect itself from a threat of ballistic missiles. At least that is what President Obama suggests in his recent exchange with Dmitry Medvedev, president of the Russian Federation, during the 2012 Nuclear Security Summit in Seoul. "On all these issues, but particularly missile defense, this can be solved but it's important for him [incoming president Vladimir Putin] to give me space," stated President Obama. "This is my last election. After my election I have more flexibility," he continued.

These comments should come as no surprise. The Administration made clear that it is willing to sacrifice U.S. missile defense when it conceded to Russian demands to limit U.S. missile defenses in the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) that entered into force in February 2011. A group of Senators led by Jon Kyl (R-AZ), however, objected to limitations set forth by the treaty. These Senators argued that Moscow will use this language to limit the U.S. missile defense program. Their fears materialized as Russia repeatedly threatened nuclear deployments close to NATO allies'

borders. Moscow also threatened to withdraw from New START if the United States does not "cooperate" with Russia on missile defense.

Russia's definition of missile defense cooperation is problematic to say the least. Regardless of the level of knowledge Russia has of the U.S. missile defense program—a result of hours of unilateral U.S. briefings—Moscow insists on having veto power over Washington's decision to shoot down a missile on its way toward its victims. On other occasions, Russia demanded binding limitations on speed or geographical coverage of U.S. interceptors.

Due to the pressure of concerned Senators, the President certified that "it is the policy of the United States to continue development and deployment of United States missile defense systems to defend against missile threats from nations such as North Korea and Iran, including qualitative and quantitative improvements to such systems" in New START's resolution of ratification. It appears the President is ready to walk away from his own commitment.

After all, it would not be the first time that he failed to honor his promises made pursuant to New START ratification. He already failed to provide fund-

ing for U.S. nuclear weapons infrastructure, deemed essential at the time of ratification. If left unchecked, the Administration's policies will lead to America's becoming increasingly vulnerable. This is the wrong posture for the United States.

North Korea is preparing to launch its long-range missile, and ballistic missile proliferation is growing worse. Heritage research shows that a "protect and defend" strategy—which would combine offensive, defensive, conventional, and nuclear weapons—is the best response for this uncertain environment.

budget for asphalt overlays is \$560,000. It costs roughly \$100,000 per mile to add a 2" overlay to a roadway. Hobson said their budget only allows them to upgrade about 5.5 miles of road this year.

Hobson said they have consistently fallen behind by not having enough budget to fully fund the asphalt program. Hobson said they are proposing to overlay approximately 14 miles of road this year. To help them get caught up, they are proposing the following overlay program for 2012:

Miles	Next overlay due
Stockdale Park Road	4 2005
Blue River Hills Road	6.75 2006
Lasita Road/LK&W Road	2 2007
Blue Ridge Rd	.75 2008
Swede Creek Road	.30 2010

Hobson said if the above program was completed, this would only leave Henton, Moehlman, South Manhattan, and Rosencutter roads to be overlaid and they would be caught up. These roads total 4.65 miles and were scheduled for their next overlay in 2011.

Hobson said on the chip seal program, they have budgeted \$455,000 for this year. However, there are only approximately 7 miles of roads which need to be chip sealed to stay on schedule instead of the typical 20 to 30 miles. The cost to chip seal a mile of road is approximately \$22,000. With the current budget they can seal about 21 miles.

Hobson said last year they were able to overlay about 10 miles of McDowell Creek Road only because the Commission allowed the Public Works Department to utilize \$400,000 from the sales tax proceeds.

Hobson said they are proposing the following: Overlay 14 miles of roads and chip seal 7 miles of road. This proposed program would cost approximately \$1,554,000. Hobson said their current combined asphalt budget is \$1,015,000 leaving a shortfall of \$539,000.

Hobson said they would request the commission approve the Public Works Department utilizing \$540,000 from the sales tax proceeds for the above referenced program.

Hobson said staff would recommend the approval of this request.

Johnson moved to approve the request for Public Works Department to utilize \$540,000 from the sales tax proceeds for their proposed 2012 overlay & chip seal program. McCulloh seconded. Carried 2-0.

10:25 McCulloh moved to adjourn. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

ly has a failed septic system without any room to construct another lateral field.

Hobson said you will note his property is located where he cannot easily connect to the gravity lines within the Carson Sewer System.

Hobson said if the Commission approve Mr. Force's request to connect to the Carson Sewer System, there are still several steps to be taken. Mr. Force will then need to get approval from the City since this force main empties into the City's sewer system. Also, since the force main is on KDOT right-of-way, he will need to get permission from KDOT to bury his sewer line on their property.

Hobson said lastly, if all the pieces fall into place a resolution will be required to enlarge the Sewer District boundaries to include his property. He will however, be required to purchase and maintain a small grinder pump, which will need to be engineered to match the current line pressure.

Hobson said all fees will be paid by applicant. He will pay a monthly fee to the City and the Carson Benefit District will receive monies from a tax placed on his property as well as a connection fee.

Hobson said there is adequate capacity in the force main to accept the wastewater from this residence. Since the force main runs directly behind his house, the most effective and efficient way to provide sewer services is to hook onto this line.

Hobson said staff would recommend the approval of this request.

McCulloh moved to approve Marvin Force's request to connect to the Carson Sewer District if the other steps are completed. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

Hobson said the current

# Riley County Commission Minutes

Riley Co Fire Dist #1	4,590.00
University Park W&S	1,870.65
Hunters Island Water Dist	1,737.81
Deep Creek Sewer	74.84
Moehlman Bottoms	815.78
Valleywood Operations	148.55
Konza Water Operations	3,754.20
Konza Water Cap Reserve	377.95
Valleywood Cap Reserve	2,324.57

TOTAL. . . . . \$922,327.80  
Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

McCulloh moved to approve the minutes of March 19, 2012 as amended. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

King said the State would like Treasurer's Offices to close April 5th from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. to test the new statewide DMV system. King asked the commission for permission to close the office for the testing.

The Board agreed the Treasurer's Office could close from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. on April 5, 2012 for testing.

9:00 Pat Collins, Emergency Management Director

Clancy Holeman, Counselor /Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Rod Harms; Jeff Burkhart, KMAN; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; and Burk Krohe, Manhattan Mercury, attended.

P. Collins said after the flooding the last few years on Wildcat Creek the Wildcat Creek Working Group was established. P. Collins said one of the mitigation activities that have been established is to

increase the number of flood gauges on the basin. P. Collins said the Corps of Engineers, USGS, and the City of Manhattan placed gauges at Scenic and at Seth Child, which will allow them assistance to start emergency measures during a flood. P. Collins said Rich Jankovich talked to Fort Riley officials who installed a gauge on Fort Riley near Keats. P. Collins said the City of Manhattan has asked if Riley County could share the cost of the ongoing maintenance for the Fort Riley gauge.

P. Collins said the yearly maintenance fees would run about \$6,000 total. P. Collins said Riley County currently shares the cost of the Kansas River gauge at the viaduct and have funded out of the EM budget in the General Fund.

P. Collins said the annual cost for Riley County would be about \$3,000.

McCulloh moved to help assist in the yearly maintenance cost for Riley County in the amount of \$3,000 for a flood gauge on Fort Riley near Keats. The Board stated the funds should be budgeted in the Emergency Management fund. Johnson seconded. Carried 2-0.

9:15 Budget and Planning Committee - Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer

Susie Kufahl, Riley County Health Department Director; Clancy Holeman, Counselor /Director of Administrative Services; Robert Nall, Information Technology/GIS Director; Jeff Burkhart, KMAN; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; and Burk Krohe, Manhattan Mercury, attended.

Shepek presented a CIP, a county building, an economic development, and a 1/2 cent sales tax update.

9:31 Robert Nall, Information Technology/GIS Director Susie Kufahl, Riley County Health Department Director; Jeff Burkhart, KMAN; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; Mel Van Der Stelt; and Burk Krohe, Manhattan Mercury, attended.

Nall said Commissioner Lewis asked for statistics for the new phone system. Nall said the number of calls in February were 35,948 incoming, 7,536 outgoing, and 3,522 long distance. Nall said aTa Bus was the top department with over 7,000 calls followed by the attorney's office, treasurer's office, District Court, and Community Corrections.

Nall presented an Information Technology/GIS update.

9:50 Clancy Holeman, Counselor/Director of Administrative Services

Administrative Work Session

Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; Leon Hobson, Public Works Director/County Engineer; Susie Kufahl, Riley County Health Department Director; Mel Van Der Stelt; Jeff Burkhart, KMAN; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; and Burk Krohe, Manhattan Mercury, attended.

Holeman asked the commission to table the executive session to discuss confidential legal advice regarding potential litigation issues until Commissioner Lewis is present next week.

Holeman presented the draft purpose of the Advisory Board to the Riley County Board of Health (Riley County Commission) shall be to support the vision of the Riley County Health Department, Healthy People in a Healthy Community, as follows:

To represent the community served by the RCHD

To advocate for the health of the community

To assist with the assessment of the health of the community

To develop recommendations for existing and proposed public health legislation and regulation

To provide project assistance to the RCHD as requested by the Board of Health or RCHD administrator

To orient to, and support, RCHD programs and services

To review the RCHD budget annually and make recommendations

To review projects and/or questions forwarded from the Board of Health

To make reports/recommendations to the Board of Health on all matters referred to it by that body

To act as a sounding board and source of input for the Board of Health and the RCHD administrator

Holeman discussed a draft Charter Resolution.

The Board of County Commissioners agreed to use the draft statement as the mission statement for the Public Health Advisory Board, if that is acceptable to the Advisory Board.

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

Clancy Holeman, Counselor /Director of Administrative Services; Johnette Shepek, Budget and Finance Officer; Gary Rosewicz, Assistant County Engineer; Mel Van Der Stelt; Jeff Burkhart, KMAN; Julie Merklin, League of Women Voters; and Burk Krohe, Manhattan Mercury, attended.

Hobson said Marvin Force II has requested approval to connect onto the Carson Sewer Force main, which is buried in the KDOT right-of-way adjacent to his property. He current-

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# Free Press Big 12 Sports

MANHATTAN FREE PRESS - Thursday, March 29, 2012

6A

## Athletics Director Currie Talks With The Press

### Athletics Director John Currie

Opening Statement... "I appreciate all of you being here and I appreciate the efforts of all of our Bramlage arena staff to set all of this up. I also appreciate our K-StateHD.TV folks who are putting on our online worldwide broadcast. On Friday afternoon, I received a call from [University of South Carolina athletics director] Eric Hyman informing me that South Carolina had interest in our basketball coach, Frank Martin. Later Friday night, I received a request from Coach Martin indicating that his representatives have been in touch with South Carolina, and that he wished to speak with South Carolina, and that he would indeed take the position if it was offered to him.

I want to thank Coach Martin for the job he has done leading our program over the last five years. Certainly, the foundation and platform for basketball success at K-State has been elevated as a result of his efforts and his coaching staff. I appreciate them very, very much. I look forward to following his success at South Carolina.

As we now turn our attention to finding the next basketball coach for K-State, and indeed do so knowing that the opportunity that exists here is tremendous, as [Kansas State University] President [Kirk] Schulz described. We have a passionate and loyal national fan base that cares about winning basketball games. We have one of the very best student sections in college basketball and our students at Bramlage Coliseum have earned the reputation of being the loudest and one of the most intimidating atmospheres in the country. We have a solid academic culture within our program; we have a wonderful academic advisor that works daily with our young men by the name of Liane Fowler, who has been a transformational figure in young people's lives. We have an extremely supportive faculty and staff at Kansas State University who are com-



University President Dr. Kirk Schulz and Athletics Director John Currie talked to the Press Tuesday morning about the departure of Coach Frank Martin. (Photo by Ben Brake)

mitted to the success of all students, regardless of their background or academic preparation. We have a transformational president, Kirk Schultz, who is leading the K-State 2025 plan to elevate K-State into the top ranks of 50 public research universities. We have a wonderful vibrant city; a wonderful campus town, and under [Kansas State University Vice-President for Student Life and Dean of Students] Dr. [Pat] Bosco's leadership, is the preferred college choice for Kansas high school seniors. We have a veteran head coaching staff, all of whom have turned town multiple opportunities throughout their careers, because they appreciate the advantages our university offers. Thanks to our donors and fans, we have the resources to enable our next coach to build a consistent, winning and sustainable program. As the president said in under three years, we have begun or completed \$100 million in athletic facility improvements. Right behind us is an \$18 million basketball training facility that will

open this summer. We have a long-term contract with NIKE, an important partner in the basketball world. We have a very competitive budget, a full staff. We have everything a coach needs to win here at Kansas State. There is an atmosphere of accomplishment throughout the program. Already this year, we have distinguished ourselves as one of only five schools in the country to play a bowl game, and win a NCAA tournament game in volleyball and men's and women's basketball, and our graduation rate remains consistently the best in the Big 12.

We are committed to success in men's basketball at the highest level, as the core intent of our model intercollegiate athletics program. We will focus our search on candidates whose personal values and integrity reflect those of our university and our citizens of the state of Kansas; candidates who appreciate the unique opportunity that being a part of the basketball heritage that includes great [former] coaches Jack Hartman, Cotton Fitzsimmons,

Tex Winter, Jack Gardner, Lon Krueger and Frank Martin, and coaches who have the ability to build a sustainable program

that K-Staters worldwide can be proud of.

Last night, I met with members of our men's basketball team. I am proud of the reactions of those young men, and the resolve they show to stick together and focus on their academic responsibilities this semester. During our period of transition, I appreciate the support of our entire athletic staff. Senior Associate Athletic Director Casey Scott, who is the direct men's basketball supervisor, will be in the basketball office everyday to make sure that our student-athletes have what they need during this time. We are in touch with our recruits, the families of our student athletes, and our working hard to support our players.

Aside from what I have mentioned, there will be no predetermined parameters in our search. I will of course be in regular contact with President Schulz throughout the process. This task will have my sole attention until it is completed. Please understand, and I appreciate the patience of our media throughout the last couple of

weeks, that in order to conduct the most thorough search possible, I will not be available for comments or updates until we introduce our new men's basketball coach. Any reports, other than those originating from Tom Gilbert in our athletics communications office, are simply not correct.

As we discuss with our young men, transition is a part of life. I completely understand how much many of our fans appreciate Coach Martin, and I, too, share that appreciation. However, it is time to focus our energy on the future of the K-state basketball program. My family has found the Manhattan community to be unbelievably warm and embracing. Every K-State fan, and the collective passion of the K-State nation, will pay; will play a crucial role in the success of this search, and in the success of our next men's basketball coach. I appreciate the patience of the Wildcat family and look forward to introducing our next head basketball coach."



Shilling Construction Co. started laying new asphalt on the Town Center Mall parking lot Wednesday. It will take about a week to complete the job.

## Kansas Parks To Hold Open Houses

On Saturday, March 31, the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (KDWP) will hold an "Open House" at all state parks from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., with free park entrance. To highlight the event, visitors will have the opportunity to enter a statewide drawing to win a free one-night stay at a state park or public lands cabin of their choice. (The free one-night stay must be used in 2012 and is subject to availability. No purchase is required to enter the drawing. Limit one entry per person. Must be 18 years or older to enter. The free night may be used for a single night or to extend a paid cabin reservation for another night.)

Also during the Open House, park users can take advantage of low off-season permit prices. March 31 is the last day annual camping permits and annual vehicle permits are priced at off-season discounts. On April 1, the prices increase to their regular prime-season levels. Annual park permits may be purchased and cabin or campsite reservations made at this time, as well. For pricing information and to purchase permits online, go to the KDWP website, ksoutdoors.com. For online permit purchases, click the License/Permits icon. For cabin reservations, click the Cabins icon.

The Kansas Lottery also has donated 26 prizes to be given away through drawings at the parks. Each park will have a drawing for the following prizes (Must be 18 years or older to enter):

- one winner will receive a Bass Pro Shop 2 room tent;
- four winners will receive a Bass Pro Shop aluminum table and a lantern;
- one winner will receive a Bass Pro Shop aluminum table an igloo cooler and TravalKS camp stool;
- eight winners will receive two Bass Pro Shop sleeping bags and a Coghlan's four-function whistle, thermometer, magnifier, and compass;
- five winners will receive

two canvas hard arm chairs with cup holder with carry bag and an Igloo cooler; and

- two winners will receive two canvas hard arm chairs with cup holder with carry bag and a Red Head boot/bag combo camouflage duffle bag.

Each park office will also be drawing for a coupon that can be redeemed for \$20 worth of Kansas Lottery tickets.

For more details about each park's open house events and office contacts, visit ksoutdoors.com and click "State Parks/State Parks Open House".

The state parks and their special events are listed below:

- Central Region
  - Cheney — Heron Cabin open, coffee and cookies at the park office.
  - El Dorado — Bluestem and Walnut River gatehouses open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Cabin No. 7 in Bluestem and Cabin No. 8 in Walnut River Area open for tours 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., prescribed burning nature talks at by Randy Just at office from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., courtesy boat inspections at office 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
  - Kanopolis — Wyatt Earp Cabin open for tours 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., guided trail hike from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Horsethief Canyon, tour of Mushroom Rock from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.
  - Milford — Appaloosa Cabin open for tours 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Manhattan Running Company 10K and 18K dual race. Cookies, coffee, and donuts at office throughout the day.
  - Tuttle Creek — Cherokee Cabin open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., archery at Nihart Range from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., Fancy Creek Shooting Range open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with no range fees, garden tractor pull at 11 a.m., Rockin' Rabbit 5K and 10K Race from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m., cookies and coffee sponsored by Friends of Tuttle Creek State Park throughout the day.
  - Wilson — Elm Ridge Cabin open for tours 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Kansas bike clubs and public trail rides.

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<p><b>CALL!</b></p> <p><b>'05 CHRYSLER TOWN &amp; COUNTRY TOURING</b> Quad seats, DVD, new tires, sharp! Local trade.</p>	<p><b>CALL!</b></p> <p><b>'06 JEEP LIBERTY LIMITED</b> V6, auto, p/seat, p/brakes, pw, pl, &amp; more! Serviced out &amp; new tires! Only 46k, NICE!</p>	<p><b>CALL!</b></p> <p><b>'06 GMC ENVOY XL SLT 4x4</b> 3rd row, all leather, heated seats, sunroof, loaded, only 74k, 1-owner, super sharp, call soon to try this one out!</p>
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