



District 2 Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 9, 2024 | 6 p.m.
Haysville Community Library
210 Hays Ave.
Haysville, KS 67060

Board Members in Attendance: Tony Martinez, Dr. Susan Norton, Jessica Atherton, Ashlie Brockleman, Spencer Dean Jr., Jeff Hersh, Gage Hunt, Nicole Rivera

County Representatives: Commissioner Sarah Lopez, Laura Rainwater, Election Commissioner

1. **Call to Order:**
 - a. Tony Martinez called the meeting to order at 6:02pm.
2. **Roll Call:**
 - a. Board members identified themselves by saying, "Here."
3. **Approval of Minutes from 2/6/2024:**
 - a. Gage Hunt made a motion to approve the May 7 meeting minutes. Spencer Dean seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.
4. **Public Agenda:**
 - a. No public comment at this point.
5. **New Business:**
 - a. **2024 Elections Overview, presented by Laura Rainwater**
 1. In 101 of the 105 counties in Kansas, the county clerk also oversees elections, but in the four largest counties, an election commissioner is appointed by the Secretary of State.
 2. Sedgwick County has four federal districts, 39 state districts, 50 judicial districts, 10 county districts, 116 municipality districts that include school districts, city council, improvement districts and draining districts, 78 townships and 1,516 precinct committees. That adds up to 1,813 districts/offices the Election Office conducts elections for every year.
 3. Currently Sedgwick County has 333,681 registered voters. 132,724 are Republican, 84,757 are Democrat, 4,887 are Libertarian, 33 are No Labels, three are United Kansas. 111,277 are unaffiliated.
 4. Voters have three options to cast a ballot: advance mail ballots, early in-person voting and in-person voting on Election Day at their assigned polls.
 5. Laura Rainwater reviewed important dates for the 2024 Primary Election and the 28 new polling sites and four early voting centers added to reduce wait times.
 6. In 2025, the Election Office will move into a new building at 3639 N. Comotara St., near K-96 and Rock Rd.
 - a. Has 46,613 square feet of office and warehouse space, plus four loading docks, four entrances into the site and 128 parking places.
 - b. Cost \$4,500,000.
 - c. CIP was amended to \$6,122,191 to include building acquisition, cameras, minimal remodeling, parking lot fence, signage and movers.
 7. The Election Office faces ongoing challenges:
 - a. Public concerns about election fraud, despite multiple safeguards
 - b. Need for election workers who can work long hours on Election Day.
 8. This year, the Sedgwick County Election Office held its first student design contest for the voting sticker given out at elections. Students in grades 6-12 submitted 127 entries. A panel of community judges picked Mayberry Middle School eighth grader,

Yalimet Salazar, as the winner. Laura Rainwater wants to start the contest for 2025 sooner in the year and hopes to get more entries.

b. Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items

1. Stephanie Birmingham reminded CAB members that the Aug. 13 meeting will be at the Public Safety Building at 714 N. Main, where we'll get a tour of 9-1-1 Dispatch and a presentation by Elora Forshee, Director of Emergency Communications.
2. Stephanie Birmingham suggested asking County Manager Tom Stolz to give a budget overview at the Sept. 10 meeting, and CAB members agreed.
3. Commissioner Lopez suggested using a future meeting as a volunteer opportunity for CAB members at Giving the Basics, a nonprofit that distributes hygiene items to people in need. CAB members agreed, so Stephanie Birmingham plans to set this up.
4. The remaining meetings in 2024:
 - Sept. 10
 - Oct. 8
 - Nov. 12
 - Dec. 10

c. Commissioner Update/Other Announcements

1. The 2025 Recommended Budget will be presented July 20 and includes:
 - a. Nearly a \$5 million shortfall anticipated
 - b. Lowering the mill levy
2. Another mental health hospital town hall will be held Aug. 1 at 6 p.m. in the Campus High School Auditorium.
3. Sedgwick County is working to get a Department of Defense grant to help fund a new Emergency Operations Center. Three wing commanders at McConnell Air Force Base wrote a letter of support. It would require a \$150 million investment.
 - a. Gage Hunt asked about the timeline. Commissioner Lopez said it's unclear, maybe about two years.
4. The Household Hazardous Waste collection event in Haysville on June 29 was a big success.
5. Exploration Place broke ground on its EP2 development to build 10 Kansas-themed parks over six acres. The new riverfront amphitheater should be done in September 2024.
6. The Haysville Education Foundation has scheduled its Barn Bash event for Nov. 22, 2024. Last year's event raised \$53k to help Haysville schools.
7. The July 4 parade in Haysville was great!
8. Jessica Atherton asked if the zoning request for an event center that the D2 CAB voted against ended up passing before the BoCC. Commissioner Lopez said no, but she's been told the applicants are still holding events at the site and just calling them family events.

6. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.