



District 1 Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 15, 2024 | 5:30 p.m.
Bel Aire City Hall, 7651 E. Central Park Ave., Bel Aire, KS

Board Members in Attendance: Jacqueline Kelly, Daniel Bateman, Diane Albert, Steven Burt, Joseph Dozier, Kathryn Herzog, Andre J. Mboule

County Representatives: Sedgwick County Commissioner, Pete Meitzner and Sedgwick County Chief Financial Officer, Lindsay Poe Rousseau

1. Call to Order

1. Jacqueline Kelly began the meeting at 5:37 p.m.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes

1. A motion was made by Jackie Kelly to approve the April and June meeting minutes. Andre Mboule seconded this motion. **The CAB approved the motion with a vote of 4-0.**

3. Public Agenda

1. No public comments.

4. New Business

1. Diane Albert was welcomed as our newest member.
2. Sedgwick County CFO began her presentation on the 2025 Recommended Budget.
 - i. Daniel Bateman asked, correct me if I'm wrong but not too far in the past, there was a long salary drought and the county went a long time without any payment increases?
 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, yes, we were dramatically behind.
 - ii. Daniel Bateman asked, has there been a reduction in overtime with the jails?
 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, yes. So bear in mind, they've had some pretty good pay adjustments, but in terms of hours but we're expecting around \$5 million savings just in overtime in the sheriff by the end of the year.
 - iii. Jackie Kelly asked, what else is driving the numbers down?
 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, what Mark Bennett started doing right after the pandemic was the resolution docket. They get a bunch of district attorneys in a room, they take a defense attorney, and they just go through and see what they can work on, put it in a room and knock it out. They get all the people in the same time, and he has said that that has been a lifesaver. They also have started on the Family Law side with some of the domestic rehabilitation with ARPA dollars, and that has helped a lot.
 - iv. Jackie Kelly asked, how do you decide what roads and bridges are going to be fixed/redone next?
 1. Pete Meitzner responded, the road assessment is every six years. They evaluate traffic, accidents, growth, economic impact, etc.
 - v. Daniel Bateman asked, so while it's not fun for culture and arts to get cut, is it something that there's other ways to reexamine funding?
 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, that will be a big source of conversation that you will hear in the coming weeks. Sales tax is going to be a big source of that conversation and how we go about that is not yet certain. And that's because there is no easy, quick solution. That's what a lot of the commissioners are talking about is swapping one for the other, not both.

- vi. Jackie Kelly asked, was the cut made to the Capital Improvement Fund because that's the piece that the campus has control of? Or was it picked for another reason?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, because we don't want to lay off staff. The only other way we could have reduced the CIP would be with those 112 FTE's that work on their own would be to treat them differently, not give them a raise or a different health insurance cost.
- vii. Jackie Kelly asked, is it like that at the zoo keeping it as it is and make it function well or is it for something else?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, this isn't for that.
- viii. Jackie Kelly asked, does the art funding go to the art museum?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, no.
- ix. Daniel Bateman asked, there is only one employee at Exploration Place that is on the county's coffers?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, yes. And we've talked about that and how that's been established in the contract for 50+ years so we'd have to crack open the whole thing and I'm not ready to go into that.
- x. Daniel Bateman asked, is the building under the County?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, the building is owned by Sedgwick County but it is on the City of Wichita ground.
- xi. Daniel Bateman asked, so all of these improvements that are happening are the city improvements?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, yes.
- xii. Andre Mboule asked, what would you generally categorize as structural imbalance versus a deficit one?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, from a structural perspective, I would say your property taxes, your sales taxes, your motor vehicles, your normal charges for service, those on a revenue site. On the deficit side, that means to me more one time spending. Spend that money down on a onetime expense, any kind of capital improvement project, maybe a large truck, dump truck, or something like that. Those would be times where we would talk about deficits that is totally allowable and actually pretty good government versus the structural imbalance.
- xiii. Daniel Bateman asked, there could be a sales tax in Sedgwick County that could help cover services, the non-core services?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, right, the non-core services.
- xiv. Diane Albert asked, with the mill rate adjustment and the property valuation difference, what's that difference right there?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, it's about 7% maybe 8.5%.
- xv. Diane Albert asked, what was the state revenue neutral rate?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, so this rate required you to keep your length, the dollars, the same from this year to last year. If we were to stay at that rate, which would be the revenue neutral rate, that would be the mill levy rate, so it would be \$60 million fewer revenue from the property tax side.
- xvi. Andre Mboule asked, how much is one mill worth?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, the mill itself is worth about \$700.
- xvii. Diane Albert asked, you only have on mill correct?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, we have five.
- xviii. Kathryn Herzog asked, you said last year the mill levy rate was between \$6-8 million?
 - 1. Lindsay Poe Rousseau responded, no that's the revenue neutral rate. So how many dollars were generated last year and what was the rate necessary to get those dollars? And then, because it grew that rate would go down to generate the same number of dollars now.
- xix. Discussion/Housekeeping Items

1. Reminded everyone to come to the next meeting because there will be two zoning cases.

Adjournment

1. The District 1 Citizen's Advisory Board ended at 7:08 p.m.

*The next Citizens Advisory Board Meeting will be **Monday, August 19, 2024, 5:30 p.m.**
at Bel Aire City Hall, 7651 E. Central Park Ave., Bel Aire, KS*

DRAFT