

Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas



Administration and Human Services Meeting
5th Floor Conference Room
701 N. 7th Street Trafficway, Kansas City, KS 66101

Commissioner Melissa Bynum Chair

*Commissioner Mike Kane – Commissioner Christian Ramirez –
Commissioner Andrew Davis – Commissioner Evelyn Hill*

MINUTES

Monday, August 26, 2024
5:23 PM-6:35 PM

Attendance:

Committee Members Present:

- Commissioner Bynum (Chair)
- Commissioner Kane
- Commissioner Ramirez
- Commissioner Davis
- Commissioner Hill

Committee Members Absent:

- None

Staff Present:

- Brittnie MacDonald (Clerk)
- Jennifer Traffis (Director of Start Young at the Family Conservancy)
- Lori Lanter (Program Coordinator, Wyandotte County Child Care Licensing Program)
- Olliea Jarrett (Program Supervisor, Wyandotte County Health Department)
- Erin Gaster (Environmental Health Specialist, Wyandotte County Health Department)
- Greg Kendall (Wyandotte County Economic Development Council)

- SueZanne Bishop (Senior Attorney)
- Rodney Lucas, (Interim Assistant County Administrator)

Call to Order (Discussion Begins at 17:34)

Commissioner Bynum called the meeting to order at 5:23 PM.

Revisions to Agenda:

No revisions to the agenda were reported.

Approval of Previous Minutes: (Discussion Begins 19:26)

No previous minutes were presented for approval.

Committee Agenda:

Item 1: PRESENTATION: CHILDCARE ACCESSIBILITY (Discussion Begins 19:32)

Jennifer Traffis from Raising WYCO presented on childcare accessibility in Wyandotte County:

- Only one slot available for every 20 infants or toddlers in Wyandotte County
- Economic impact of childcare gap: \$151-\$232 million in lost revenue
- Wyandotte County families may spend up to 25% of income on childcare
- About 15,000 children under age 5 in the county, with only 3,000 licensed childcare slots

Lori Lanter from the Wyandotte County Health Department presented on childcare licensing:

- Explained the role of the Child Care Licensing Program
- Discussed types of childcare facilities and recent changes in regulations
- Provided information on complaint processes and enforcement

Greg Kendall from the Wyandotte County Economic Development Council spoke about the economic impact of childcare issues:

- Highlighted the connection between childcare availability and workforce participation
- Discussed the need for quality early childhood education for future workforce development

Public comments were received:

- Angela Glass (home family provider) **(Discussion Begins 1:14:35)**
- Demetria Spencer (childcare center owner) **(Discussion Begins 1:16:37)**
- Mindy Rocha (parent and small business owner) **(Discussion Begins 1:19:37)**

This item was for information only, and no action was required.

Adjournment: (Discussion Begins 1:28:58)

Commissioner Kane moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0

- Ayes: Hill, Davis, Ramirez, Kane, Bynum
- Nays: None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 PM.

MLS