

Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Commission Chambers

701 N. 7th Street Trafficway, Kansas City, KS 66101

Mayor Tyrone Garner

Commissioner At-Large Dist. 1 Melissa Bynum – Commissioner At-Large Dist. 2 Tom Burroughs –

Commissioner Dist. 1 Gayle E. Townsend – Commissioner Dist. 2 Bill Burns –

Commissioner Dist. 3 Christian Ramirez – Commissioner Dist. 4 Dr. Evelyn Hill –

Commissioner Dist. 5 Mike Kane – Commissioner Dist. 6 Phil Lopez –

Commissioner Dist. 7 Chuck Stites – Commissioner Dist. 8 Andrew Davis

MINUTES

Wednesday, October 30, 2024

7:00 PM-7:50 PM

Attendance:

Commissioner's Present:

- Mayor Tyrone Garner
- Commissioner Burroughs
- Commissioner Bynum
- Commissioner Davis
- Commissioner Stites
- Commissioner Lopez
- Commissioner Kane
- Commissioner Hill
- Commissioner Ramirez
- Commissioner Burns
- Commissioner Townsend

Commissioner's Absent:

- None

Staff Present:

- Monica L. Sparks (Clerk)
- David Johnston (County Administrator)
- Angela Lawson (Acting Chief Counsel)

I. Call to Order (Discussion Begins 5:32)

Mayor Garner called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Pastor Stevie Wakes led the invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

VI. Mayor's Agenda (Discussion Begins 8:29)**Item No. 1 PRESENTATION: DOTTE PROUD RECOGNITION (Discussion Begins 9:25)**

One community member was recognized by the Mayor. One community member was recognized by Commissioner Lopez. One community member was recognized by Commissioner Ramirez.:

Barbara Kill **(Discussion Begins 9:52)**

Mike Bergen, Hands to Hearts **(Discussion Begins 14:48)**

Erin Stryka, Rosedale Development Association **(Discussion Begins 20:52)**

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

**Item No. 2 – RESOLUTION: SPANISH LANGUAGE ELECTION MATERIALS
(Discussion Begins 26:42)**

Mayor Garner introduced the resolution urging the Kansas Secretary of State to work with the Wyandotte County Election Commissioner to provide Spanish language materials to voters starting in 2025. Micah Kubic, Executive Director of ACLU of Kansas, spoke in support of the resolution.

Key Points

- Provide Spanish language voting materials starting in 2025
- Wyandotte County is a 35% language minority population
- At least 4,000 voting-age residents have limited English proficiency
- 70% of those residents are Spanish speaking
- Resolution does not mandate action, but expresses the county's values
- Aims to increase voter participation and inclusivity
- Supported by ACLU and several commissioners

Commissioner Ramirez made a motion to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bynum.

Vote: Motion carries 10/0

- Ayes: Stites, Davis, Bynum, Burroughs, Townsend, Burns, Ramirez, Hill, Kane, Lopez
- Nays: None
- Absent: None

Adjournment: (Discussion Begins 43:40)

Commissioner Burroughs moved to adjourn the meeting due to inclement weather conditions and to continue all remaining items to the November 7, 2024, Board of Commissioners meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez.

Vote: Motion carries 10/0

- Ayes: Stites, Davis, Bynum, Burroughs, Townsend, Burns, Ramirez, Hill, Kane, Lopez
- Nays: None
- Absent: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

MLS