

**Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas**



**Public Works and Safety Meeting**

5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room

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

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***Commissioner Tom Burroughs, Chair***

*Commissioner Mike Kane – Commissioner Chuck Stites –*

*Commissioner Bill Burns – Commissioner Phil Lopez –*

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**MINUTES**

**Monday, April 21, 2025**

**5:12 PM-5:51 PM**

**Attendance:**

**Committee Members Present:**

- Commissioner Burroughs (Chair)
- Commissioner Lopez (Left at 5:47 PM)
- Commissioner Stites
- Commissioner Burns
- Commissioner Kane
- Ms. Gonzalez (BPU Board Member)

**Committee Members Absent:**

- None

**Staff Present:**

- Monica L. Sparks (Unified Government Clerk)
- Dan Kuhn (Senior Attorney)
- Phil Lockman (Director of Community Corrections)
- Diana Miles (Solid Waste/Recycling Manager)
- Sarah White (Public Works Project Manager)

- Sarah Shafer (Public Works CMIP Program Manager)
- Rodney Lucas (Interim Assistant County Administrator)

### **Call to Order:**

Commissioner Burroughs called the meeting to order at 5:12 PM.

### **Revisions to Agenda:**

No revisions to the agenda were reported.

### **Approval of Previous Minutes:**

There were no minutes to approve.

### **Committee Agenda:**

#### **Item 1: RESOLUTION: FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS JUVENILE EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAM (Discussion Begins: 9:36)**

Phil Lockman, Director of Community Corrections, presented the item.

#### Key points:

- **Grantor & Amount**
  - A. Kansas Department of Corrections – Juvenile Services
  - B. Approximately \$1.6 million over two years
  - C. This is the 10th year the Unified Government has received this funding.
- **Funding Structure**
  - A. Combines reinvestment funds and Juvenile Corrections Advisory Board grant funds.
  - B. **No local match** is required.
  - C. State funds come from savings after eliminating juvenile group homes (about \$20M/year reallocated to community-based services).
- **Core Positions Supported**
  - A. **Day Reporting Specialist** – supervises and supports youth after school, evenings, and during suspensions.

- B. **Family Engagement Specialist** – engages families as soon as a youth enters the system to speed up access to services and treatment.
- C. **Cognitive Facilitator** – delivers cognitive-behavioral programming to change thinking patterns and reduce recidivism.
- D. **Restorative Justice Specialist** – provides parenting education and connects families (including non-justice-involved families) to community resources.

These employees are already in place; the grant continues ongoing support, not one-time positions.

- **Community Programs Funded (via RFP)**

- A. **One Circle Girls Group** (District Court).
- B. **Low Riding to Success Bike Club**.
- C. **Connections to Success** – evidence-based, job-readiness curriculum for youth.
- D. **Full Throttle** – new program providing physical activity and character-building (e.g., boxing) specifically for justice-involved youth.
- E. **JEG Net Club** – audio/visual and multimedia skills development.

- **Overall Purpose**

- A. Replace the failed group-home model with community-based, evidence-driven interventions, focused on:
  - a. Early and strong family engagement
  - b. Cognitive-behavioral change
  - c. Supervision and support when youth are out of school
  - d. Skill-building and pro-social activities to lower recidivism.

The Chairman opened the public hearing. No comments were received. The Chairman closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Kane moved to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lopez.

Vote: Motion carries 6-0

- Ayes: Gonzalez, Lopez, Stites, Burns, Kane, Burroughs
- Nays: None
- Absent: None

**Item 2: RESOLUTION: SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN ANNUAL REVIEW  
(Discussion Begins: 15:34)**

Diana Miles, Solid Waste Manager, presented the annual solid waste management plan update required by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment. No changes or adjustments were made to the plan this year.

Key points:

- KDHE-required annual update; no changes to the underlying solid waste plan.
- 2024 data: overall decrease in trash, recycling, glass, yard waste, and HHW tonnage; Edwardsville's lower tonnage was confirmed accurate.
- Diversion: yard waste continues to be converted to mulch for residents instead of landfilled.
- Events: seven HHW events held; Dumpster Days drew 600+ residents and 90+ tons of bulky waste.
- Initiatives: added Wi-Fi and upgrades at the recycling center, process review with B & L, and planning for a 2025 cart-based trash program with Waste Management plus a communications plan.
- Customer service for solid waste has transitioned back to Waste Management; continued collaboration with the street division to provide mulch.
- Appendix: lists recommendations and near- to long-term action items; some already achieved.

The Chairman opened the public hearing. No comments were received. The Chairman closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Kane moved to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burns.

Vote: Motion carries 6-0

- Ayes: Gonzalez, Lopez, Stites, Burns, Kane, Burroughs
- Nays: None
- Absent: None

**Item 3: RESOLUTION: FEMA HAZARD MITIGATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
GRANT APPLICATION (Discussion Begins: 20:53)**

Sarah Shafer and Sarah White, both from the Public Works Department, presented the item.

Key points:

- Purpose: Authorize staff to apply for FEMA Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) grant funding for stormwater/flood mitigation studies.
- Total Request: \$1.2 million in FEMA HMA funds.
- Local Match: FEMA requires 25% non-federal match, but no Unified Government funds will be used; match will be requested from the Build Kansas Fund (state).

Project 1 – Brenner Heights Flood Mitigation Study

- Location: Area between 64th St and 67th St along Leavenworth Rd.
- Purpose: Continue previous Leavenworth Rd project to address remaining stormwater/flooding needs; identify options and potentially proceed into design.
- FEMA Request: \$200,000.
- Proposed Match (Build Kansas): \$50,000.

Project 2 – Turkey Creek Collaborative Group Study

- Location: Upstream natural section of Turkey Creek, beyond the completed \$151M flood protection project, bordered by I-35, railroad, and industrial uses.
- Purpose: Study best practices to mitigate flooding, protect the federal flood control investment, and reduce future operations and maintenance needs.
- FEMA Request: \$1,000,000.
- Proposed Match (Build Kansas): \$250,000.

Process & Next Steps

- Public Works will submit:
  - A. Letters of intent and full FEMA HMA applications for both projects.
  - B. Parallel applications to the Build Kansas Fund for the required non-federal match.
  - C. Upon award, staff will return to the Commission to accept the funds.

The Chairman opened the public hearing. No comments were received. The Chairman closed the public hearing.

Commissioner Kane moved to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burns.

Vote: Motion carries 6-0

- Ayes: Gonzalez, Lopez, Stites, Burns, Kane, Burroughs
- Nays: None
- Absent: None

**Item 4: PRESENTATION: SAFE STREETS FOR ALL (SS4A) VISION ZERO ACTION PLAN (Discussion Begins: 28:59)**

Sarah Shafer, Public Works, assisted by consultants Anthony Gallo and Kimberly Horn, presented the item.

Key points:

- **Key Statistics:** Over the past 10 years in Wyandotte County:
  - A. 239 people killed in traffic crashes
  - B. Nearly 1,000 people seriously injured
  - C. Approximately 24-25 fatalities per year
  - D. Around 100 serious injuries per year
- **Vision Zero Approach:** The plan focuses on five objectives: safe road users, vehicles, speeds, roads, and post-crash care. Unlike peer countries that have continued reducing traffic fatalities, the US has flatlined or worsened over the past 10-15 years.
- **Plan Deliverables:**
  - A. **System-wide countermeasures toolbox** - Low-cost, quick-build strategies
  - B. **Behind-the-scenes policies and programs** - Traffic calming, street tree policy, zoning ordinance integration
  - C. **Targeted safety projects** - Major intersection redesigns for high-crash locations
  - D. **Technical resources** - Safety data dashboards, funding strategies, progress tracking methodology
- **Project Timeline:**
  - A. Data collection and analysis underway (early 2025)
  - B. Public engagement launched with project website and comment map
  - C. Summer 2025: Continued engagement and concept development
  - D. Fall 2025: Policy and process updates
  - E. End of 2025/Early 2026: Draft plan sharing and adoption timeline
- **Public Engagement:**
  - A. Steering committee with UG departments and community partners
  - B. Project website: [wycokck.org/visionzero](http://wycokck.org/visionzero) with interactive comment map
  - C. Partnership with Bonner Springs, Edwardsville, and Lake Lavira
  - D. Upcoming Vision Zero Summit with "better block" demonstration
  - E. Safety tour for steering committee and future elected official tour planned

The Chairman opened the public hearing. No comments were received. The Chairman closed the public hearing.

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

**Adjournment: (Discussion Begins: 46:20)**

Commissioner Kane moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Burns.

Vote: Motion carries 5-0

- Ayes: Gonzalez, Stites, Burns, Kane, Burroughs
- Nays: None
- Absent: Lopez (left at 5:47 PM)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:51 PM.

MLS