

STATE OF KANSAS)
WYANDOTTE COUNTY)) SS
CITY OF KANSAS CITY, KS)

REGULAR SESSION
OCTOBER 14, 2021

The Unified Government Commission of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas, met in regular session Thursday, October 14, 2021, with eight members present via Zoom: Bynum, Commissioner At-Large First District; Burroughs, Commissioner At-Large Second District; McKiernan, Commissioner Second District; Ramirez, Commissioner Third District; Johnson, Commissioner Fourth District; Walters, Commissioner Seventh District; Philbrook, Commissioner Eighth District; and Alvey, Mayor/CEO, presiding. Townsend, Commissioner First District; Kane, Commissioner Fifth District; and Markley, Commissioner Sixth District; were absent. The following officials were also in attendance: Doug Bach, County Administrator; Melissa Sieben, Alan Howze, Emerick Cross, and Bridgette Cobbins, Assistant County Administrators; Misty Brown, Chief Counsel; Brett Deichler, Interim Unified Government Clerk; Ashley Hand, Director of Strategic Communication; Patrick Waters, Deputy Chief Counsel; Alley Porter, Commission Liaison; and Jeff Conway, Assistant Counsel.

Mayor Alvey said before I call the meeting to order, I want to announce that due to COVID-19, commissioners are attending remotely and on-site. All participants joining by phone should mute their phones when not speaking to avoid background noise.

During the meeting, please make sure that you announce yourself by name and title every time you speak so the public that is observing knows who is speaking. This is critical given the number of remote participants and is current guidance from the Kansas Attorney General.

Due to COVID-19 requirements, members of the public is allowed to participate by Zoom or submit comment by email prior to the meeting. Those comments are included in the record of the meeting. The public also has the opportunity to provide brief comments in the lobby of the Municipal Office Building during public hearing sections.

Roll call: Johnson, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Burroughs, McKiernan, Ramirez, Alvey.

Mayor Alvey said our invocation is being given by Commissioner Harold Johnson of Faith Deliverance Church of God in Christ.

Mayor Alvey asked, Mr. Clerk, are there any revisions to tonight's agenda? **Brett Deichler, Interim Unified Government Clerk**, said, Mayor, a blue sheet was issued highlighting two changes in tonight's session. The first modification occurred during tonight's 5:00 session removing the County Administrator's Quarterly Review from the Executive Session.

The second modification was issued to remove the Land Bank Application Options from tonight's full Commission Agenda. Those were the only changes to tonight's agenda, Mayor.

MAYOR'S AGENDA

Item No. 1 – 211083...COMMUNICATION: REDISTRICTING LETTER OF SUPPORT AND TESTIMONY

Synopsis: Consideration of Unified Government redistricting testimony and a letter of support urging the Kansas Legislature to leave as much of Wyandotte County and Johnson County together in the 3rd Congressional District as possible when redistricting maps are drawn, submitted by Mistry Brown, Chief Counsel.

Mayor Alvey said the first item is a communication that we were asked, as the Unified Government, to provide to those who will be deciding redistricting, you know, based upon the most recent census results. So, I wanted to bring this to the Commission for consideration. This is our testimony. It's also a Letter of Support urging the Kansas Legislature to leave as much of Wyandotte County and Johnson County together in the 3rd Congressional District as possible when redistricting maps are drawn and this is submitted by Misty Brown, our Chief Counsel.

Misty Brown, Chief Counsel, said as everyone knows we are in the process of being redistricted and it's happening in the state. As it has done in the past, the Unified Government would have a chance to give testimony or provide letters to state its position on redistricting. So, in order to do that, the Commission's public stance on it is important and what is being proposed, as the Mayor said, to urge the state to leave as much of the 3rd Congressional District together as possible when they're redrawing the maps.

Mayor Alvey said, Commissioner Burroughs, I don't want to put you on the spot, but I know you've been engaged in the committees from the state level on the redistricting. If you want to just give us a brief description of where that process is and where you think it might be going.

Commissioner Burroughs said I will state we had, as everyone knows, 14 town halls in just a little over four and a half days all across Kansas. I will state that the numbers were released, I believe, the day before yesterday. I just got an update that all the numbers, that's down to the precinct level and the neighborhood levels, were released. I haven't had a chance to review all of those numbers yet, but I truly believe that will start the mapping process.

I will state I'm really pleased to see our community submit the letters. Testimony will be allowed to be received throughout the entire process. What will happen is, maps will be presented by each gallery, basically each house, and each chamber, and what they will do is they will be in bill form. So, any change whatsoever to a precinct or district will require another bill. Then, if we can get an agreement on that bill, it goes to the Governor has the Governor as the choice of signing them or vetoing them. If she veto's and they go back, we start the process all over again. If everything holds true, I will state that I believe the 3rd District is being quite challenged to remain whole.

There has been a tremendous growth in Johnson County alone, 88, 000 new people, and they will probably pick up at least two new house seats and quite possibly a senate seat. It's very imperative everywhere in the state that I had the privilege of traveling to and listening to town halls, without a fault the people in the first congressional district wanted to see the 3rd Congressional District remain whole. So, even in Garden City, even in western Hays, and some of the other small communities we had the privilege of visiting, wanted to see the 3rd Congressional which is Wyandotte County and Johnson remain whole.

We share a border with the metropolitan area, we have urban communities that are not related to the rural communities, our industries are different and so I would just state that please submit testimony. As I've stated, every Commission, every community, every organization, please submit your testimony, but be mindful, anything and everything that you will submit is subpoenaable and will be made a matter of record. I am the ranking member for the House. I have submitted a letter on behalf of our community as the ranking member. I did that early on prior to us having the meeting here locally. So, I'm really pleased to see the administration submit a letter representing

the 3rd Congressional District Wyandotte County. I think it's very imperative that letter be part of the testimony.

Mayor Alvey said this is just for consideration. This is not a resolution to want to send to the commission whether we support sending a letter, correct? **Ms. Brown** said that's correct. You can vote on it without a resolution as long as the Commission is—**Mayor Alvey** asked, is there a motion to support a letter **Ms. Brown** said, Mayor, Commissioner Ramirez has his hand up.

Commissioner Ramirez said I'm in full 100% in full support of this. I want to thank Commissioner Burroughs for all his work. It's good that we have Wyandotte County representation and a Wyandotte County voice on this—on that committee and in this process. I ask those who are listening in the community and those who, hopefully, are part of this redistricting committee that going forward that you focus on the data, don't focus on the politics, do what's fair. Remember the people elect you, you don't elect the people. The people choose you, you don't get to choose who you represent. Go based off data, and I know Commissioner Burroughs, Representative Burroughs, will do everything he can to ensure that all district maps, not in Wyandotte County, but all through Kansas are fair and equitable. I am 100% for support.

Mayor Alvey said I will entertain a motion that we submit a letter, testimony supporting keeping Wyandotte County and Johnson County together.

Action: **Commissioner Ramirez made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Burroughs, to submit a letter of testimony to keep Wyandotte County and Johnson County together.** Roll call was taken and there were seven "Ayes," Johnson, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Burroughs, McKiernan, Ramirez.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Alvey asked, does any member of the Commission or the County Administrator wish to set aside any item on the Consent Agenda? If an item is not set aside, all items on the Consent Agenda will be voted on by one vote.

Action: Commissioner McKiernan made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Ramirez, to approve all items as submitted. Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Johnson, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Burroughs, McKiernan, Ramirez.

Item No. 1 – 211030...RESOLUTION: BISHOP WARD HIGH SCHOOL - SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

Synopsis: A resolution approving an agreement with Bishop Ward High School for the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department to provide a School Resource Officer (SRO), submitted by Casey Meyer, Senior Attorney. On September 27, 2021, the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bynum, voted unanimously to approve and forward to full commission.

Action: **RESOLUTION NO. R-73-21**, “A resolution authorizing the approval of an agreement between the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas and Bishop Ward High School for the provision of a School Resource Officer.” **Commissioner Ramirez made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to adopt the resolution.** Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Johnson, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Burroughs, McKiernan, Ramirez.

Item No. 2 – 211029...RESOLUTION: CSO 19 SEWER SEPARATION (PHASE 1) CMIP - 6130

Synopsis: A resolution declaring CSO 19 Sewer Separation (Phase 1), CMIP - 6130, to be a necessary and valid improvement project, and authorizing a survey of land for said project, submitted by James Bain, Assistant Counsel. On September 27, 2021, the Public Works and Safety Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner Bynum, voted unanimously to approve and forward to full commission.

Action: **RESOLUTION NO. R-74-21**, “A resolution declaring the necessity and authorizing a survey and descriptions of lands necessary to be condemned for the construction, maintenance, operations, use and repair of the CSO 19 Sewer

Separation (Phase 1) CMIP-6130, all in Wyandotte County, Kansas,”.
Commissioner Ramirez made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to adopt the resolution. Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Johnson, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Burroughs, McKiernan, Ramirez.

Item No. 3 - MINUTES

Synopsis: Minutes from regular session of August 12, 2021; and special session of September 30, 2021.

Action: **Commissioner Ramirez made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Johnson, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Burroughs, McKiernan, Ramirez.

Item No. 4 - WEEKLY BUSINESS MATERIAL

Synopsis: Weekly Business Material dated September 30 and October 7, 2021.

Action: **Commissioner Ramirez made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Johnson, to approve.** Roll call was taken and there were seven “Ayes,” Johnson, Walters, Philbrook, Bynum, Burroughs, McKiernan, Ramirez.

PUBLIC HEARING AGENDA

No items of business

STANDING COMMITTEES' AGENDA

No items of business

ADMINISTRATOR'S AGENDA

No items of business

COMMISSIONERS' AGENDA

No items of business

October 14, 2021

LAND BANK BOARD OF TRUSTEES' CONSENT AGENDA

Item No. 1 – 211082...LAND BANK OPTION APPLICATION

Synopsis: Request consideration of the following Land Bank option application, submitted by Jud Knapp, Interim Land Bank Manager.

New Construction - Single Family Homes – 2

Circuit Avenue Partners LLC – 2 homes

837 Freeman Ave. - 082352

841 Freeman Ave. - 082353

843 Freeman Ave. - 082354

845 Freeman Ave. - 082355

847 Freeman Ave. - 082356

849 Freeman Ave. - 082357

851 Freeman Ave. - 082358

This item was scheduled to appear before the Neighborhood and Community Development Standing Committee, chaired by Commissioner McKiernan, on October 11, 2021. It was requested, and approved by the Mayor, to fast track this item to the October 14, 2021 full commission meeting.

Action: **Previously deleted per blue sheet**

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

No items of business

MAYOR ALVEY

ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 7:10 P.M.

OCTOBER 14, 2021

Brett A. Deichler, PMP|CPM
Interim Unified Government Clerk

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October 14, 2021