

CHARTER COMMISSION AGENDA
KU Edwards Campus- BEST Conf. Ctr
And
VIRTUAL MEETING
Wednesday, July 28, 2021
4:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER

1. Roll call and Quorum

APPROVALS

1. Consider the Approval of the July 28, 2021 Agenda.
2. Consider the Approval of the July 12, 2021 Minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

1. Business Items/Reminder
 - a. Submissions of Questions for Current County Commissioners
 - i. Commissioners scheduled for August 9 meeting (NEED YOUR QUESTIONS)
 - b. Submission of Questions for former County Managers
 - i. Likely written responses pending future scheduling
 - c. Submissions of potential Charter Amendment topics
 - i. Initial review scheduled for September 22 meeting
2. Presentations
 - Budget and Financial Planning – Scott Neufeld and Robin Symes
 - Election Office – Fred Sherman
 - Financial Management and Administration– Brent Christensen
 - Treasury Taxation and Vehicles – Thomas Franzen

NEXT MEETING AGENDA (Monday August 9, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.)

- a. Johnson County Administration Bldg. 111 S Cherry, Olathe– IN PERSON and Virtual
- b. Conversation with current Johnson County Board of County Commissioners

ADJOURNMENT

2021 JOHNSON COUNTY CHARTER COMMISSION**7th Regular Meeting Minutes****Monday July 12, 2021**CALL TO ORDER

The seventh regular meeting of the 2021 Johnson County Charter Commission convened on Monday, July 12, 2021 at 4:04 p.m. via In-Person Johnson County Administrative Bldg. and Zoom (virtual). Greg Musil, Chairman of the Charter Commission called the meeting to order and asked the Clerk to call the roll.

1. Roll Call

The roll being called, it was found the following Members were present and participated in the meeting, to wit:

Officers:

Greg Musil, Chairman	Dawn Rattan, Vice-Chair	Ed Peterson, Secretary
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Members:

Wendy Bingesser	Mike Boehm	Vicki Charlesworth
Jim Denning	Jane Dirks	Jimmy Gaona
Tedrick Housh	Randy Hutchins	Chris Iliff
Laura Klingensmith	Joy Koesten	Brent McCune
Eric Mikkelson	Leslee Rivarola	Don Roberts
Kyle Russell	Paula Schwach	Greg Shelton
Zach Thomas		

Members Absent:

Karin Brownlee (note- joined meeting at 4:44 p.m.)

Brenda Sharpe (note – joined meeting at 4:33 p.m.)

Greg Smith

Also present were Cindy Dunham, Deputy Director of Legal Services; Lynda Sader, Deputy County Clerk; Chad VonAhnen, Developmental Supports; Deborah Collins, Aging and Human Services; Tim DeWeese, Mental Health; and Sanmi Areola, Health and Environment.

Chairman Musil welcomed the Commissioners, and the guest presenters. He also spoke to the Charter.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Consider the Approval of the July 12, 2021 Agenda.

Brent McCune moved to *Approve* the July 12, 2021 agenda as presented. Eric Mikkelson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. (22 with No objections)

2. Consider the Approval of the June 23, 2021 Minutes.

Jim Denning moved to *Approve* the June 23, 2021 Minutes as presented. Brent McCune seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. (22 with No objections)

OLD BUSINESS

[None]

NEW BUSINESS

1. Business Items/Reminder

a. Submissions of Questions for Commissioners/Former County Managers

Chairman Musil noted to send these to the Clerk, Lynda Sader

b. Submissions of potential Charter Amendment topics

Chairman Musil mentioned the form developed for this purpose and requested that the members please submit these by August 1st, at least for a first submission round. The Clerk will resend this form to the members.

Chairman Musil mentioned that for August 25th, the tentative schedule had former county managers on the agenda. They are not available on that date and will be rescheduled. More information on this to follow.

2. Presentation- Overview of Library; Park & Recreation; and Appraiser.

- **Developmental Supports – Chad VonAhnen**

Chad VonAhnen, Developmental Supports presented a presentation document and an overview of his department. He spoke to the mission and vision of this department and briefed the Charter Commission on how it fits with Johnson County Government (JOCO).

The Mission of Developmental Supports is: Johnson County Developmental Supports serves people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. We focus on individuals' abilities, provide choice-driven supports, and advocate alongside people to live and work in our community.

The Vision is: We aspire to build a community that promotes, supports, and embraces people of all abilities.

[Brenda Sharpe entered the meeting at 4:33 p.m.]

Developmental Supports is an agency of county government and guided by a seven-member governing board who are appointed by the Johnson County Board of County Commissioners per Kansas Statute 19-4002 – Mental Health Centers and Services. Their core functions are: The Johnson County Developmental Disabilities Organization providing access and oversight of services, Community Service Provider providing direct services, and Case Management, Residential Services, Day and Employment Services, and Health Services. There is a Friends of JCDS, a separate, non-profit that provides special assistance and housing for people in JCDS services.

Mr. VonAhnen discussed their revenues and expenditures, and also noted that they have 301.66 full time equivalent (FTE) employees.

Their credentials are:

- Accredited by The Council on Quality and Leadership, an international accreditation commission
- Licensed and partially funded by the Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services
- Vendor of Kansas Vocational Rehabilitation Services
- Member of ANCOR, the American Network of Community Options and Resources
- Member of InterHab, the Resource Network for Kansans with Disabilities

He stated that he did not have any recommendations for improvements to the Charter. He felt the structure of his agency, works well within Johnson County Government.

Question and answer session was then held.

The wait time and wait list for services was discussed.

- **Aging and Human Services – Deborah Collins**

Deborah Collins, Aging and Human Services (AHS) presented a presentation document and an overview of her experience and of her department.

She stated their Mission is to provide essential human services as a safety net for senior adults, people with a disability and low-income families in order to support their independence, dignity and self-sufficiency.

Aging and Human Services is operated with two divisions, Area Agency on Aging and Outreach Services.

[Karin Brownlee entered the meeting at 4:44 p.m.]

Ms. Collins stated the existing Charter is efficient and adequate for the needs of AHS. Her position as Director has the same role, authority, and accountability structure as all other appointed department heads. She reports to the Assistant County Manager. The AHS trend over the past 15 years has been to move toward a more direct service to vulnerable populations, and relegating some previous duties to the private sector. From the 1980's to 2020, the Housing Programs were in the AHS department. In 2020, the BOCC moved the Housing Programs to the Planning department to enable a more focused emphasis on the Aging Programs. Their 2021 budget totals \$8.8 million (includes 62.34 FTE)

The Area Agency on Aging (AAA) has been supported as a part of Johnson County Government since 1979. This group is responsible for planning and implementing community-based services for adults aged 60+. AAA is a Federal designation via the State of Kansas, statutorily prescribed by the Older Americans Act. This includes a Commission on Aging advisory/advocacy group per OAA requirements.

The other division is Outreach Services. Outreach partners with the community to bring services to the neighborhood level, adding to overall quality of life and enhancing independence and self-sufficiency for low-income residents.

AHS rely heavily on volunteers and donations.

Question and answer session was then held.

A few Charter members asked questions and Ms. Collins provided answers and explanations.

- **Mental Health – Tim DeWeese**

Tim DeWeese, Mental Health presented a presentation document and spoke about the Mental Health department. Mental Health is committed to building a healthy community through excellence in community mental health. They are a department of the Johnson County Government and have an appointed advisory board. For day-to-day operations, he reports to Assistant County Manager, Joe Connor. They provide services to nearly 10,000 individuals, annually and provide crisis services to 7,100 individuals, annually. Mental Health has a \$36 million budget and 350 FTEs, with county support, State and Federal funds, fee for service, grants, and Municipal funds.

Their role is:

- Serves as the local mental health authority coordinating the delivery of publicly funded community-based mental health services.
- Serves as the community's "safety net" for mental health needs.
- Serves as the "gatekeeper" to the State hospital.

Mr. DeWeese discussed who they serve and their Core Service Divisions of Operations, Medical Services, and Health Integration.

- Prevention Services
- Emergency Services
- Children and Family Services
- Adult Services
- Addiction and Residential Services.

He discussed their strategic vision, with it based on the areas of their priorities. He stated they were previously an Agency of County Government and now is a department of County Government. He feels that both worked well but having the current structure, as a department, allows them to have robust relationships with all the other departments within the County Government.

[Greg Shelton left the meeting at 5:30 p.m.]

Question and answer session was then held.

Mr. DeWeese answered questions pertaining to his department. He also stated he sees no structure barriers within the Charter, but there are state statute issues.

- **Health and Environment – Sanmi Areola**

Sanmi Areola, Health and Environment presented a presentation document and spoke to this department.

The Mission of the Department of Health and Environment is: To protect the health and environment, prevent disease and promote wellness for all who live, work, and play in Johnson County through exceptional public service. Their Vision is: The innovative leader for community health and environmental protection.

Their approved budget for 2021 is \$21,332,124 and the budgeted FTE number is 149.35. He stated with the growth of Johnson County, it will take investments to maintain the current level of support. Public Health, as is the case in other parts of the country, has been underinvested for decades. He feels this should be a goal to intentionally change this.

[Kyle Russel left the meeting at 5:39 p.m.]

Mr. Areola stated the Charter is consistent with public health goals of modernizing how we improve and sustain the health of our residents: "...to create a County Government to serve our present and future needs, and to permit the people of this County to make changes in our own government...."

The administrative oversight consists of his reporting to the County Manager's Office, which is consistent with, and a common option across the county, with the Johnson County type of

government structure. He stated the reporting/approval/accountability structure is working well and has proper checks and balances.

He stated that we want to make healthy options. A recent ranking has Johnson County as the 44th healthiest county in the U.S. A deeper look into the metrics shows that this is simply a consequence of the high social economic statuses in the county. We did poorly in key metrics of health – Equity, Housing, Food and Nutrition, Environment, and Vitality. Our current ranking is not sustainable unless we take the necessary steps. To improve health, it requires intentional investments in health and should be part of our county’s priorities and policies.

Question and answer session was then held.

Mr. Areola answered questions pertaining to his department and the Board of Health. Cindy Dunham, Legal Counsel stated that the County Commissioners are the Board of Health by statute. Mr. Areola stated that he does not see any impediments in the Charter.

NEXT MEETING AGENDA (Wednesday July 28, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.)

- a. KU Edwards Campus – IN PERSON and Virtual
- b. Presentations: Budget/Financial Planning; Election Office; Financial Mgmt. & Adm; Treasury Taxation & Vehicles.

Chairman Musil noted the meeting of Wednesday, July 28, 2021 at the KU Edwards Campus. He also thanked staff for support to run the meeting and broadcast.

ADJOURNMENT

Brent McCune moved to *Adjourn* the meeting and Karin Brownlee seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. (22-0 with no objections)

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

PREPARED BY Lynda Sader

The journal entry for Monday, July 12, 2021, as recited above, having been read and considered by the Charter Commission, and having been found to be correct as written, was approved on this the twenty-eighth day of July 2021.

CHARTER COMMISSION
JOHNSON COUNTY, KANSAS

ED PETERSON, *Secretary*

ATTEST:

LYNDA SADER, *Deputy County Clerk (Clerk to the Commission)*