

## District 2 Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 | 6 p.m. Haysville Community Library 210 S. Hays Ave., Haysville, KS 67060

**Board Members in Attendance:** Martha Pint, Spencer Dean, Jessica Atherton, Tony Martinez, Jeff Hersh, Gage Hunt, Lupe Montes

County Representatives: Commissioner Sarah Lopez, Register of Deeds Tonya Buckingham

- 1. Call to Order:
  - a. Martha Pints called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.
- 2. Roll Call Vote:
  - a. Board members identified themselves by saying, "Here."
- 3. Approval of Minutes:
  - a. Gage Hunt made a motion to approve the March 14 meeting minutes. Spencer Dean seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
- 4. Public Agenda:
  - a. No public comment here.
- 5. New Business:
  - a. Presentation by Tonya Buckingham, Register of Deeds
    - i. Tonya Buckingham started working in the Register of Deeds (ROD) office in 2000 as an administrative assistant. She was later promoted to Chief Deputy, under Bill Meeks. When he died, Tonya took over as Register of Deeds and finished his term, then ran for re-election.
    - ii. Records currently date back to 1969 and are available for public viewing through an online document search. Staff is archiving documents back to the 1800's.
    - iii. Currently, the ROD has 27 employees. All are cross-trained on the different duties so they can cover for each other when someone is out of the office.
    - iv. Most documents are submitted electronically from law firms and title companies, but there is staff available to help walk-in customers.
    - v. The Passport Center helps people fill out the applications required for a new or renewed passport and takes their photo for a small fee.
    - vi. Property Activity Alerts is a free service that notifies residents by email of any documents recorded by the Register of Deeds that match their property information. This helps guard against fraud and scams.
    - vii. The Register of Deeds cannot refuse to record a document if it meets legal requirements.
      - 1. Martha Pint asked if ROD staff researches suspicious filings later. Tonya Buckingham said yes, as much as possible, but sometimes she cannot do much except notify the property owner of the activity.
    - viii. In July 2019, the Register of Deeds created the Veteran and Military Discount Program, a free service that files a veteran's DD214 discharge

form for safekeeping. The ROD also provide vets five certified copies for free. Before this program began, there was little awareness that the ROD could file and print certified copies of these military discharge papers. In addition, this program gives both active-duty military and veterans a military discount card that can be used at participating businesses within Sedgwick County. This is considered a government-issued ID card and can be used as a form of ID at all polling locations.

- ix. Chief Deputy, Kenly Zehring, demonstrated how to research documents online at the Register of Deeds' website.
- 6. Discussion of Future Agenda Items by Stephanie Birmingham, Strategic Communications
  - a. Assistant County Manager Tania Cole agreed to talk at the May 9, 2023, meeting about legislative issues affecting Sedgwick County.
  - b. For future meetings, CAB members suggested a presentation and tour at the 9-1-1 Dispatch Center, Sedgwick County Regional Forensic Science Center, or a Sedgwick County Fire District 1 station where a special team (water rescue, hazardous materials) is headquartered.
- 7. Other Business
  - a. Commissioner Sarah Lopez talked about her plans to promote CAB meetings in the future, in hopes the public will attend more often. Her monthly newsletter will publicize the date, time and speaker for the next CAB meeting.
- 8. Adjournment
  - a. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.