



## District 3 Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

March 11, 2025 | 7 p.m.  
Goddard District Conference Center  
315 S. Main, Goddard

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**Board Members in Attendance:** Joe Brown, Cameron Dawson, Patrick Gaughan, Connor Glenn, Josef Hamilton, Mike Hill, Jaime Kissinger, Jeff Longwell, Kevin McWhorter, Johanna Pfaff

**County Representatives:** Commissioner Stephanie Wise, County Manager Tom Stolz

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### **1. ORDER OF BUSINESS**

- a. Call to Order – Commissioner Stephanie Wise
  - i. Chair Jeff Longwell called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.
- b. Approval of Meeting Minutes – Chair Jeff Longwell
  - i. Patrick Gaughan motioned to approve meeting minutes from Feb. 3, 2025, and Joe Brown seconded. **The D3 CAB approved the meeting minutes with a vote of 11-0.**

### **2. PUBLIC AGENDA**

- a. The public agenda allows members of the public to address the District 3 Citizens Advisory Board.
  - i. None

### **3. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Overview of County Government – County Manager Tom Stolz
  - i. County Manager Stolz gave an overview of County Government functions and strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.
    1. Jeff Longwell made comments about the potential to consolidate County and Wichita Fire Departments.
    2. Patrick Gaughan commented about a time when City of Wichita and Sedgwick County Technology for a short period, approximately 20 years ago.
    3. Cameron Dawson asked about an opportunity to combine the Regional Forensic Science Center with the KBI.
      - a. County Manager Stolz said there is in reason the state shouldn't be involved in these endeavors.
    4. Kevin McWhorter asked about the County's Bond & Interest and shared how Goddard USD 265 handles their Bond & Interest. He also encouraged the County to buy assets when a recession occurs to save money down the road.
      - a. County Manager Stolz shared that approximately 8% of our budget is debt. The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) wants to maintain a steady level of bond & interest. Currently, the County has to maintain a balance of \$50 million to be consider solvent with the state.
    5. Joe Brown asked if there was a regular meeting of mayors.
      - a. County Manager Tom Stolz shared about the Sedgwick County Association of Cities (SCAC) and that they meet bimonthly.
    6. Joe Brown also commented on how solid waste management and plastic is creating more issues and asked about the future of solid waste.

- a. County Manager Stolz shared that in June, the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) will receive an update on the annual Solid Waste Plan.
- 7. Joe Brown asked when public comment was held on the Solid Waste Plan.
  - a. County Manager Stolz shared that feedback period is during the same commissioner review time.
- b. Election of CAB Chair – Commissioner Stephanie Wise
  - i. Mike Hill motioned to appoint Jeff Longwell as Chair of the District 3 Citizens Advisory Board, and Connor Glenn seconded. **The D3 CAB approved Jeff Longwell as Chair with a vote of 11-0.**
- c. Sales Tax Update – Commissioner Stephanie Wise
  - i. Commissioner Wise gave an update on the proposed Sales Tax conversation. Recently discussed at the Jan. 22, 2025, there were two options presented by Commissioner Howell and Commissioner Meitzner. Commissioner Wise & Commissioner Blubaugh asked to be able to go through a budget process before discussing
    - 1. Patrick Gaughan shared historical points on the proposed Sales Tax.
    - 2. Jeff Longwell asked how much the 1¢ County Sales Tax raise.
      - a. Commissioner Wise shared \$19 million goes towards tax relief.
    - 3. Josef Hamilton asked for clarification on where the fund would be spent.
      - a. Commissioner Wise explained it gives the elected body the opportunity to guard taxpayer funds for core services.
    - 4. Joe Brown asked if any feedback was received from Cultural Arts entities.
      - a. Commissioner Wise shared they are nervous about how it would affect them.
    - 5. Joe Brown expressed his support for the historical information presented by Patrick Gaughan.
- d. Strategic Planning – Commissioner Stephanie Wise
  - i. Commissioner Wise shared the vision for the District 3 CAB is to be active in and educate the community. Some example topics that are also goals of hers could be:
    - 1. Northwest Expressway, state funding shortages, property taxes and oversight of the State Property Valuation Department, shared services, regional transit.
    - 2. Other specific topics suggested were water, senior centers, electric co-ops, community engagement, greatest needs or opportunities for District 3.
  - ii. Jeff Longwell asked to bring this back to the April meeting and send feedback in the interim to him.

#### **4. BOARD AGENDA**

- a. Members of the CAB had an opportunity to ask questions and/or share updates:
  - i. Joe Brown shared an article about how Topeka, KS is the 48<sup>th</sup> worst capital in the United States.
  - ii. Kevin McWhorter shared a potential topic idea to bring to the board could be the USD 265 upcoming Bond Election.
- b. Commissioner Wise held discussion on the following topics:
  - i. Meeting days and time
    - 1. The CAB decided to transition their monthly meetings to the second Tuesday of the month, meeting at 7 p.m.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

- a. The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

*The next Citizens Advisory Board Meeting will be **Tuesday, April 15, 2025, 7 p.m.,**  
at Sedgwick County Zoo, 5555 W Zoo Blvd, Wichita, KS.*