



Ron Sellers  
District 1  
Member

Ron Hirst  
District 2  
Chair

Daniel P. Friesen  
District 3  
Vice-Chair

**Courthouse**  
206 W. 1st Avenue  
Hutchinson, KS 67501

## **AGENDA**

**Reno County Annex Conference Room,  
125 W. 1st Avenue, Hutchinson  
Tuesday, December 28, 2021, 9:00 AM**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag and Prayer**

**III. Welcome and Announcements by Commission Chair**

**IV. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda**

*Please come forward to the podium, state your name and address and limit your remarks to not more than 5 minutes per item.*

**V. Determine Additions or Revisions to the Agenda**

**VI. Consent Agenda**

- VI.A Vouchers (bills or payments owed by the county or related taxing units).
- VI.B Change orders for #2021-1359, 1370, 1372, and 1373
- VI.C BOCC minutes for November 23rd, November 30th, December 14th, and December 14th Special Meeting
- VI.D Board Appointment to the Reno County Public Transportation Commission
- VI.E Appointment of Trustee to Reno Township Board
- VI.F Reno County Health Department HRSA (Health Resources & Services Administration) grant for RCORP (Rural Communities Opioid Response Program)
- VI.G Planning Case #2021-12 - A resolution revising and updating the November 2018 Edition of of the Comprehensive Plan by amending a portion of Chapter 7 and Chapter 9 to provide additional guidelines related to commercial wind energy conversion systems.
- VI.H Planning Case #2021-13 - A resolution revising and updating the April 2016 Edition of the Reno County Zoning Regulations by amending the Table of Contents, Article 1-105, Article 13, Article 15-111, and creating Article 24 to provide for additional guidelines related to commercial wind energy conversion systems.
- VI.I Resolution pertaining to an application for a conditional use permit to establish an aggregate storage yard.

**VII. Business Items**

- VII.A Reno County Health Department (RCHD) would like to utilize the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) COVID-19 ELC Expanding Infrastructure Grant to purchase an Electronic Health Record (EHR).

**VIII. County Administrator Report**

VIII.A Monthly Department Reports

**IX. County Commission Report/Comments**

**X. Executive Session**

X.A Executive Session for Non-Elected Personnel (30 minutes)

X.B Executive Session for Non-Elected Personnel (30 minutes)

**XI. Adjournment**



## AGENDA ITEM

## **AGENDA ITEM #VI.B**

**AGENDA DATE:** December 28, 2021

**PRESENTED BY:**

**AGENDA TOPIC:**

Change orders for #2021-1359, 1370, 1372, and 1373

**SUMMARY & BACKGROUND OF TOPIC:**

N/A

**ALL OPTIONS:**

Approval by the Board of Commissioners

**RECOMMENDATION / REQUEST:**

Commission to approve

**POLICY / FISCAL IMPACT:**

N/A

Tax Year: 2021

TAX ROLL CORRECTION - PERSONAL PROPERTY  
AAELT013

Printed by / Date Time  
jenna.fager 12/13/2021 8:34:32AM

TaxPayer KWIK00029  
KWIK SHOP, INC OFFICE-KS1  
C/O EG AMERICA, LLC  
165 FLANDERS RD  
WESTBOROUGH, MA 01581-1032

System Control # 2021001359  
User Control # 2021001359  
Cama # 133-07-0-30-27-013-00-0-01  
Tax Unit 5 HUTCHINSON CITY / USD 308  
Property Location 734 E 4TH AVE - HUTCHINSON, KS 67501

Tax Year 2021  
Doc # 246401  
Quick Ref. R23468

APPRAISER SECTION (Value) Dec 9 2021 3:10PM Shayna Johnson Approved

Appraised Prior To Correction:

Value Penalty %  
33,704 0.00

Appraised After Correction:

Value Penalty %  
0 0.00

Net Change  
-33,704

Non-Watercraft Assessed Prior To Correction:

Value Penalty Total  
8,427 0 8,427

Non-Watercraft Assessed After Correction:

Value Penalty Total  
0 0 0

-8,427

Watercraft Only Assessed Prior To Correction:

0 0 0

Watercraft Only Assessed After To Correction:

0 0 0

0

Exempt Value: 0

Exempt Value: 0

0

Comment: BUSINESS WAS SOLD 10/18/2019 ALONG WITH THE ASSETS; 2021 PROPERTY WORKSHEET WAS RETURNED WITH THE PRO

CLERK SECTION (Tax) Dec 13 2021 8:34AM Jenna Fager Order to Pri

Tax Prior To Correction:

Levy 170.874000 Gen Tax 1439.96  
SB41 \$ 0.00  
Exempt Tax Dollars ..... 1439.96

Tax After Correction:

Levy Gen Tax 0.00  
SB41 \$ 0.00  
Exempt Tax Dollars ..... 0.00

Net Change  
-1,439.96  
0.00  
-1,439.96

Comment:

TREASURER SECTION (Summary)

Net Change in Assessed Value -8.427 Type of Correction Abate  
Mill Levy 170.874000 Correction Code CL  
Tax Statement # 203024  
Net Change in Levied Tax Dollars -1,439.96  
Net Change in Exempt Tax Dollars 0.00 Comments BUSINESS WAS SOLD 10/18/2019 ALONG WITH THE ASSETS; 2021 PROPERTY WORKSHEET WAS RETURNED WITH THE PROPER CHECKED BOX; REMOVING FROM 2021 TAX ROLL.  
Net Change in Total Tax Dollars -1,439.96  
Refund Amount 0.00

Comment:

By order of the Board of County Commissioners of RENO COUNTY, Kansas. \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

Approved by Commission: \_\_\_\_\_

Attest by County Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_

Tax Year: 2021

TAX ROLL CORRECTION - PERSONAL PROPERTY AAELT013

Printed by / Date Time jenna.fager 12/17/2021 4:50:07PM

TaxPayer PALM00025

System Control # 2021001370

Tax Year 2021

PALMER, BRADLEY H

User Control # 2021001370

Doc # 251792

2800 E 43RD

Cama # 028-28-0-30-08-001-03-0-00

Quick Ref. R2102

HUTCHINSON, KS 67502

Tax Unit 9 HUTCHINSON CITY / USD 313

Property Location 2800 E 43RD - HUTCHINSON, KS 67502

APPRAISER SECTION (Value)

Dec 17 2021 1:12PM Shayna Johnson Approved

Appraised Prior To Correction:

Appraised After Correction:

Value 41,639 Penalty % 0.00

Value 33,357 Penalty % 0.00

Net Change -8,282

Non-Watercraft Assessed Prior To Correction:

Non-Watercraft Assessed After Correction:

Value 0 Penalty 0 Total 0

Value 0 Penalty 0 Total 0

0

Watercraft Only Assessed Prior To Correction:

Watercraft Only Assessed After To Correction:

2,082 0 2,082

1,684 0 1,684

-398

Exempt Value: 0

Exempt Value: 0

0

Comment: PER BILL OF SALE IS SHOWING THE CORRECT DATE OF THE PURCHASE OF THE 2007 RINKER VIN#RNK88663L607.

CLERK SECTION (Tax)

Dec 17 2021 4:50PM Jenna Fager Order to Pr

Tax Prior To Correction:

Tax After Correction:

Levy 172.864000 Gen Tax 334.80
WC Levy 0.160807 SB41 \$ 0.00
Exempt Tax Dollars 334.80

Levy Gen Tax 270.80
WC Levy 0.160807 SB41 \$ 0.00
Exempt Tax Dollars 270.80

Net Change -64.00
0.00
-64.00

Comment:

TREASURER SECTION (Summary)

Net Change in Assessed Value -398
Mill Levy 172.864000
Watercraft Levy 0.160807
Net Change in Levied Tax Dollars -64.00
Net Change in Exempt Tax Dollars 0.00
Net Change in Total Tax Dollars -64.00
Refund Amount 0.00

Type of Correction Abate
Correction Code CL
Tax Statement # 204546

Comments PER BILL OF SALE IS SHOWING THE CORRECT DATE OF THE PURCHASE OF THE 2007 RINKER VIN#RNK88663L607.

Comment:

By order of the Board of County Commissioners (RENO COUNTY), Kansas.

(Per K.S.A. 79-1475, 79-1701, 79-1701a, and 79-1702)

(Date)

Approved by Commission:

Attest by County Clerk:

Tax Year: 2021

TAX ROLL CORRECTION - PERSONAL PROPERTY AAELT013

Printed by / Date Time jenna.fager 12/17/2021 4:50:07PM

TaxPayer WEST00214 WESTFAHL, KENNETH WESTFAHL, PAUL 7910 E RED ROCK RD HAVEN, KS 67543

System Control # 2021001372 User Control # 2021001372 Cama # 154-19-0-00-00-007-00-0-00 Tax Year 2021 Doc # 251674 Quick Ref. R27818 Tax Unit 286 HAVEN TOWNSHIP / USD 312 Property Location 7910 E RED ROCK RD - HAVEN, KS 67543

APPRAISER SECTION (Value) Dec 17 2021 1:12PM Shayna Johnson Approved

Appraised Prior To Correction:

Value 2,959 Penalty % 0.00

Appraised After Correction:

Value 0 Penalty % 0.00

Net Change -2,959

Non-Watercraft Assessed Prior To Correction:

Value 888 Penalty 0 Total 888

Non-Watercraft Assessed After Correction:

Value 0 Penalty 0 Total 0

Net Change -888

Watercraft Only Assessed Prior To Correction:

Value 0 Penalty 0 Total 0

Watercraft Only Assessed After To Correction:

Value 0 Penalty 0 Total 0

Net Change 0

Exempt Value: 0

Exempt Value: 0

Net Change 0

Comment: PER COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE OFFICE 1998 FREIGHTLINER VIN#1FUYYDYB6WL922082 WAS TAGGED COMMERCIAL 2/1

CLERK SECTION (Tax) Dec 17 2021 4:50PM Jenna Fager Order to Pr

Tax Prior To Correction:

Levy 164.469000 Gen Tax 146.06 SB41 \$ 0.00 Exempt Tax Dollars 146.06

Tax After Correction:

Levy Gen Tax 0.00 SB41 \$ 0.00 Exempt Tax Dollars 0.00

Net Change -146.06 0.00 -146.06

Comment:

TREASURER SECTION (Summary)

Net Change in Assessed Value -888 Mill Levy 164.469000 Net Change in Levied Tax Dollars -146.06 Net Change in Exempt Tax Dollars 0.00 Net Change in Total Tax Dollars -146.06 Refund Amount 0.00

Type of Correction Abate Correction Code CL Tax Statement # 205345

Comments PER COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE OFFICE 1998 FREIGHTLINER VIN#1FUYYDYB6WL922082 WAS TAGGED COMMERCIAL 2/11/2020

Comment:

By order of the Board of County Commissioners (RENO COUNTY), Kansas.

Approved by Commission:

Attest by County Clerk:

Tax Year: 2021

TAX ROLL CORRECTION - PERSONAL PROPERTY AAELT013

Printed by / Date Time jenna.fager 12/17/2021 4:50:07PM

TaxPayer BOWM00101
BOWMAN, RICHARD L
BOWMAN, KATHY A
6718 N HIGH POINT RD
NICKERSON, KS 67561-9179

System Control # 2021001373
User Control # 2021001373
Cama # 044-20-0-00-00-002-01-0-
Tax Year 2021
Doc # 200830312
Quick Ref. R7501
Tax Unit 116 SALT CREEK TOWNSHIP / USD 309
Property Location 6718 N HIGH POINT RD - NICKERSON, KS 67561

APPRAISER SECTION (Value) Dec 17 2021 1:12PM Shayna Johnson Approved

Appraised Prior To Correction:

Value 4,438 Penalty % 0.00

Appraised After Correction:

Value 3,074 Penalty % 0.00

Net Change -1,364

Non-Watercraft Assessed Prior To Correction:

Value 1,331 Penalty 0 Total 1,331

Non-Watercraft Assessed After Correction:

Value 922 Penalty 0 Total 922

-409

Watercraft Only Assessed Prior To Correction:

0 0 0

Watercraft Only Assessed After To Correction:

0 0 0

0

Exempt Value: 0

Exempt Value: 0

0

Comment: PER 2021 RENDITION IT STATED THE 2010 POLARIS VIN#RF3VA17A4AT007068 WAS SOLD AUGUST 2020; REMOVING FROM 20

CLERK SECTION (Tax) Dec 17 2021 4:50PM Jenna Fager Order to Pri

Tax Prior To Correction:

Tax After Correction:

Levy 129.606000 Gen Tax 172.52
SB41 \$ 0.00
Exempt Tax Dollars 172.52

Levy Gen Tax 119.50
SB41 \$ 0.00
Exempt Tax Dollars 119.50

Net Change -53.02
0.00
-53.02

Comment:

TREASURER SECTION (Summary)

Net Change in Assessed Value -409
Mill Levy 129.606000
Net Change in Levied Tax Dollars -53.02
Net Change in Exempt Tax Dollars 0.00
Net Change in Total Tax Dollars -53.02
Refund Amount 0.00

Type of Correction Abate
Correction Code CL
Tax Statement # 205013

Comments PER 2021 RENDITION IT STATED THE 2010 POLARIS VIN#RF3VA17A4AT007068 WAS SOLD AUGUST 2020; REMOVING FROM 2021 TAXES.

Comment:

By order of the Board of County Commissioners ( RENO COUNTY, Kansas. (Date)

Approved by Commission:

Attest by County Clerk:



## AGENDA ITEM

**AGENDA  
ITEM #VI.C**

**AGENDA DATE:** December 28, 2021

**PRESENTED BY:**

**AGENDA TOPIC:**

BOCC minutes for November 23rd, November 30th, December 14th, and December 14th Special Meeting

**SUMMARY & BACKGROUND OF TOPIC:**

N/A

**ALL OPTIONS:**

Approval by Board

**RECOMMENDATION / REQUEST:**

Approval by the Board of Commissioners for minutes

**POLICY / FISCAL IMPACT:**

N/A



November 23, 2021  
Reno County Courthouse  
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners held the agenda session at the Annex Conference Room with Chairman Ron Hirst, Commissioner Daniel Friesen and Commissioner Ron Sellers, County Administrator Randy Partington, County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan, and County Clerk Donna Patton, present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a short sectarian prayer led by Gary Getting with Elliott Mortuary Inc.

Commissioner Hirst welcomed Michael Ables, Executive Director of Strataca and Katie Broker Operations Manager with the Reno County Museum. Ms. Broker invited everyone to Christmas in the Courtyard on December 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:30pm - 7:30pm at the Reno County Museum. Mr. Ables invited everyone to come out and enjoy the Shine Underground light display at Strataca. This will run from today through January 9<sup>th</sup>. Strataca also earned a Trip Advisor award for being in the top 10% of reviews worldwide.

District Attorney Thomas Stanton introduced Brian Koch and Jamie Karasek, two new attorneys in his office. Mr. Stanton also stated that their 21<sup>st</sup> Toys for Tots toy drive will be December 6<sup>th</sup> through December 11<sup>th</sup>. There will be several boxes set up around the County facilities and will have a drive-up toy drive in front of the Courthouse on Saturday December 11<sup>th</sup> from 10am - Noon.

There were no public comments.

**Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to add a discussion about COVID-19 under Item 7C, instead of talking about it during his commissioner comments. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

**Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to move Item 6B to a separate item and approve the Consent Agenda. It consisted of items 6A including the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021, totaling \$875,082.78 and claims payable on November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021, totaling \$507,486.02 as submitted; approval of BOCC minutes for November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> Canvass of City/School General Election, and Final Canvass November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021, as presented by staff. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Mr. Friesen stated that he had a conflict of interest with Item 6B, the Highlands Tower Lease with Idea Tek. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to counter offer back to Idea Tek with a 4% price increase. This would be an increase of \$144 and a total of \$3744 for the year. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0 with Mr. Friesen abstaining.

County Clerk Donna Patton met with the Board to give her annual department update. She discussed various items with the Board.

Deputy County Treasurer Elizabeth Belliveau met with the Board to give her annual department update. She discussed various items with the Board. Mr. Friesen would like to see an increase in the facility fee so more people would be willing to renew online. The Motor Vehicle portion of the Treasurer's Office is a function of the State of Kansas and any changes other than the facility fee were under the authority of the State of Kansas.

The Board had a lengthy discussion on the COVID-19 Policy and some concerns that Mr. Friesen had. **Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to ask Karla Nichols, Reno County Health Director, to address some of his concerns. County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan and County Administrator will collaborate with Ms. Nichols on this request. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-1 with Mr. Hirst voting no.

#### County Administrator report:

Mr. Partington mentioned the monthly department reports and reviewed the Financial Report. Mr. Sellers asked if it would be better to have the reports every other month. Mr. Partington is going to visit with Department Heads. Mr. Friesen commented on the HVAC issues in the Emergency Management Offices. Mr. Partington said this will be remedied by the end of December. Mr. Friesen commented on the 17 open positions and asked if they all needed to be filled.

#### County Commission reports:

Commissioner Friesen said he received a request to occasionally have evening meetings. He commended Mr. Partington on the budget information he includes in their packets. He would also like to be involved in the hiring process for the County Counselor position. He commented on the cell service dead spots in the county. He noticed that there was over \$55,000 spent on crime

related expenses in October. He noticed that we pay rent to the Kansas State Fair for election voting and commented about the septic system policies and how they take so long to get approved.

Commissioner Sellers asked if they three could share their evaluation comments on Mr. Partington with each other. Mr. O'Sullivan stated that there could be one way communication. Mr. Sellers suggested sending all the comments to Mr. O'Sullivan and he would distribute them to everyone.

Commissioner Hirst agreed with Mr. Friesen about the septic system issues. He also noted that he attended Stepping Up Council of Reno County where they discussed several issues. Their next meeting will be January 27, 2022. He said he and Mr. Partington attended the EMS meeting and he attended the Planning/Zoning meeting and the SCKEED meeting. He commended Mr. Friesen on his comments explaining the commitments of a commissioner.

Mr. Friesen was concerned about the Planning Commission meeting. The BOCC directed staff to draft and provide notice of a public hearing for a separate zoning regulation text agreement prohibiting industrial CWECS in the present zoned area for Board of Commissioners consideration. Mr. Friesen was upset because staff recommended against the draft and public notice. Planning staff recommended to keep the due process for land use rights that go through the CUP process in place. The Planning Commission approved the text that prohibited industrial CWECS in the presently zoned area. Mr. Partington stated that staff gave all options and a professional recommendation on the conditional use permit to the Planning Commission and then they vote on the recommendation.

At 10:58 a.m. the Board adjourned until 11:00 a.m. today, for a work session.

Approved:

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Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

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Reno County Clerk  
dp

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Date

November 30, 2021  
Reno County Courthouse  
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners held the agenda session at the Annex Conference Room with Chairman Ron Hirst, Commissioner Daniel Friesen and Commissioner Ron Sellers, County Administrator Randy Partington, County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan, and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a short sectarian prayer led by Pastor Steven Gill, Turon Community Church.

Commissioner Hirst explained about speaking at the Planning Board Public Hearing instead of coming before the Commission with comments on issues that should have been heard at the public hearing. If they have new information, they will need to follow the process to submit that information. He stated that Reno County has a policy in place for addressing CUP (Conditional Use Permit) issues. He said today's item on the agenda was to approve the petition and the CUP discussion and potential vote would come before the Board on December 14, 2021.

Commissioner Friesen asked for clarification of the public being able to speak during the wind process. County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan gave explanation of the Commission establishing a policy with regards to permitting comments that should have been directed to the Planning Board during their hearings.

Commission Sellers stated today's agenda was to validate the petition as entered and not to discuss/or vote on the CUP case.

There were no public comments.

Commissioner Friesen mentioned the agenda meeting last week was hard to hear on the video recording. Mr. Partington replied that IT tested the equipment, and after speaking with McClellan they would work to locate the problem. Mr. Friesen mentioned a comment made about the thought process of the Planning Board Staff. He unfortunately used "insubordinate" in the most recent recommendations on the wind energy zoning requirements. He disagreed with the decision of the staff's approach but used a bad choice of words. He said he should have spoken in a private meeting with the Planning Board Staff.

**Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to approve the Consent Agenda. It consisted of items 6A, 6B, and 6C, including the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on December 3rd, 2021, totaling \$663,860.53 as submitted; approval to declare certain items as surplus to be auctioned on Purple Wave Auction; and approve the appointment of Harley Macklin to a second 3-year term on the Planning Commission. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

**Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the insurance coverage for next year as presented by Mr. Bob Fee an Insurance Broker for Travelers Company that handles property and casualty for the county. Mr. Fee highlighted the renewal rates and explained the coverage amounts. He said the main concerns for higher rates came from the economy, materials, and cost of those materials, cyber was a real high concern, law enforcement, earthquake, and auto claims. He went over the companies that would insure the county. The Board had questions and comments. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

The Board recommended their choice of two from the six qualified applicants that applied for the open positions on the Planning Commission. Mr. Hirst recommended Garth Strand and Allen Shafer saying they were excellent choices, working free gratis along with the other members who try to do a good job for the community. He stated next year Mr. Ken Jorns would be completing his commitment on the Planning Board and will need a replacement.

Mr. Sellers supported Mr. Hirst's recommendations of Strand and Shafer saying we seldom see this large of a group applying for the hard job and all are acceptable for the positions.

Mr. Friesen supported the recommendation of Mr. Strand and recommended for consideration Ron Vincent as a good candidate. Mr. Friesen thanked the efforts and leadership of Chairman Lisa French with the Planning Board since her term was completed. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the recommendation of Garth Strand and Allen Shafer as new members of the Reno County Planning and Zoning Commission. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

County Planner Mark Vonachen met with the Board to recommend approval for a proposed resolution on planning case #2021-07 filed by Mid-States Material LLC for an aggregate stone yard. He explained the Conditional Use Permit process. He stated that state statute K.S.A. 12-757(f)(1) permits property owners within a 1000-foot of the proposed CUP could protest within a 14-day period and

27 petitions were filed with the Reno County Clerk's Office. He and the County Counselor verified all petitions finding 26 valid of the 27 and the staff recommended the petitions to be valid. If approved, the resolution would require a super majority vote.

Mr. O'Sullivan explained the requirements of a super majority which was a concern of the people in the audience, Lucinda Piligian, and Attorney John Wildin. He made the commission aware of the language in the resolution. He gave explanation on the three commissioners versus the upcoming two positions voted on by the public making the Board a five-member Commission. In his opinion the vote would be from the three since the other members would not be voted in until next year taking office in 2023.

**Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to approve the petitions with resolution #2021-27; **A RESOLUTION DETERMING THE VALIDITY OF PROTEST PETITIONS SUBMITTED TO THE RENO COUNTY CLERK PURSUANT TO K.S.A. 12-757 PROTESTING THE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION FILED BY MID-STATES MATERIALS LLC, RENO COUNTY PLANNING CASE NO. 2021-07.** The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Mr. Partington explained the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) was holding a Special Election on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022, to be effective in 2022 to include the affiliate group the Kansas County Human Resources Association as an affiliate member so they can serve on the KAC Board. Counties have the option to elect a voting delegate and an alternate to vote online to allow the Human Resources or not. **Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to nominate Mr. Hirst as voting delegate with the first alternate as Mr. Sellers and Mr. Friesen as second alternate. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

The Board asked for Mr. Partington's opinion on how to vote. He stated most counties in Kansas had an HR Officer, and thought HR was an important part of any county government. He recommended they should be voted in and have a seat as an affiliate member on the KAC Board. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to agree with the recommendation of the County Administrator and direct our voting delegate to vote yes on this matter. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

County Administrator report:

Mr. Partington stated the Courthouse Building Committee will meet to discuss various issues on December 15<sup>th</sup> for the space renovation that was approved from the Capital budget for 2022. The

meeting will include Mr. Sellers, Mr. Partington, and department Directors with an office in the Courthouse including Emergency Management and District Court.

In the Emergency Management area, the HVAC should be completed by the end of December depending on the cost. They have had various estimates, and if the cost is above \$25,000, the commission will need to give their approval.

Interviews will be conducted for the County Counselor position on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Interviews for the Appraiser will be conducted on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

#### County Commission reports:

Commissioner Friesen said he had a bad week as a commissioner. He appreciated the news reporting on his comments but stated that it was not the complete conversation. He needed to clarify and apologized about increasing the fees for MV tags and stated that he was not considering increasing fees. He spoke about having to come in to do tags and could not renew online. He generated a lot of feedback from the community and thanked them. The Commission audio needs work. Two weeks ongoing COVID discussion for future policies.

Commissioner Sellers agreed with his apology, but this brings up good issues that are long term and need to be addressed. We need to write to the state about MV signature procedures that are dictated by the state. He agreed that the audio and video sound need to be solved.

Commissioner Hirst agreed with Mr. Friesen and stated that he had some good points. We are elected to hear and study to make decisions for the whole county and explained some of the commission jobs. He stated that SKECDD made an offer to one candidate for the Executive Director position and noted that they had excellent candidates apply. He and Mr. Partington attended a Quad County meeting and said Reno County will be hosting the next meeting in 2022. Home Rule needs work and look at some of the thirty-nine changes that were made.

At 10:25 the meeting recessed for ten minutes.

The meeting reconvened with all Commissioners, County Administrator Randy Partington, County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan, and Minutes Clerk Cindy Martin, present.

At 10:35 **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to go into executive session for 45 minutes for non-elected personnel with no formal action to be taken. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

At 11:10 **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to extend the executive session by 10 minutes and was approved unanimously.

At 11:20 a.m. the meeting returned to regular open session with no binding action taken and adjourned for the day until 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, December 14th, 2021,

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reno County Clerk  
cm

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



December 14, 2021  
Reno County Annex  
Hutchinson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners held the agenda session at the Annex Conference Room with Chairman Ron Hirst, Commissioner Daniel Friesen and Commissioner Ron Sellers, County Administrator Randy Partington, County Counselor Joe O'Sullivan, and County Clerk Donna Patton, present.

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a short sectarian prayer led by Pastor Ron Kyker with Countryside Baptist Church.

Commissioner Hirst thanked the Fire Fighters for their work and response on the fire by Pretty Prairie.

There were no public comments.

There were two additions to the agenda: A Proclamation of a State of Local Disaster Emergency for Reno County Kansas and an Executive Session for 30 minutes for non-elected personnel at the end of the regular meeting. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to approve the amended agenda. Mr. Friesen asked if item 7H could be moved to 7C. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

**Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to approve the Consent Agenda. It consisted of items 6A including the Accounts Payable Ledger for claims payable on December 10th, 2021, totaling \$615,821.97 and claims payable on December 17th, 2021, totaling \$655,750.23 as submitted; Also consisting of pending Added, Abated and Escaped Taxation Change Orders numbered 2021-728-729, 745, 756, 761-766, 986, 988, 1291, 1300, 1304 and 1306 as submitted. The next six items on the consent agenda were resolutions:

**Resolution 2021-28; authorizing a transfer of Health Department Funds to the Health Department Capital Outlay Fund.**

**Resolution 2021-29; authorizing a transfer of Noxious Weeds General Fund to the Noxious Weeds Capital Outlay Fund.**

**Resolution 2021-30; authorizing a transfer of Public Works Road & Bridge Funds to the Special Highway Improvement Fund.**

**Resolution 2021-31; authorizing a transfer of funds to the County Equipment Reserve Fund.**

**Resolution 2021-32; authorizing a transfer of funds to the Multi-Year Capital Improvement Reserve Fund.**

**Resolution 2021-33; authorizing a transfer of all Fire District General Funds to the Fire Districts' Special Equipment Funds.** Next on the consent agenda was an appointment of Matt Blackburn as Clerk to the Clay Township Board, appointment of Bryan Roelfs as Clerk to the Walnut Township Board.

Mr. O'Sullivan advised the Board that the Agenda item noted as "Opioid Litigation" involved the following which required the Board's approval: 1) Acknowledgment of Agreement with the Kansas Opioids Memorandum of Understanding between the Kansas Attorney General, the League of Kansas Municipalities, and the Kansas Association of Counties; execution of an Agreement to Release and Assign Claims between Reno County, Kansas and the Kansas Attorney General (Exhibit A to the; and approval of Reno County **Resolution 2021-34**, a Resolution of Reno County, Kansas to Approve and Join the Statewide Litigation Regarding the Opioid Epidemic. 2) Approval and execution of the Settlement Participation Form, an agreement of Reno County, Kansas to participate in the Settlement Agreement dated July 12, 2021 (the "Distributor Settlement") in exchange for a release of the County's claim filed in the National Opioid Litigation case with respect to and in connection with the releases provided for in the Distributor Settlement. 3) Approval and execution of a second Settlement Participation Form, an agreement of Reno County, Kansas to participate in the Settlement Agreement dated July 21, 2021 (the "Janssen Settlement") in exchange for a release of the County's claim in the National Opioid Litigation case with respect to and in connection with the release provisions provided for in the Janssen Settlement.

The motion to approve the consent agenda was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Emergency Management Director Adam Weishaar, met with the Board to request an approval of a Proclamation of a State of Local Disaster Emergency for Reno County, Kansas. Mr. Weishaar stated that this proclamation will benefit Reno County later in the week when we are in a high wind and fire warning. Mr. Hirst asked if this will allow us to ban burning for the next two days. Mr. Weishaar stated that under the current Emergency Disaster Declaration, it gives the Board the authority to issue a burn ban and stated that he thought it would be a good idea. Mr. Friesen said he appreciated everything that Mr. Weishaar and the Fire Fighters do.

RN/KM Jt #1 Chief Rick Graber met with the Board to request to increase the budget to purchase a used brush truck which was

approved by the Board on 6/22/2021. The cost is a little more, but it's a better truck. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to approve the increased purchase price for the new truck. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

County Planner Mark Vonachen met with the Board to review a request by T Real Estate, LLC (Applicant: Mid-States Materials, LLC) for a conditional use permit to establish an aggregate storage yard on a portion of a parcel of land. Mr. Vonachen stated that there will be no blasting, crushing, mining, washing, or chemicals, etc., only storing and selling of aggregate. Staff recommended approval based on the nine factors and 13 conditions listed in the supplemental staff report. The Planning Commission recommended approval of the permit with a vote of 4-2 and added a 14<sup>th</sup> condition. Mid-States will put up stop signs and truck crossing signs. With the protest petition accepted at a previous meeting, the vote would have to be a super majority (3-0) to approve the permit. Mr. Vonachen explained the options for the Board to consider. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to deny request 2021-07, by T Real Estate, LLC (Applicant: Mid-States Materials, LLC) requesting a conditional use permit to establish an aggregate storage yard on a portion of a parcel zone AG based on the following 2 factors: 1) Whether the location of the proposed use is compatible to other land uses in the surrounding neighborhood. This neighborhood is comprised of farmland and residential houses. There are no industrial land uses currently in the neighborhood. 2) Whether the proposed use is made necessary or desirable because of changed or changing conditions. The neighborhood consists mainly of large agricultural parcels and there is no indication this area is trending toward a more commercial or industrial land use. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

County Administrator Randy Partington met with the Board to recommend approval of the Highlands Tower Lease (Extension) with IdeaTek. Mr. Friesen stated that he had a conflict of interest and would be abstaining. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to approve the Highlands Tower Lease agreement with IdeaTek. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 2-0, with Mr. Friesen abstaining.

Registrar of Deeds Michelle Updegrove, met with the Board for her annual update. She stated that E-recording is really getting popular, and more people are using E-recording than mailing in documents and would like to have a full-time person just to handle the E-recording filings. Mr. Sellers asked if she had begun the search for her part-time person. Mrs. Updegrove stated that

she has a job description and will start the process of getting someone hired immediately. Mr. Sellers asked if she could increase the charges for service fees and she said she would look into that. Mr. Friesen asked how much of her \$372,000 in her tech fund would be used for imaging software. Mrs. Updegrave thought it could be purchased for around \$200,000. She stated that digitizing equipment is expensive, and she would work with IT to see how they could proceed. Mr. Friesen and Mr. Hirst said they would like to see a written plan and a timeline for digitizing.

County Planner Mark Vonachen met with the Board on Planning Case 2021-12 a request to amend the November 13, 2018, adopted Comprehensive Plan by updating a portion of Chapters 7 and 9 related to wind energy conversion systems. Pages 54, 55 & 62 have all been updated. Staff recommends approval and the Planning Commission approved the changed by a 6-0 vote. Mr. O'Sullivan also reviewed the changes. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to approve the changes to Planning Case 2021-12. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

County Planner Mark Vonachen met with the Board on Planning Case 2021-13 a request to amend Article 1-105, Article 13, and Article 15-111 of the April 2015 Zoning Regulation and create Article 24 - "CWECS" - Commercial Wind Energy Conversion Systems District and amend the Table of Contents Page. They would strike the minimum acres required and add a 7<sup>th</sup> regulation to Article 15-111. The staff recommended denial on Article 15-111 due to believing it's a legitimate land use and would deny anyone applying for a Conditional Use Permit. Staff recommended approval on the other changes. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to approve the changes to Planning Case 2021-13. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

County Planner Mark Vonachen met with the Board to discuss Planning Case 2020-09 that was tabled from 9/14/2021. **Mr. Hirst moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to table the decision until the January 11, 2022, meeting. There is a lot of issues that were not formally decided, so he thought it would be best to table the issue. Mr. Friesen stated that he didn't want to prohibit wind. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

County Planner Mark Vonachen met with the board to discuss Planning Case 2021-14 a request to amend the jurisdiction of the Official Zoning District Boundary Map as identified in Article 1-103 of the Zoning Regulations. Mr. Vonachen suggested tabling this case until the Wind Regulations are adopted, then they could revisit this case. **Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to

table the case until the January 11, 2022, meeting. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

At 10:45 a.m. Mr. Hirst recessed for 10 minutes.

At 10:55 a.m. the meeting reconvened with all three Commissioners, Mr. Partington, Mr. O'Sullivan and Mrs. Patton present.

**Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Sellers,** to approve the Proclamation of a State of Local Disaster Emergency for Reno County, Kansas. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

Mr. Hirst gave a brief explanation of the decisions that were made with the regulations and tabled cases.

Phillip Hayes with The Arnold Group and Human Resources Director Helen Foster met with the Board to discuss the Overview and Recommendations of the 2021 Wage Study. Mr. Hayes highlighted a few recommendations and the data sets that he used for his research and stated that HR will be able to use his research to maintain wages in the future. At a minimum, he recommended bringing the employees that are below the minimum, green circled employees, up to the new minimum wage. This will be at a cost of \$512,685.29 and will affect 175 employees. With 100% compression, it will affect all 308 employees at a cost of \$1,911,961.41. Mr. Hayes strongly recommends addressing known pay compression at 90%. If it's not addressed next year, it should be addressed within the next few years. He explained that we went from 30 job grades down to 15 and explained that the S job grades were for law enforcement and first responder departments. He also recommended maintaining premium pay at \$2/hour for crane operators and implementing Public Works CDL at .50/hour and Youth Services and Sheriff's night staff at \$1/hour, a 2% COLA effective for the first paycheck in January 2022 and then address compression. Mr. Sellers asked if these costs included the County's portion of FICA and Medicare and was told no it did not include those taxes. Mr. Hirst said he is inclined to go with 100% compression and ask that HR bring back information about the next steps and develop a plan. Mr. Friesen and Mr. Sellers asked where the money would come from. Mr. Partington said \$1.1 million is budgeted and the rest could come from ARPA funds for lost wages, then we could look at the next three years. Mr. Sellers is inclined to approve the 2% COLA and discuss the next step. Mr. Friesen would like the departments split out that fund themselves instead of tax revenue funds. Mr. Partington said he would look at those departments not funded by a levy and other

sources of revenue. **Mr. Sellers moved, seconded by Mr. Friesen,** to proceed with scenario 2 which is the 2% COLA, then look at scenario 3 which is the 2% COLA with compression, no later than the final meeting in January 2022. Mr. Partington asked if this includes adopting the new pay scale. Mr. Sellers said to use the old pay scale to hire in new employees.

Mr. Hirst recessed until 1:15 p.m. for lunch.

At 1:20 p.m. the meeting reconvened with all three Commissioners, Mr. Partington and Mrs. Patton present.

County Administrator report:

Mr. Partington gave an overall view of the monthly reports stating that he will be submitting half of the departments' reports one month and the other half the next month. Mr. Partington also went over the Financial Reports and stated that revenue such as sales tax, are coming in better than expected.

Mr. Partington explained the responses from the Health Department that Mr. Friesen has asked earlier. Mr. Friesen said he had hoped the responses would be less legal and more collaborative because his intent was to gather more information. Mr. Friesen said he would like the Board to lead with a policy so staff will know exactly how to proceed with an issue. Mr. Sellers and Mr. Hirst said they think the Health Department is doing a good job and they do not think that we needed a policy. A lengthy discussion ensued about the difference between mandatory and voluntary quarantine. Mr. Partington suggested Mr. Friesen draft a policy for the other members to review. Mr. Friesen appreciated Mr. Partington's thoughts.

Mr. Partington reminded the Board about the Joint County, City Mayors, and Legislator's dinner at 6 p.m. at the Nickerson Community Center.

County Commission Reports:

Mr. Friesen asked if the audio was better, and Mr. Partington stated that it had been looked into by the IT Department and everything seemed fine.

Mr. Sellers spoke about the fire by Pretty Prairie and how important first responders are. He is looking forward to the hiring of the new County Fire Administrator. He also liked the idea that Mr. Friesen had to move the gravel discussion up in the agenda and

leave County business toward the bottom. He also spoke about how the tax statements show that Reno County dropped their mill levy by 5.05%. Mr. Friesen said he like how Thomas County's showed a pie chart with the percentages and which departments the money goes to.

**Mr. Friesen moved, seconded by Mr. Hirst,** to recess into executive session for a period of thirty minutes for non-elected personnel. No formal decision will be made, and at the conclusion of the executive session the Board will return to regular session and adjourn for the day. He asked that County Administrator Randy Partington to remain for the executive session. The motion was approved by a roll call vote of 3-0.

At 2:30 p.m. the meeting returned to regular session and adjourned until 6:00 p.m. tonight for a joint meeting with City Mayors and Legislators.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reno County Clerk  
dp

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

December 14, 2021  
Nickerson Comm Center  
Nickerson, Kansas

The Board of Reno County Commissioners held a special meeting with Chairman Ron Hirst, Commissioner Daniel Friesen and Commissioner Ron Sellers, County Administrator Randy Partington, and County Clerk Donna Patton, present.

Also present were Legislators:  
Jason Probst, Michael Murphy, Mark Steffen and Paul Waggoner.

City Mayors:  
Adam Wright - Haven  
Brice Barker - Willowbrook  
Peggy Ruebke - Nickerson  
Doug Smith - Arlington  
Steve Garza - Hutchinson  
Carol Moore - The Highlands  
Jake Schmidt - Buhler  
Matt Nisly - South Hutchinson  
Dustin VanScyoc - Pretty Prairie

Mr. Partington went over a few items of interest to Reno County. SB 87 which is a Countywide Sales Tax question asked for by Atchison County, could have an adverse effect on other counties. He also commented that when the State increased their wages for Community Corrections but didn't increase their monies, the County had to pick up the difference in wages because they weren't budgeted.

Mr. Hirst said he supports Home Rule for Counties and putting Publications online. Mr. Friesen would like to see the vehicle renewal process easier for people to renew online and not pay a fee when they use their credit cards.

Mr. Wright said he was confused about SB 13, the Revenue Neutral Rate bill. Senator Steffen said it was for total dollars budgeted from last year and not by just keeping the mill levy flat. Mr. Hirst asked if the State would be reimbursing the postage for the notices that are required to be sent out per SB 13. Senator Steffen said the cost should be reimbursed by the State next year. Mrs. Patton asked if something could be done about the State's levies, 20 mills for School General and 1.5 mills for the State Education, because this would cause a notice to be mailed out to every taxpayer next year. He said he would look at what could be done.



Mr. Sellers asked about the 4-year contract for County Appraisers and not being able to fire an Appraiser. If they aren't performing and the County tries to fire them, they can appeal to the Property Valuation Department, which governs them, and they can force the County to retain them. Representative Waggoner said it was his understanding that this keeps Boards from firing Appraisers if they don't put the valuation where they think they should be.

Mr. Sellers asked about the Fire Districts in the County and what can be done to help them. Mr. Wright said Haven has brush truck issues and they need to invest in better equipment. Mrs. Ruebke said their trucks are housed in a cold area and they too have older equipment. They are trained monthly, but they too need newer equipment. Mr. Friesen said it's not unreasonable to ask for newer equipment and asked if ARPA money could be used for this. Mr. Partington stated that ARPA money might be able to be used for that and that Nickerson's Chief has set money aside to build a new building to house their equipment. Mr. Sellers asked about a mandate to ask homeowners for help to protect their property. An example would be to remove dead or cedar trees that are kindling for a fire. Mrs. Moore said she really appreciates the new fire station at The Highlands, and they are requiring landowners to clean up their lots.

Mr. Hirst asked if housing in their cities is an issue. Mr. VanScyoc said there are a lot of houses in Pretty Prairie that are not taken care of. Mr. Wright said they are starting a Rural Housing Incentive District in Haven to help alleviate their housing needs. Mr. Garza said there is a huge issue in the south part of Hutchinson where people can't afford to paint or clean up their houses and they are being threatened with jail time. Mr. Schmidt said there are a lot of rentals in Buhler that aren't being taken care of. Senator Steffen suggested they get in touch with the Department of Commerce and see if they can offer any suggestions or give any help.

Mr. Friesen asked if anyone had any problems with Public Works or roads. Mrs. Ruebke said she has had a few issues but some of them are being taken care of. She said 56<sup>th</sup> and 82<sup>nd</sup> are hardly every maintained or cleared.

At 8:00 p.m. the meeting adjourned until Tuesday, December 28, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair, Board of Reno County Commissioners

(ATTEST)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Reno County Clerk  
dp

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## AGENDA ITEM

**AGENDA  
ITEM #VI.D**

**AGENDA DATE:** December 28, 2021

**PRESENTED BY:** Barbara Lilyhorn - Director Reno County Public Transportation  
Department

**AGENDA TOPIC:**  
Board Appointment to the Reno County Public Transportation Commission

**SUMMARY & BACKGROUND OF TOPIC:**

The Reno County Public Transportation Commission by resolution serves as a Citizen Advisory Committee . The Commission is charged with the review, evaluation and consideration of issues related to providing public transportation in Reno County. The Commission consists of a maximum of 11 and not less than 8 members. Only residents of Reno County are eligible to be appointed to the commission. Commission members shall represent: City of Hutchinson, small cities, persons involved with public and private education, the business community, senior citizens and those living with disability. Appointments of members shall be made for 3 year terms. Members may be appointed to successive terms. The terms for the proposed appointments will be from January 1, 2022 - December 31, 2024.

**ALL OPTIONS:**

Approve the appointment.  
Table the appointment.  
Decline the appointment.

**RECOMMENDATION / REQUEST:**

Approve the Appointment.

**POLICY / FISCAL IMPACT:**

Appointments have no fiscal impact on the Departmental budget.

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO RENO COUNTY  
BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS

Name of Board/Committee/Commission Preference (Please complete one application for each board, commission, or committee membership)

Dept. of Aging & RCAT

Are you presently serving on a County board, committee or commission? If so, which one(s)? (Please provide expiration term date)

Name: Frances J. Garcia

Residence Address: 100 N. Main, #209

City: Hutchinson State: KS Zip: 67501

Are you presently employed where you may be reached for board, committee or commission purposes? yes

Name of Business: Retired

Address:

City: State: Zip:

Work Phone: Email:

Please indicate below your reasons for wanting to serve on this board, committee, or commission. Tell what special knowledge, skills, experience, or background you possess that you believe are applicable to this board.

Having served as a County Commissioner, I wanted to continue to serve on County Boards to keep informed of County services. I want to continue to be a part of the planning and changes. I also have the opportunity to share with others what services are available. Thank you for the opportunity.

Signature of Applicant: Frances J. Garcia

Date: 12-13-21

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO RENO COUNTY  
BOARDS/COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS

Name of Board/Committee/Commission Preference (Please complete one application for each board, commission, or committee membership)

Reno Co. Public Transportations

Are you presently serving on a County board, committee or commission? If so, which one(s)? (Please provide expiration term date)

same as above

Name: Charley D Rice (Doug Rice)

Residence Address: 701 E 11th

City: HUTCHINSON State: KS Zip: 67501

Are you presently employed where you may be reached for board, committee or commission purposes?

Name of Business: N/A

Address: N/A

City: N/A State: Zip:

Work Phone: N/A Email:

Please indicate below your reasons for wanting to serve on this board, committee, or commission. Tell what special knowledge, skills, experience, or background you possess that you believe are applicable to this board.

I want to continue serving on this board to help in the growth and outreach to serve more county residents who are in need of transportation services.  
I am presently chairman of the Usher Team at my church where I work with the general population. In past years I have served on the Interfaith Housing board and other various service boards which serve lower income and other disadvantaged populations.

Charley D Rice  
Signature of Applicant

12-10-21  
Date



## AGENDA ITEM

## **AGENDA ITEM #VI.E**

**AGENDA DATE:** December 28, 2021

**PRESENTED BY:** Jenna Fager, Deputy County Clerk

**AGENDA TOPIC:**  
Appointment of Trustee to Reno Township Board

**SUMMARY & BACKGROUND OF TOPIC:**

RJ Wenzel has resigned from his position as Reno Township Trustee. Jason Tedder and Greg Hokinson the two remaining board members have recommended James Dull to fill this position. James has expressed interest in filling this position. If not approved the township board will only have two members and will be unable to fulfill their duties as outlined by K.S.A. 80-505, until this position can be filled.

**ALL OPTIONS:**

Alternative actions include asking the township board for another recommendation or making your own nomination.

**RECOMMENDATION / REQUEST:**

Appointment of James Dull as Reno Township Trustee as recommended by Jason Tedder, Reno Township Treasurer and Greg Hokinson, Reno Township Clerk.

**POLICY / FISCAL IMPACT:**

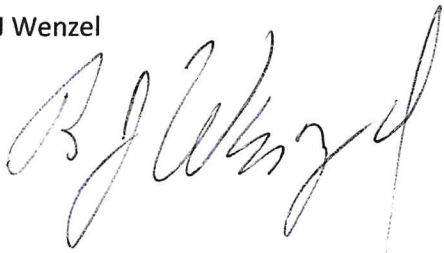
There is no county fiscal impact, but there is a fiscal impact to the township by not having the trustee position filled.

To Reno County Clerk

12/3/21

This is to acknowledge my Resignation as Reno Township Trustee effective 12/4/2021.

RJ Wenzel

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RJ Wenzel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

**FILED**  
DEC 03 2021  
Donna Fattor  
COUNTY CLERK

To: Reno County Clerk

12/9/2021

From: Jason Tedder

The Reno Township Clerk and Treasure would like to nominate ~~Richard~~ <sup>recommended</sup> to the Reno Township Trustee.

Name James Dull  
Street Address 220 East 3rd  
City SH State KS Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Signature James Dull

This to become effective on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.

Sincerely  
Jason Tedder Treasure

Greg Hokinson Clerk

**FILED**  
**DEC 10 2021**  
Donna Patton  
COUNTY CLERK





## AGENDA ITEM

## **AGENDA ITEM #VI.F**

**AGENDA DATE:** December 28, 2021

**PRESENTED BY:** Karla Nichols, Megan Gottschalk, Laurie Carr, and Seth Dewey

**AGENDA TOPIC:**

Reno County Health Department HRSA (Health Resources & Services Administration) grant for RCORP (Rural Communities Opioid Response Program)

**SUMMARY & BACKGROUND OF TOPIC:**

Currently the Substance Misuse Health Educator at the RCHD (Reno County Health Department) spearheads substance misuse work with funds from three sources:

1. Federal COSSAP (Comprehensive Opioid and Stimulant Substance Abuse Program) grant. Work from this grant has funded:
  - Coalition work for Reno County Recovery Response Team
  - Barton County Community Recovery Resource Coordinator
  - Harvey County Drug Court Program

COSSAP grant funding will end in 2022.

2. OD2A (Overdose into Action): CDC funding funneled through KDHE and awarded to local level. OD2A has funded:
  - Anti-Stigma Events, Employer Education on Substance Use Disorder (SUD), ODMAP (Overdose mapping data system)

OD2A funding will end in 2022.

3. Public Health Funds: Grant funding that doesn't cover staffing/benefits for the substance misuse health educator is covered under Public Health Funds.

RCORP application would be a partnership with community partners who provide preventative and intervention services to individuals in our community. This application would allow for a 3-year funding opportunity with the potential of applying for \$1,000,000. This work would further the important community health work around substance misuse through the following activities:

- Funding for Rise Up Reno would help with the expansion of prevention efforts to Reno County youth.

- Funding for Reno County Jail for services to offenders entering Reno County Jail with Opioid Use Disorder. This program would assist the treatment process and have offenders with OUD (Overdose Use Disorder) be on a program at release in efforts to reduce chances for overdose upon release, recidivism, and into recovery.
- Funding for New Beginnings Transitional Jobs Program will expand the jobs program for individuals with SUD. This program will assist individuals through barriers in a setting with others in recovery, help them graduate and enter a permanent job upon completion of the program.
- A Health Educator focused on substance misuse will continue to educate and coordinate efforts to fight substance misuse in Reno County and continue to foster and strengthen the multisector partnerships and relationships locally and across the state.

Between October 2020 and September 2021 there were 325 suspected overdoses and 19 fatalities. The cost of overdose for emergency department visits and hospitalization is estimated around \$650,000 in the same timeframe. If this RFP is funded, it would be a solid avenue to make additional progress in Reno County to provide education to all citizens and partner with entities to provide new and improved services for citizens who suffer from the disease of substance misuse.

**ALL OPTIONS:**

1. Apply for the grant and continue to fund the Substance Misuse work and position with grant funds
2. Not apply for the grant and fund the substance misuse coordinator with public health funds.

**RECOMMENDATION / REQUEST:**

Requesting the Board of County Commissioners to review and approve.

**POLICY / FISCAL IMPACT:**

\$1,000,000 for 3 years would be going to the RCHD to sustain our Substance Misuse Health Educator and to local stakeholders to assist in the issues affecting Reno County.



# Overdose Trends in Reno County

OCTOBER 2020 TO SEPTEMBER 2021

RENO COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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## Executive Summary

In October 2020, Reno County Health Department and EMS started using a real-time overdose tracking system called ODMAP to better understand the County's substance trends. In January 2021, the Reno County Coroner joined the initiative to understand overdose fatalities, which is often undercounted in official data reports. The ODMAP project was part of the 2020 Community Health Improvement Plan. The goal is to use ODMAP to analyze and understand substance trends and accurately count the number of fatalities due to overdose.

In the first year of tracking, there were 325 suspected overdoses, 72 requiring the use of Naloxone, and 19 fatalities. While the most common substance was related to alcohol poisoning throughout the year, in the last 6 months, methamphetamines were the most prevalent substances causing an overdose.

Reno County experienced 3 overdose spikes, defined by having 3 or more suspected overdoses within 24 hours. Each of these spikes was caused by different substances: heroin, oxycodone, and methamphetamine.

Co-Occurring Substance Use and Mental Disorders are highly prevalent within the County. Nearly 50% of all tracked Emergency Department visits for a drug overdose mentioned a mental health disorder, including depression, bipolar disorder, and suicidal ideation. The total cost of overdose hospitalizations and ED visits in Reno County is estimated at just above \$650,000 for the past year.

Substance use also increases the risk of infectious diseases. In 2021, Reno County responded to a Hepatitis A outbreak associated primarily with substance use contributing at least \$211,000 in additional costs due to 13 hospitalizations and 1 fatality.

Reno County Health Department provides this document to show the community what is currently happening in the County with substance trends and the various efforts taken to address this crisis. We also provide this document for our community partners to revise and update our strategies to make Reno County safer and healthier.

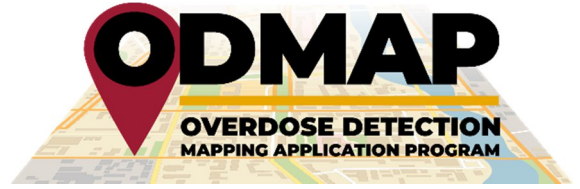
We start with the notion that addiction is a disease. Much like other chronic diseases, if the issue is left unaddressed, the disease exacerbates and leads to other health problems and loss of life. We also look at underlying socioeconomic issues that increase the likelihood of substance use, such as poverty, crime rates, mental health, adverse childhood experiences, and life expectancy rates. The data in these pages connect the issues and finds where one lives dramatically influences the types of choices an individual makes and the health outcomes an individual will experience.

DJ Gering  
Public Health Analyst

Seth Dewey  
Substance Misuse Educator

## Note on Suspected Overdose Data

In October 2020, Reno County Health Department and Reno County EMS signed up to use a national suspected overdose tracking system, the Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP). ODMAP is a real-time surveillance tool that allows qualified agencies to track overdose trends in their respective counties and overdoses in neighboring counties and states. In addition to ODMAP, Reno County Health Department uses a CDC emergency department surveillance system, ESSENCE, to track overdose visits at Hutchinson Regional Medical Center.



### Current Organizations Involved in ODMAP

- Reno County Health Department
- Reno County EMS
- Reno County Coroner

### Agencies Qualified to Participate in ODMAP

Law enforcement, fire departments, EMS, health departments, and hospitals qualify to enter and track suspected overdose data with ODMAP. Nationally, most agencies involved in ODMAP are law enforcement agencies. Reno County Health Department has held discussions with a couple of law enforcement agencies in Reno County since January 2020 and is still working to bring those respective agencies on board. ODMAP benefits law enforcement agencies, particularly in tracking spikes of overdoses. For example, users can see a spike in overdoses from Oklahoma leading to the Kansas border.

In many cases, within a couple of weeks of seeing overdose spikes in Oklahoma, Reno County experiences increases in the same types of substances. Law enforcement benefits in this scenario because it allows agencies to recognize when drug dealers are moving toward the County with illicit substances that increase the likelihood of overdoses ending in death. Sharing data between agencies, counties, and states save lives. The more agencies involved, the better prepared the County is to handle a spike in overdoses.

### Overdose Tracking for the Public

Reno County Health Department has created a tool for the public, media, and organizations in the County to stay up to date with the number of suspected overdoses.

Individuals can follow the Suspected Overdose Dashboard by going to the following link:

<https://reno.maps.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/6e5f01c85f524c08b9aea458926f8fdb>

### Limitations to the Data

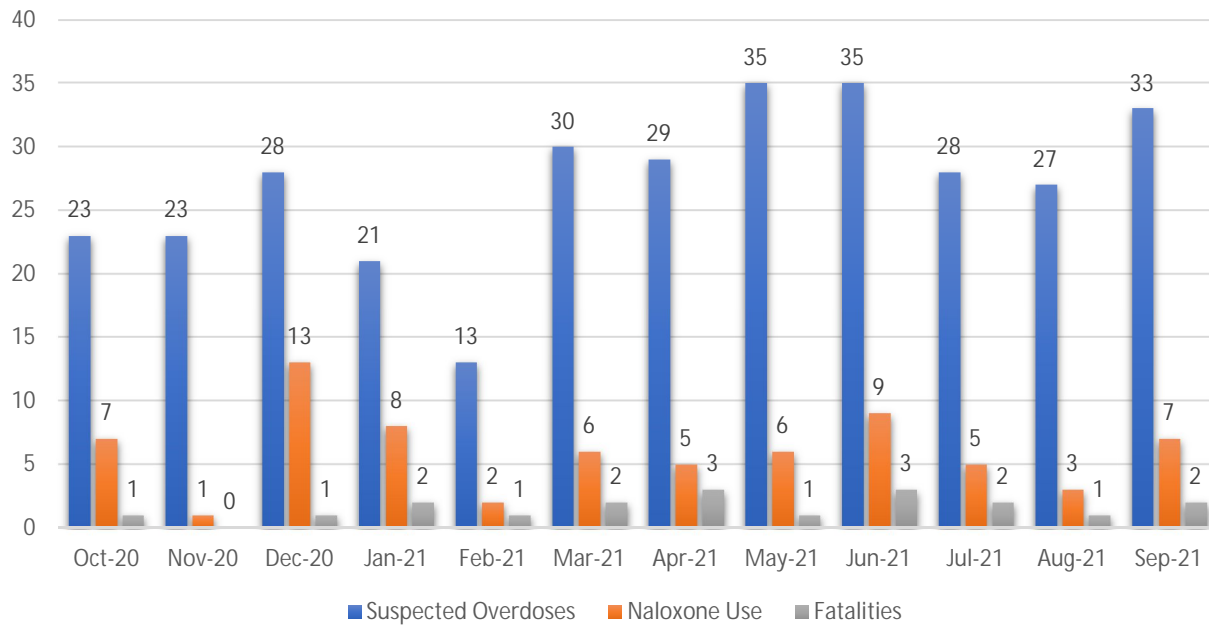
The overdose data in this report are undercounted due to not having any law enforcement agencies entering overdoses into ODMAP.<sup>1</sup> ODMAP shows the drug type, naloxone use, date of overdose, and the general location where the overdoses

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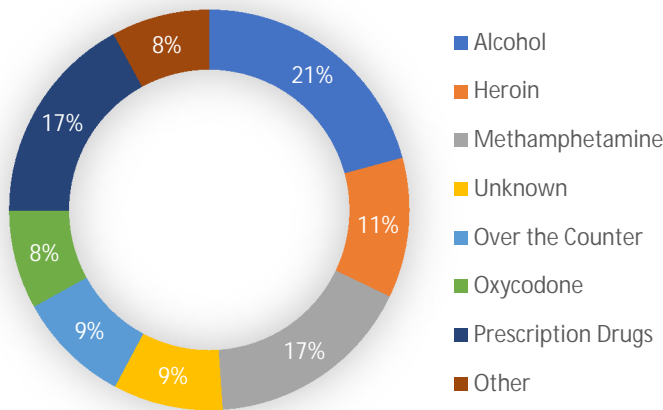
<sup>1</sup> Upon completion of this report, Haven Police Department onboarded to ODMAP in November 2021.

occurred. Therefore, Reno County Health Department cannot analyze suspected overdose events' age, gender, or race/ethnicity. Data from ED visits at Hutchinson Regional Medical Center may contain identical records from ODMAP. We attempted to take out all ED visits that mention EMS to reduce duplicate records. Due to only having one year of data, we cannot compare the differences between years using ODMAP.

### Suspected Overdoses by Month



### Suspected Overdoses (Oct. 2020 - Sep. 2021)



### Overdoses by the Numbers ODMAP Data

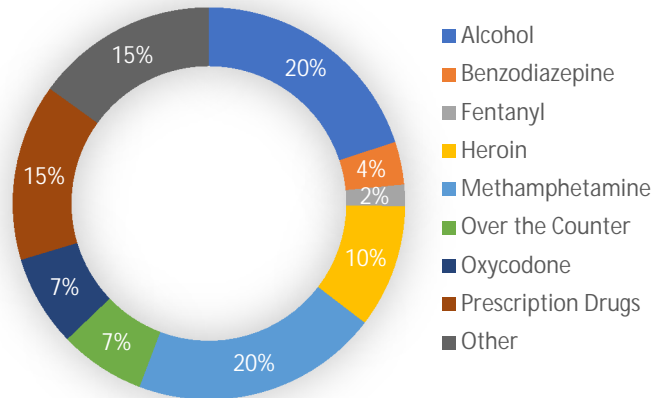
The primary drug types tracked in ODMAP are alcohol, benzodiazepines, cocaine, crack, fentanyl, heroin, LSD, ecstasy/molly, methadone, methamphetamine, over the county drugs, oxycodone, PCP, prescription drugs, suboxone, and synthetic marijuana. Over the past year, the most common overdoses occurred from alcohol, prescription drugs, methamphetamine, and heroin. Reno County saw 325 overdoses, 73 requiring Naloxone, and 19 fatalities between October 2020 and September 2021. At least 18 overdoses occurred at scenes where there were multiple victims.

Overdoses increased shortly after springtime compared to the winter season. In February, overdoses hit a yearly low of 13 while temperatures were also hitting record lows in the region. Suspected overdoses from ODMAP peaked at 35 in May and June. Naloxone use reached its highest point in December when Reno County was alerted of a spike in overdoses caused primarily by heroin. The first spike alert in the County lasted from mid-December 2020 through the beginning of January 2021. At this time, Reno County did not send out a spike alert because the software was new, and we were still finding our daily overdose threshold to ensure we only send out notifications to the public when warranted. After collecting enough data, we determined three overdoses within 24 hours constituted a spike.

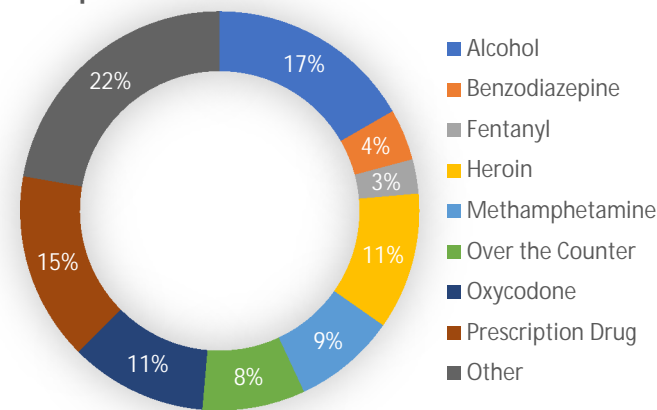
Reno County reached the threshold of a spike alert two more times in March and June. The spike in March occurred primarily due to an increase in Oxycodone overdoses. In June, the spike was related to a rise in methamphetamine overdoses. Of the 19 fatalities between October 2020 and September 2021, 1 was from benzodiazepine, 3 were from oxycodone, 3 from methamphetamine, 3 from heroin, 3 from fentanyl, and 6 from prescription drugs.

While overdoses occur more often within the 67501 zip code area, 10.5% of overdoses in the 67502 area resulted in a fatality compared with 4.0% in the 67501 zip code area. 2 out of the 7 deaths in 67502 were given Naloxone at the scene of the overdose. In contrast, someone gave Naloxone at 4 of the 9 fatality events in 67501. Excluding alcohol, administration of Naloxone occurred at 25.4% of overdose events in 67501 and 25.5% of overdoses in 67502.

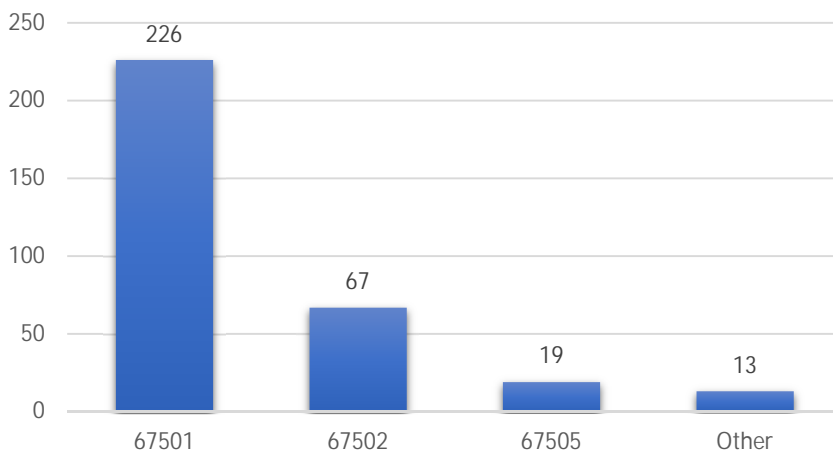
### Suspected Overdoses - 67501



### Suspected Overdoses - 67502



### Suspected Overdoses by Zip Code



Data for Naloxone at the overdose scene is not different or significant enough to successfully explain why a higher proportion of overdoses result in a fatality in 67502 than it does in 67501. When you look at the types of drugs involved at the overdose event, 1 in 5 overdoses occurring in 67501 involve methamphetamine while nearly 1 in 10 overdoses in 67502 involve methamphetamines. In 67502, opioids such as oxycodone, heroin, and fentanyl made up 25% of overdose events compared to 19% in 67501. Heroin and oxycodone are more likely to be cut with illicit fentanyl than other drug types such as methamphetamine.

The higher usage of opioids could help explain the disparities in the fatality rate, but it is not perfect. With only one year of data, we must accept that the indicator might be an anomaly, which will become apparent over time if this is the case. Stigma may also play a role. The 67502 area is a higher socioeconomic area with far fewer persons living in poverty. There are also far fewer total overdoses in the northern part of Hutchinson. Those suffering from addiction will be afraid to call or reach out for help or are more likely to use substances alone. Using substances alone risks relying on the individual or unknown bystanders to call for help.

### First 6 Months vs. Last 6 Months

Drug overdose trends differed significantly over the first 6 months of using ODMAP compared to the latest 6 months. In the first 6 months, methamphetamine was the 6<sup>th</sup> most common overdose in Reno County, while alcohol poisoning, prescription drugs, and heroin were the top 3

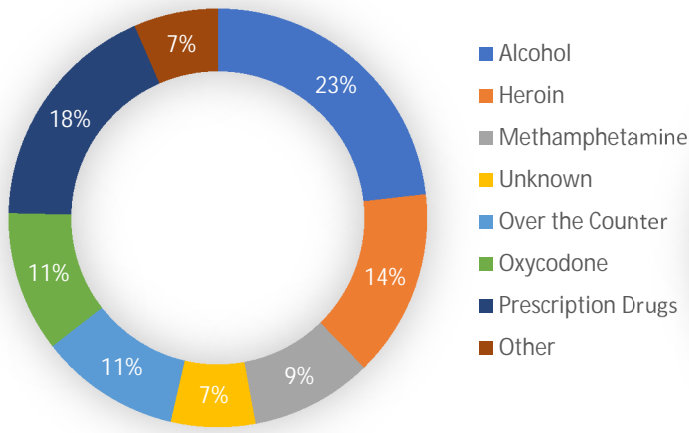


causes. Between April and September, Methamphetamine was the most common cause of overdose, making up 22% of events.

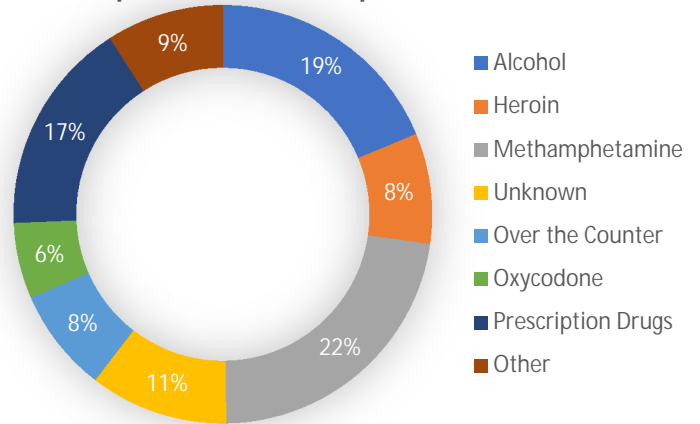
### Syndromic Surveillance

Reno County Health Department uses the CDC syndromic surveillance system, ESSENSE, to supplement the ODMAP data and verify whether spikes in overdoses occur. ESSENSE is a database using hospital emergency department (ED) visit information. ESSENSE warns us if overdoses are happening far above the average, assisting in ascertaining drug overdose trends and communication to the public. The health department did not have access to ESSENSE until March 2020, rendering year-to-year comparisons incomplete for this report.

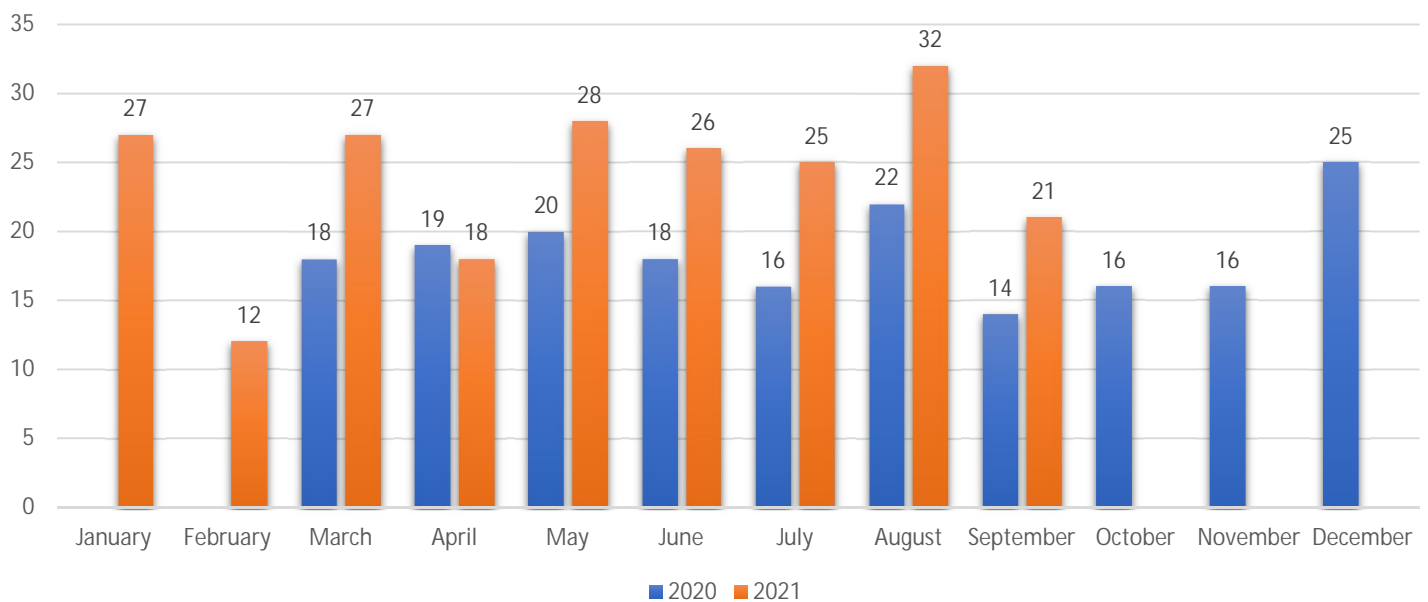
Suspected Overdoses  
(Oct. 2020 - Mar. 2021)



Suspected Overdoses  
(Apr. 2021 - Sep. 2021)

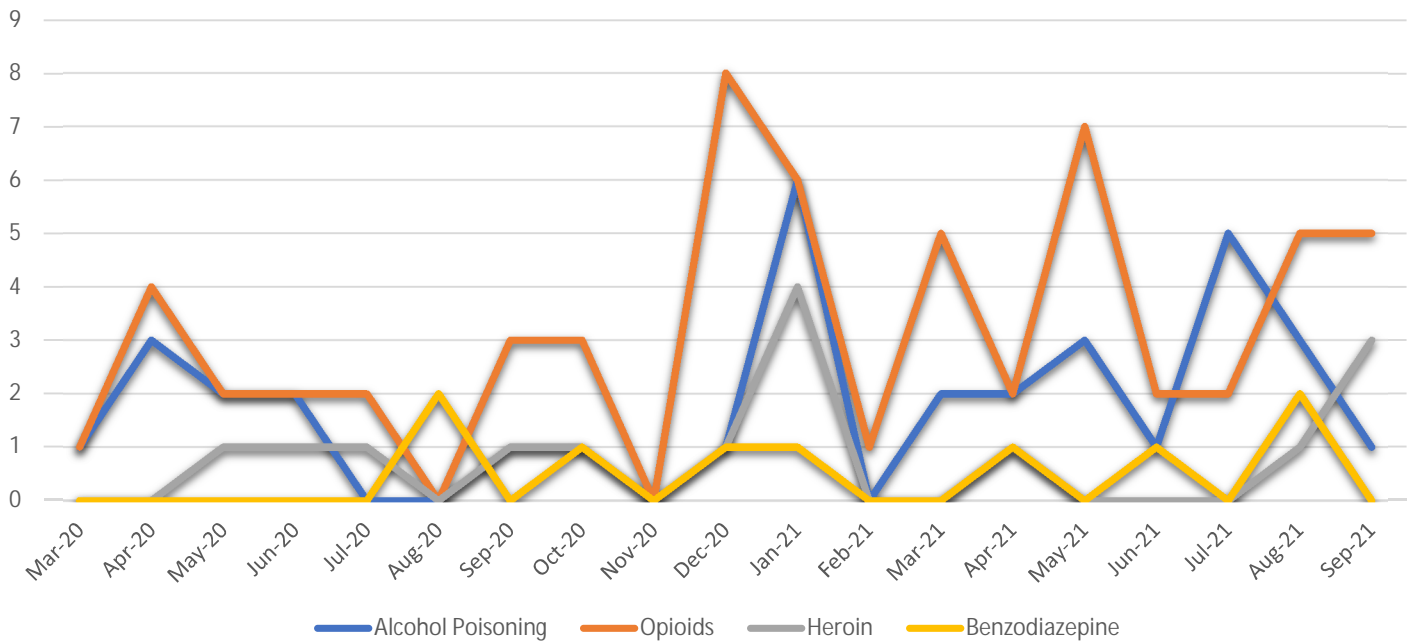


All Drug Overdoses - ED Visits by Month

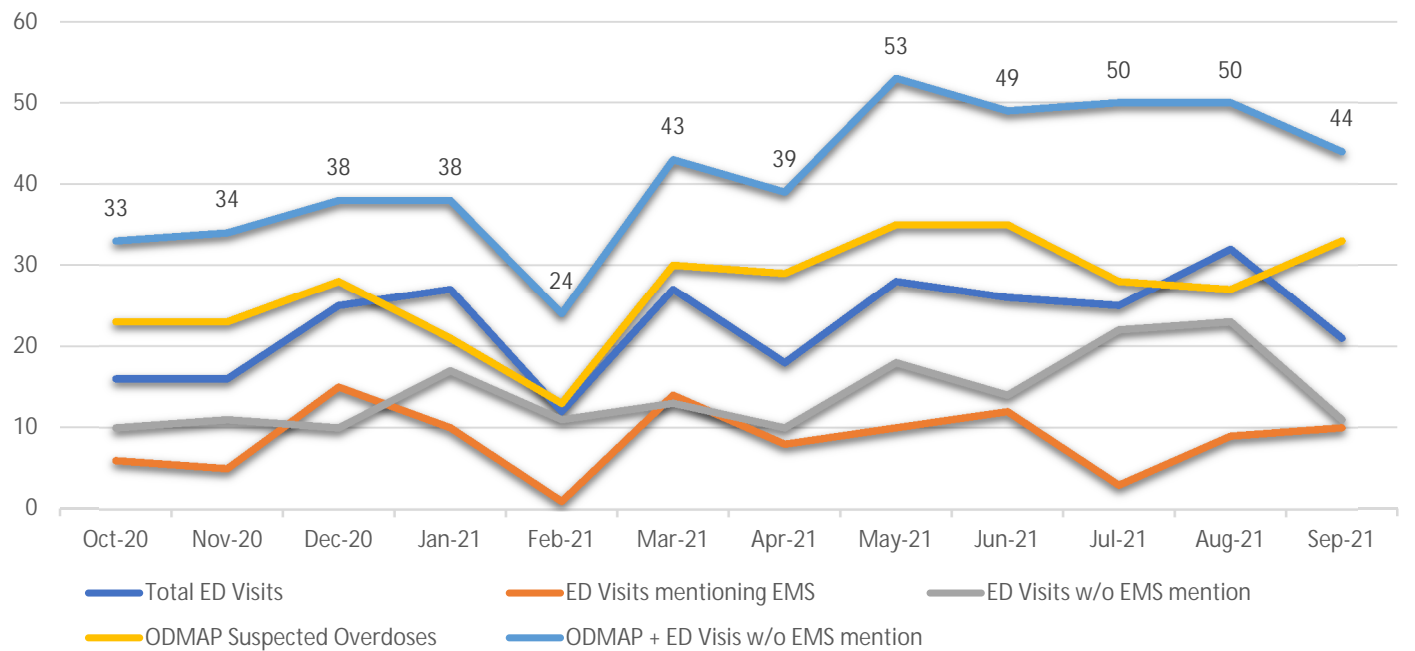


For the months that year-to-year comparisons are available, overdose events in the ED were higher than the previous year except in April 2021. Opioid overdose ED visits were most increased in December and May when Reno County Health Department received spike alerts from ODMAP for heroin and oxycodone.

### Overdoses - ED Visits by Drug Type



### Suspected Overdoses (ODMAP & ESSENSE)



Due to only having 3 entities entering in data to ODMAP, suspected overdose events are likely undercounted. Suppose we measure the number of ED visits mentioning Reno County EMS and subtract those records from the total ED visits and

add them to the ODMAP data. In that case, we get an estimated total of overdose events. The data may still be undercounted due to no law enforcement agency participation in ODMAP.

With the combined dataset, suspected overdoses peaked in May 2021 but remained near 50 or above 50 until September 2021. These totals are significantly higher than the estimated events between October 2020 and April 2021.

## The Cost of Addiction

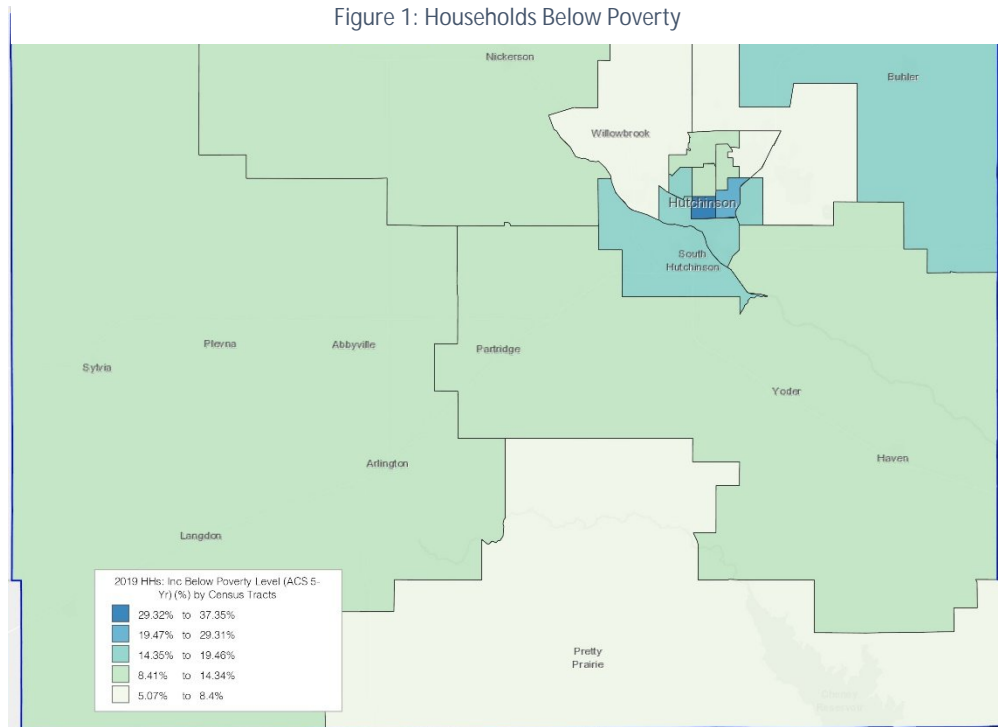
Around three out of four deaths nationally involve an opioid.<sup>2</sup> Oxycodone costs about \$20 per pill on the street. If an individual takes 3 capsules a day for a year, the cost of an oxycodone addiction amounts to \$21,900 per year. At 1 pill a day for a year, the cost comes to \$7,300 per year. Heroin addiction can cost between \$22,810 and \$91,250 per year, depending on its street price.<sup>3</sup> Someone with a severe methamphetamine addiction may spend between \$12,775 and \$38,825 a year.<sup>4</sup>

It is unclear if cost and geographic disparities in Reno County are related to each other. However, the price can explain why certain drug types are more common than others and assist in explaining crime rates. For example, an individual with heroin addiction is less likely to afford the habit, and therefore, more likely to turn to income-generating crime to pay for it.

In Hutchinson, the geographic area that experienced the highest rates of heroin overdoses is also the same area where the crime rate is nearly 4 times higher than the national average.<sup>5</sup> Additionally, almost 38% of households in the area are below the federal poverty level, and life expectancy rates are among the lowest in Kansas at 70 years.<sup>6</sup>

While there is not enough evidence to conclude a causal relationship between poverty and addiction, we can conclude that substance misuse is more common in Reno County areas with higher poverty rates. Studies also show the risk for first-time homelessness increases independently with both substance use disorders and poverty.<sup>7</sup> Based on the geography of suspected overdoses, overdose fatalities are also likely to contribute to both census tracts with the lowest life

Figure 1: Households Below Poverty



<sup>2</sup> Addiction Center, 2019, "How Much Drugs Cost Affects Addiction," <https://www.addictioncenter.com/drugs/how-much-do-drugs-cost/>, accessed 6 October 2021.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Applied Geographic Solutions' Crime Index (2021)

<sup>6</sup> American Community Survey (2015-2019); U.S. Small-area Life Expectancy Estimates Project (2010-2015)

<sup>7</sup> Thompson, Ronald G., Melanie M. Wall, Eliana Greenstein, et al., 2013, "Substance-Use Disorders and Poverty as Prospective Predictors of First-Time Homelessness in the United States," *American Journal of Public Health* 103 (S2): 4.

expectancy rates in Hutchinson while not contributing to the low life expectancy South Hutchinson census tract. These results show addiction's human and social costs and the need for neighborhood-based initiatives to link people to treatment and prevent younger populations from falling into the addiction cycle caused by neighborhood pressures (see Youth Intervention and Prevention section).

Aside from the cost of addiction on an individual or their family, there are additional costs for the taxpayers. The average annual cost of incarceration in the State of Kansas is \$30,100 per resident and \$30,320 per resident at Hutchinson Correctional Facility, according to Fiscal Year 2020 numbers released by the Department of Corrections.<sup>8</sup> Meanwhile, yearlong methadone treatment for heroin users costs around \$4,700, and outpatient rehab for three months costs \$5,000.<sup>9</sup> Only 1.5% of incarceration costs goes toward offender programs such as substance abuse treatment and educational and vocational programs, while 24.7% goes toward health care and 68.2% toward housing and security.<sup>10</sup> These numbers mean an estimated annual average of \$450 per inmate at Hutchinson Correctional Facility goes toward offender programs.

An effort is being made in Reno County to divert drug users away from correctional facilities. In 2021, the Hutchinson Police Department formed the Crisis Response Team in partnership with Horizons Mental

Figure 2: Total Crime Index

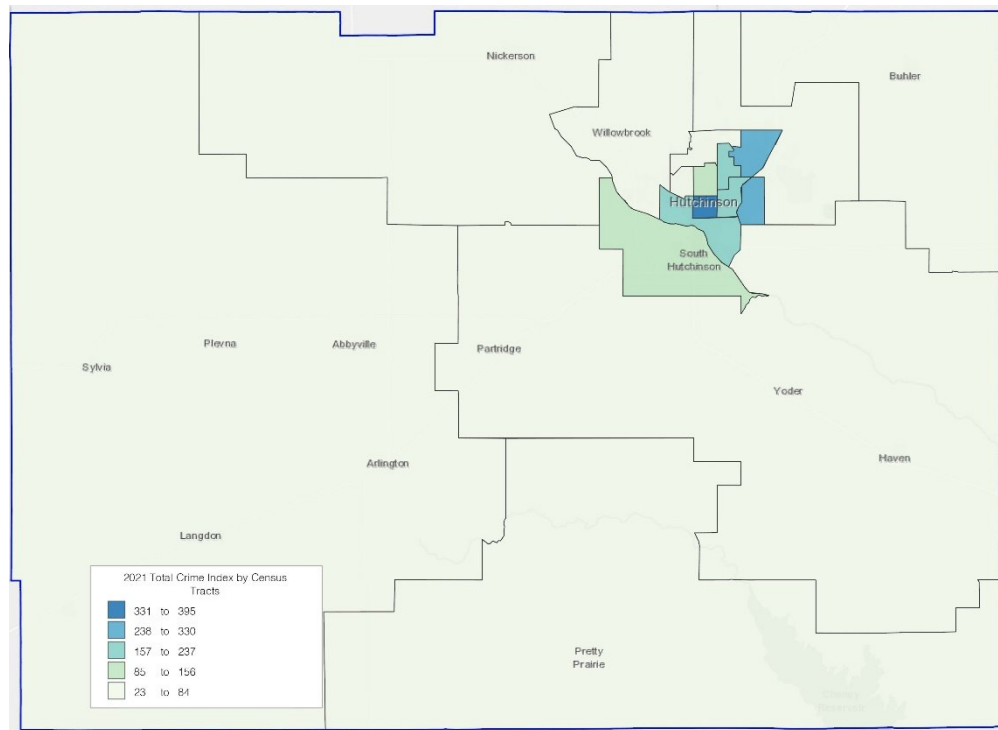
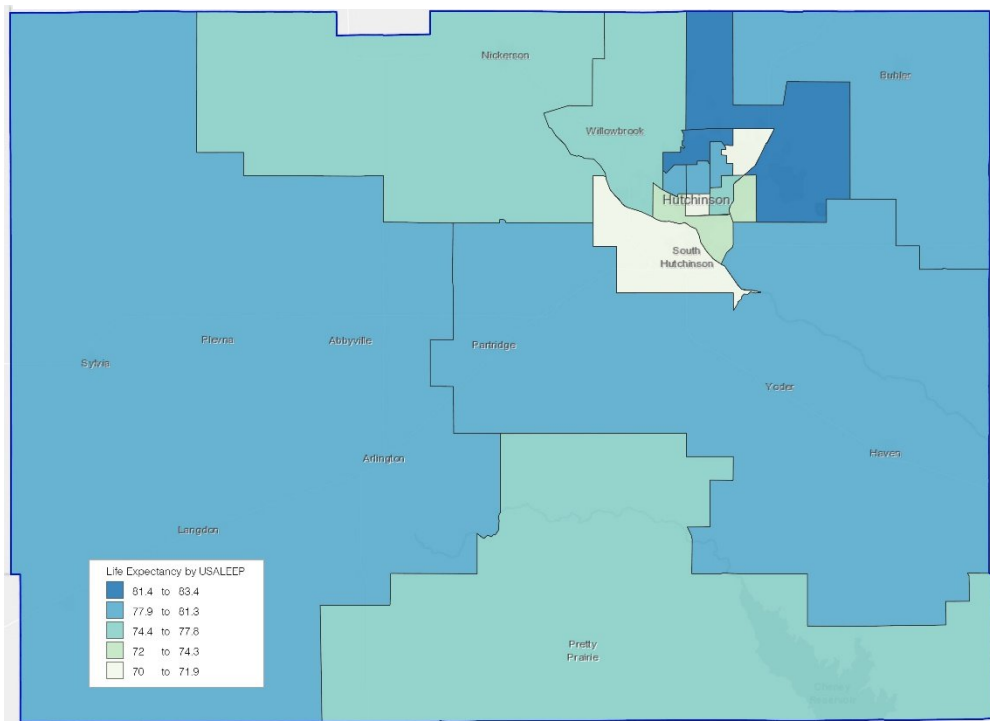


Figure 3: Life Expectancy Rates



<sup>8</sup> Kansas Legislative Research Department, 2021, "Follow-Up Information: Cost Per Inmate and Age of Correctional Facilities," [http://kslegislature.org/li/b2021\\_22/committees/ctte\\_h\\_apprrtns\\_1/documents/testimony/20210224\\_05.pdf](http://kslegislature.org/li/b2021_22/committees/ctte_h_apprrtns_1/documents/testimony/20210224_05.pdf), accessed 25 October 2021.

<sup>9</sup> Addiction Center, 2021, "Cost of Drug and Alcohol Rehab," <https://www.addictioncenter.com/rehab-questions/cost-of-drug-and-alcohol-treatment/>, accessed 25 October 2021.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

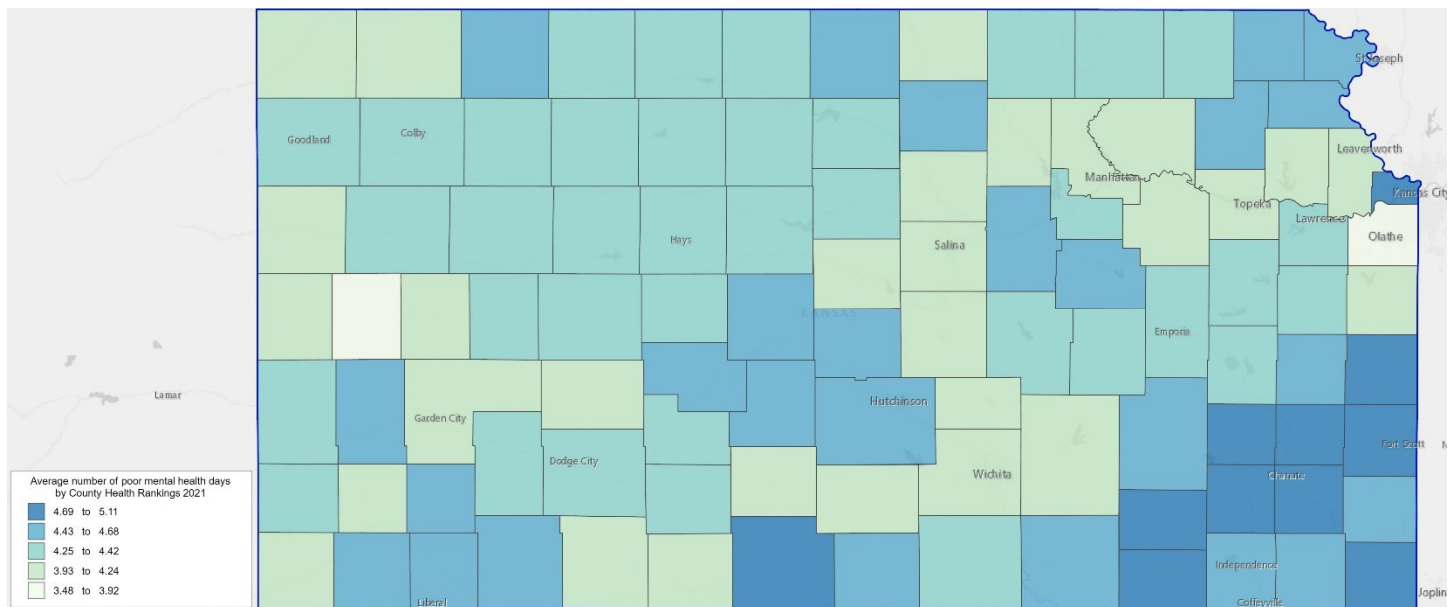
Health Center and Mirror, Inc. This program works to help individuals in crisis get pre-trial diversion opportunities. There are 3 classification codes: Crisis with no crime, crisis plus crime but no arrest, and crisis plus crime with an arrest. When a crisis occurs in association with a crime and no arrest is made, a referral connects the individual to resources, medications, and treatment. If they stick to the referred plan, a report is never filed, and the person never enters the criminal justice system. When a crisis with an arrest happens, the Crisis Response Team follows up with a plan. The team works with the prosecutor to divert the arrestee to the referred program instead of further legal action. The Crisis Response Team works to alleviate the root cause of the issue, refer the individual to the correct services, and not have additional barriers placed upon the individual that come with being charged, such as difficulty finding employment.

The cost of substance misuse also impacts hospitals. Where substance use disorder is the primary cause of a hospital visit, an opioid disorder costs an average of \$1,736 per encounter in the emergency department nationwide. In contrast, alcohol poisoning ED visits cost an average of \$2,082 per encounter and stimulants cost \$2,058 per encounter.<sup>11</sup> Between October 2020 and September 2021, there were 46 opioid-related ED visits for Reno County residents—according to ESSENSE—resulting in an estimated cost of \$79,586. The 29 alcohol-related ED visits for Reno County residents amounts to an estimated cost of \$60,378 between October 2020 and September 2021. Over the same period, 13 stimulant overdoses cost an estimated \$26,754. An additional 185 drug-related ED visits estimates to be \$1,985 per visit or \$367,225 in total.<sup>12</sup> Inpatient costs are about 4 times higher than ED visits for substance use. Still, Reno County Health Department can only track the number of ED visits admitted as an inpatient. 13 individuals were admitted to the hospital for an additional estimated cost of \$126,009, bringing the total expenditure on the hospital system to \$659,497 within the 1-year timeframe.<sup>13</sup>

## Mental Health and Substance Misuse

Substance use disorder and mental health problems share underlying causes such as “early exposure to stress or trauma.” Nearly 25% of people with a mental health issue also have a substance use disorder.<sup>14</sup> Suspected overdose trends in Reno

Figure 4: Average Number of Poor Mental Health Days in Kansas



<sup>11</sup> Peterson, Cora, Mengyao Li, Likang Xu, et al., 2021, “Assessment of Annual Cost of Substance Use Disorder,” JAMA Network Open 4(3): 8.

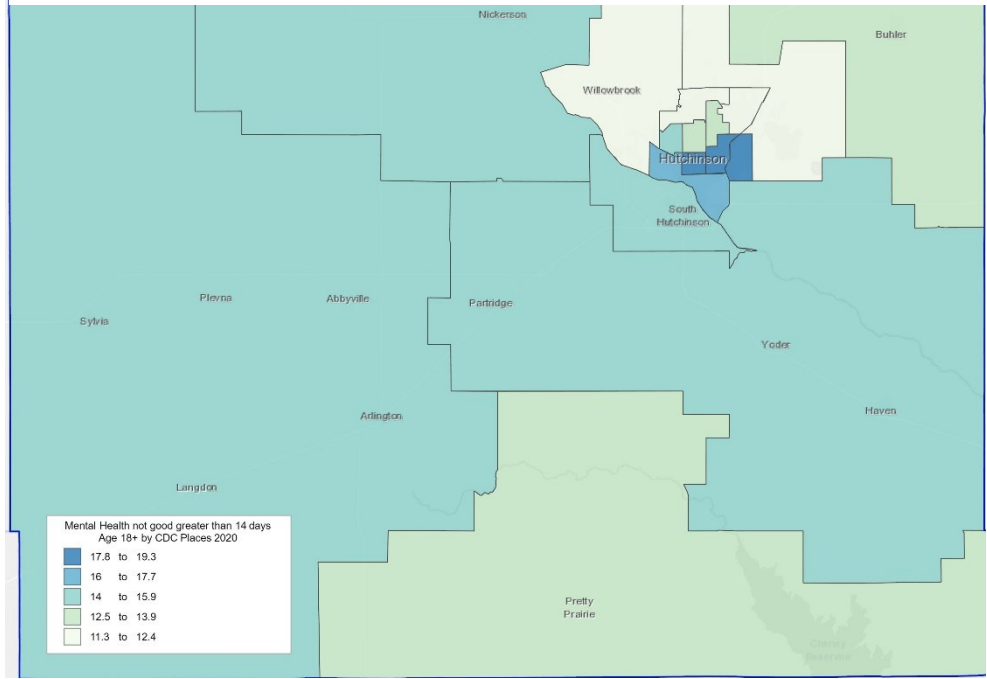
<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> Ibid.

<sup>14</sup> MentalHealth.gov, 2019, “Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders,” <https://www.mentalhealth.gov/what-to-look-for/mental-health-substance-use-disorders>, accessed 26 October 2021.

County also overwhelmingly share the same geographic makeup and socioeconomic conditions as individuals who struggle with mental health issues. Reno County is 24<sup>th</sup> in the State of Kansas for an average number of poor mental health days reported by adults over one month at 4.58 days.<sup>15</sup> Within the County, 2 of the census tracts with the highest rates of adults reporting 14 or more poor mental health days over 30 days are in the same census tracts with the highest suspected overdose rates. Therefore, poverty rates are higher, and life expectancy rates are lower on average in these poor mental health rate areas as in the high overdose rate areas.

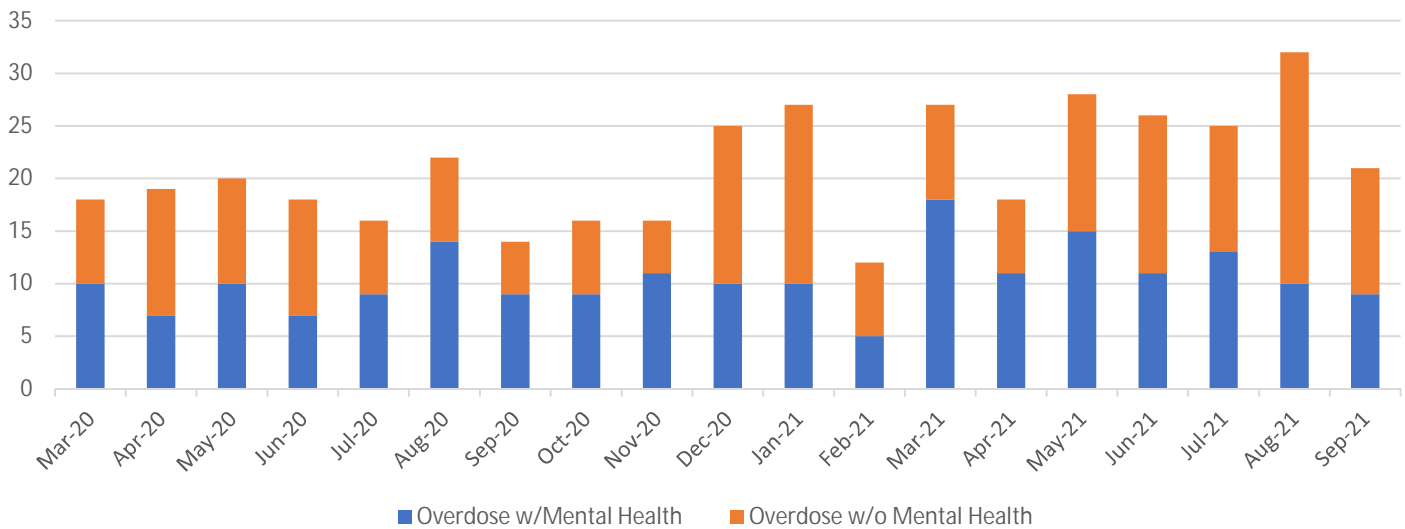
Figure 5: Mental Health Not Good 14+ Days



Of the 400 drug-related ED visits between March 2020 and September 2021, 49.5% mentioned a diagnosed mental health disorder—such as depressive disorder—or suicide ideation, or suicide attempt. Mental health-related ED visits are much more common among residents living in the 67501 zip code than any other zip code, similar to the trends found in suspected overdoses discussed earlier (see Overdoses by the Numbers section).

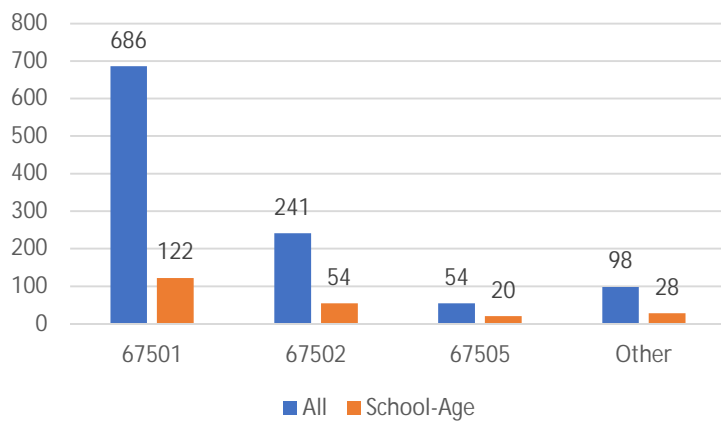
For school-aged children in the Hutchinson area, suicide-related ED visits were also most common in the 67501 zip code making up 54.5% of visits compared to 24.1% for the 67502 zip code. Since there are also more children in 67501, we must compare the case rates for more accuracy. When looking at case rates, there are 29.95 suicide-related ED visits per 1,000 school-aged children in 67501 (or roughly 3% of all children in the area). Suicide-related ED visits are nearly twice as high

### ED Visits for Overdose and Mental Health

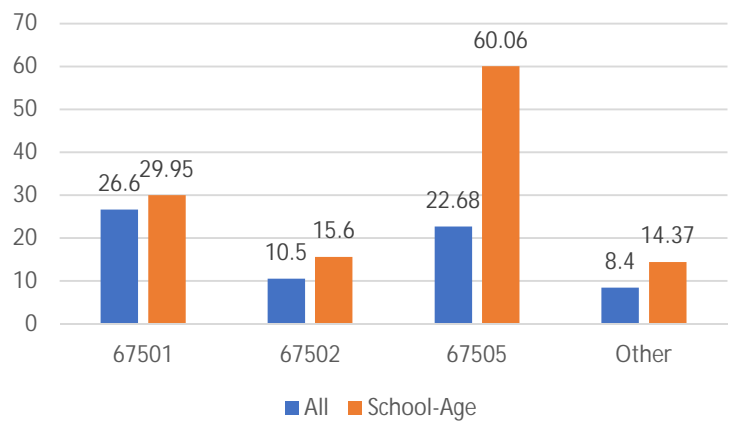


<sup>15</sup> County Health Rankings, 2021.

Suicide-Related ED Visits by Zip Code  
(March 2020-September 2021)



Suicide-Related ED Rates by Zip Code  
(March 2020-September 2021)



as the 67502 zip code, where the rate is 1.56 per 1,000 school-aged children.<sup>16</sup> In the South Hutchinson 67505 zip code, the proportion of school-aged children experiencing suicide-related ED visits are nearly twice as high as the 67501 zip code. Studies show children who experience at least one mental health disorder are more prone to develop a substance use disorder later on in life.<sup>17</sup> While most tracked overdoses in Reno County are among adults, prevention must start with at-risk youth, such as those with mental illness (see Youth Intervention and Prevention section).

## Harm Reduction

Harm reduction is a set of practical ideas and strategies to mitigate the negative consequences associated with human behavior. Examples in everyday life include seat belts, cigarette filters, masks, and sunscreen. People are often unaware that those everyday items are considered harm reduction tools. The premise of keeping individuals safe also applies to substance misuse. With ODMAP, Reno County Health Department can assess the environment and adapt strategies and messaging to the current overdose trends. Therefore, messaging remains in real-time along with the data rather than basing messaging off delayed results. For example, official fatality and drug poisoning data can take more than a year to release.

When spike alerts occur, Reno County Health Department relays information to the public about current substance trends and whether these substances are likely pressed pills or laced stimulants. During the spike, Reno County Health Department urges substance users to go slow, never use alone, carry Naloxone (Narcan), and have friends and family regularly check up on their loved ones. The community receives a list of prevention and harm reduction resources available in each press release to encourage the utilization of these resources.

Naloxone is a medication that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose. Reno County Health Department works closely with a local harm reduction coalition, Kansas Recovery Network (formerly Addicts Against Overdose), to host Naloxone distribution events and pass out feminine hygiene products, wound care kits, and additional supplies. These events provide an opportunity to speak to at-risk individuals, build trust, and offer different options to those who need other resources such as treatment or housing to help get clean. This strategy recognizes that addiction is a disease. Once that recognition is made, the process changes from punishment to harm reduction and prevention.

<sup>16</sup> Case rates were calculated using ED Visits from ESSENSE and population data from ESRI (2021)

<sup>17</sup> Conway, Kevin, Joel Swendsen, Mathilde Husky, Jian-Ping He, 2016, "Association of Lifetime Mental Disorders and Subsequent Alcohol and Illicit Drug Use: Results From the National Comorbidity Survey—Adolescent Supplement," *Journal of the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry* 55 (4): 9.

Community-based naloxone distribution programs help lower opioid overdose fatalities.<sup>18</sup> Between October 2020 and September 2021, Naloxone was used at 72 overdose events in Reno County, helping save lives. Naloxone is also a proven, cost-effective method for avoiding overdose fatalities. In a study from North Carolina, for each dollar spent on community-based naloxone distribution programs, there was an estimated \$2,742 of benefit due to preventing opioid overdose deaths.<sup>19</sup>

## Infectious Diseases

Between January and June 2021, Reno County Health Department responded to a Hepatitis A outbreak that saw 26 total infections, including 1 fatality. Half of these cases reported a history of drug use, and 7 patients refused to answer any questions about how they acquired the infection. There were 2 cases likely not part of the cluster as the probable source of infection was food-borne. There were 4 cases with an undetermined source of infection after the interview concluded.

Hepatitis A is one type of infectious disease that affects those using substances. Hepatitis A is a vaccine-preventable liver infection that can last up to 2 months. The source of infection is often through contaminated food or drink, close personal contact, sexual contact, or sharing of syringes for injection drug use.<sup>20</sup> Hospitalizations due to Hepatitis A are also expensive. In 2017, the average Hepatitis A hospitalization in the United States cost \$16,232 per patient.<sup>21</sup> With 13 hospitalizations, the total hospitalization cost for Reno County residents with Hepatitis A amounts to around \$211,016. This estimate does not include the time the Kansas Department of Health and Environment spent in Reno County to vaccinate at-risk individuals for Hepatitis A or the cost of the vaccines themselves.

At the end of 2017, Reno County had 38 individuals living with HIV in the County.<sup>22</sup> HIV is a sexually transmitted infection but can also be transmitted through injection drug use. Unlike hepatitis infections, HIV is a lifelong infection requiring regular checkups and testing to ensure the individual is virally suppressed. An undetectable viral load means the HIV is untransmittable.<sup>23</sup> The antiretroviral therapy (ART) medications required to achieve viral suppression can cost an average of \$36,080 per year.<sup>24</sup> The estimate does not include the viral load and CD4 testing needed to determine viral suppression and the immune system's strength. CD4 is also known as a T Cell, which is a type of white blood cell that helps the body fight infections.

A lower CD4 count makes an individual more prone to opportunistic infections such as pneumocystis carinii pneumonia (PCP), which is found primarily in patients with advanced immunodeficiency virus (AIDS). AIDS is diagnosed when the CD4 is less than 200 cells per cubic millimeter or with the presence of an opportunistic infection.<sup>25</sup> The lower the CD4 count, the higher in cost medical care will be. Life expectancy also changes based on the CD4 count at diagnosis ranging from

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<sup>18</sup> Naumann, Rebecca B., Christine Piette Durrance, Shabbar I. Ranapurwala, et al., 2019, "Impact of a Community-Based Naloxone Distribution Program on Opioid Overdose Death Rates," *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 204.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid.

<sup>20</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2020, "Hepatitis A," <https://www.cdc.gov/hepatitis/hav/index.htm>, accessed 27 October 2021.

<sup>21</sup> Hofmeister, Megan G., Shaoman Yin, Maria V. Aslam, et al., 2020, "Hepatitis A Hospitalization Costs, United States, 2017," *Emerging Infectious Diseases* 26 (5), [https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/5/19-1224\\_article](https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/26/5/19-1224_article), accessed 25 October 2021.

<sup>22</sup> VandeVelde, Jennifer, Stephanie Green, DJ Gering, et al., 2019, "Integrated Epidemiological Profile: An Analysis of the HIV Epidemic in Kansas from 2013-2017," STI/HIV Surveillance Section, [https://www.kdheks.gov/sti\\_hiv/download/Epi\\_Profile\\_CY\\_2017.pdf](https://www.kdheks.gov/sti_hiv/download/Epi_Profile_CY_2017.pdf), accessed 18 October 2021.

<sup>23</sup> Eisinger, Robert W., Carl W. Dieffenbach, Anthony S. Fauci, 2019, "HIV Viral Load and Transmissibility of HIV Infection: Undetectable Equals Untransmittable," *Journal of the American Medical Association* 321 (5): 2, doi:10.1001/jama.2018.21167.

<sup>24</sup> McCann, Nicole C., Tim H. Horn, Emily P. Hyle, et al., 2020, "HIV Antiretroviral Therapy Costs in the United States, 2012-2018," *JAMA Intern Med* 180 (4): 3, doi:10.1001/jamainternmed.2019.7108.

<sup>25</sup> Mayo Clinic, 2021, "HIV/AIDS," <https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/hiv-aids/diagnosis-treatment/drc-20373531>, accessed 27 October 2021.

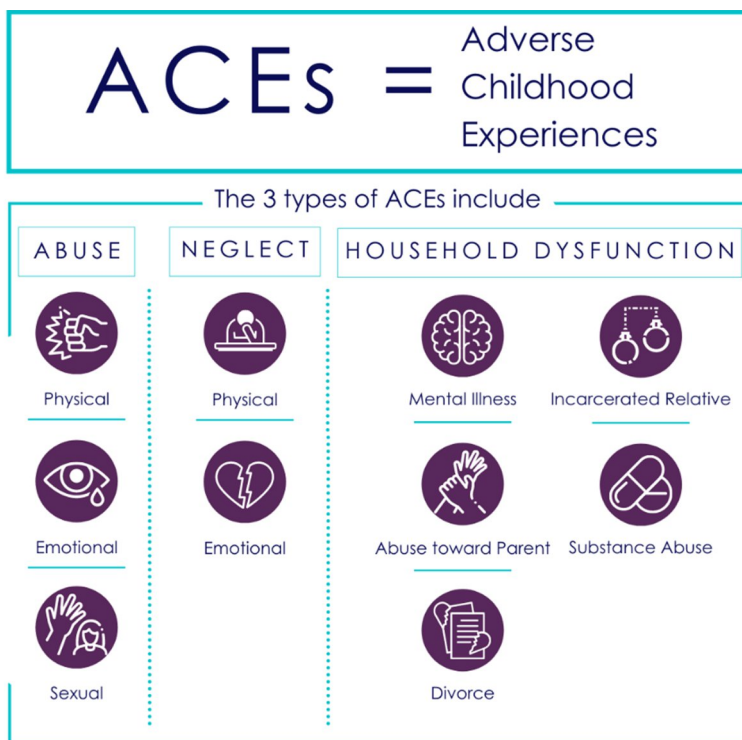


around 30 to 38 years after diagnosis.<sup>26</sup> For the 38 individuals living in Reno County with HIV, the ART medication costs an estimated total of \$1,371,040 per year. In the Reno County region, 18% of prevalent HIV infections have injection drug use listed as their exposure.<sup>27</sup>

One way to prevent the spread of infectious disease due to injection drug use and lower the costs associated with their relationship is through a syringe service program, which is currently illegal in Kansas. Reno County Health Department continues to advocate for a change in the law, which would open additional grant funding to both the State and Reno County. Syringe Service Programs (SSPs) reduce HIV incidence by 58% among persons who inject drugs.<sup>28</sup> SSPs vary in cost, but SSPs start out at \$1 per syringe or \$700 per year per client in larger rural areas.<sup>29</sup> Costs of SSPs are often paid for through grant funding. Reno County Health Department misses out on several harm reduction and prevention grants requiring an SSP due to Kansas law. This results in missed opportunities for more funding to combat addiction and infectious diseases in Reno County.

## Youth Intervention and Prevention

Figure 6: Types of ACEs



Rise Up Reno does a significant portion of the youth prevention work in Reno County, including education on substances, building resilience, and improving mental health. Building resilience introduces the effects of Positive & Adverse Childhood Experiences (PACES) into education and prevention (see Figure 6 for the types of Adverse Childhood Experiences).

An increase in cumulative Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) is associated with negative outcomes in adulthood such as mental health problems, substance misuse, poor work performance, obesity, and a lower life expectancy.<sup>30</sup> Children with more ACEs are more likely to experience ADHD, early sexual activity, and adolescent pregnancy, among other issues.<sup>31</sup>

One way to combat ACEs is through childhood resilience, including problem-solving skills, self-regulation, and relationships with caring adults.<sup>32</sup> If a child lacks a supportive parent, other adults such as

<sup>26</sup> Farnham, Paul G., Chaitra Gopalappa, Stephanie L. Sansom, et al., 2013, "Updates of Lifetime Costs of Care and Quality-of-Life Estimates for HIV-Infected Persons in the United States: Late Versus Early Diagnosis and Entry Into Care," *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes* 64 (2): 7, doi: 10.1097/QAI.0b013e3182973966.

<sup>27</sup> VandeVelde, Jennifer, et al., 2019, "Integrated Epidemiological Profile."

<sup>28</sup> Lambdin, Barrot H., Ricky N. Bluthenthal, Lynn D. Wenger, et al., 2020, "Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution Within Syringe Service Programs—United States, 2019," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 69 (33): 5.

<sup>29</sup> Teshale, Eyasau, Alice Asher, Maria V. Aslam, et al., 2019, "Estimated Cost of Comprehensive Syringe Service Program in the United States," *PLoS One* 14 (4): 10.

<sup>30</sup> Advokids, 2021, "Adverse Child Experience Study (ACES)," <https://advokids.org/adverse-childhood-experience-study-aces/>, accessed 8 November 2021.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid.

<sup>32</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2019, "Childhood Resilience,"

<https://www.samhsa.gov/homelessness-programs-resources/hpr-resources/childhood-resilience>, accessed 8 November 2021.

teachers, religious leaders, or other mentors can serve as an adult role model and build positive experiences in the child's life. Organizations in Reno County that connect children to positive role models and help children achieve their full potential include Boys & Girls Clubs of America and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Big Brothers Big Sisters always need new Bigs to help mentor kids and serve as facilitators for building resilience and positive outcomes in a kid's life. Boys & Girls Club of America uses ACEs to guide their work on reducing substance use among youth by:

- Providing high-quality youth development
- Following and promoting a whole-child health approach
- Implementing trauma-informed and promising prevention staff practices
- Building stronger community linkages that support substance use prevention<sup>33</sup>

Nationally, 94% of Boys & Girls Club 12<sup>th</sup> graders report abstaining from substances compared to 82% of all 12<sup>th</sup> graders.<sup>34</sup>

Rise Up Reno features Youth Leadership groups in all public high schools within the County. These groups meet once a week to go over upcoming events, learn new skills, and strengthen the skills they already have. Students will participate in several activities during the year, including community service, helping with carnivals, and presenting and inspiring grade school students. The presentations feature alcohol, tobacco, and drug prevention, bullying awareness, and making good choices. Students who stay involved in the program and connected have a greater likelihood of staying in school and achieving tremendous success.

Rise Up Reno also contributes to prevention through a Mentoring program, a school-based effort linking caring adult volunteers from the community with students. This program is open to all students grades K-12 within participating school districts. Activities take place on school grounds during school hours. Mentoring volunteers will typically visit a school for one hour or less each week to have lunch with a student, help with reading or tutoring, share an interest in a hobby, or listen to the student. The mentors provide a positive role model that gives the students a greater chance of making it into adulthood and beyond substance-free.

PACEs guide the way the Reno County Health Department educates businesses and industries about substance misuse in the workplace and the reasons why some individuals are more prone to using substances. The education empowers employers with an understanding of underlying issues influencing an individual's choices. With information from the National Safety Council, Reno County Health Department helps employers examine their policies regarding substance misuse and substance-free workplaces and assists employees in finding help if they are struggling with addiction and recovery.

## Treatment and Recovery

In Reno County, there is a thriving recovery community with various support groups and recovery houses keeping people active in recovery and showing others recovery is possible. Recovery begins with withdrawal or detox, which involves physical and psychological symptoms, and is often supported with medications.<sup>35</sup> Over the last couple of years, Reno County has added medically assisted treatment/recovery services (MAT/MAR) provided by Horizons Mental Health Center, Summit at BreakThru, and Prairie Star that uses suboxone (buprenorphine) to help with opioid withdraw and

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<sup>33</sup> Boys & Girls Club of America, 2018, "Opioid and Substance Use Prevention," <https://www.bgca.org/-/media/Documents/external/OpioidResource-Guide-web.pdf>, accessed 9 November 2021.

<sup>34</sup> Boys & Girls Club of America, 2020, "Youth Opioid Prevention," [https://www.bgca.org/-/media/Documents/GetInvolved/Advocacy/2020/BGCAGR\\_OnePager\\_YouthOpioid\\_NOASK\\_2-18-20.ashx](https://www.bgca.org/-/media/Documents/GetInvolved/Advocacy/2020/BGCAGR_OnePager_YouthOpioid_NOASK_2-18-20.ashx), accessed 9 November 2021.

<sup>35</sup> Worley, Julie, 2021, "Substance Use Withdrawal and Detox Strategies That Work," *Journal of Psychological Nursing* 59 (9).

cravings. Suboxone is an opioid used as an opioid replacement with gradually fewer doses, typically over 5 days, to assist with the detox and withdrawal.<sup>36</sup>

The Substance Abuse Center of Kansas (SACK) runs a residential treatment facility in Hutchinson that holds 20 beds for men. SACK also runs a detox unit that holds up to 6 men or women that opened in 2021 to divert individuals from the hospital or jail to detox, reducing the burden on the hospital and law enforcement agencies.

Reno County also has multiple Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous groups with a recent expansion in Cocaine Anonymous meetings. These are 12-step recovery programs designed for people to help one another in their recovery journey. Additional faith-based recovery programs such as Celebrate Recovery and Life Recovery use a faith-based approach to the 12 steps.

The time between the meetings is often the most challenging time for people seeking recovery. Usually, a safe, supportive living environment is proven to be the missing link. In Reno County, there are 10 Oxford Houses. Oxford Houses are democratically self-supportive homes for recovery. 3 of the 10 houses are for women, 1 of those 3 are for women and their children, which supports the reintegration process with families. 7 of the houses are for men, with 1 of those 7 for men and their children. Places designated for children set different rules and guidelines to make the home more family-friendly and to help foster connections between those in recovery and their children.

Horizons Mental Health Center also formed the Recovery Response Team in 2021 to respond to the rise in overdoses. The response team holds a 2-fold purpose:

1. Contact high-risk individuals who have experienced a non-fatal overdose or relapse and connect them with community resources.
2. Get individuals connected to resources within 24-48 hours of the overdose event.

This goal is accomplished by leaving “calling cards” with individuals experiencing an overdose or relapse. These cards are passed out by first responders such as EMS and by Hutchinson Regional Medical Center staff when an overdose visit comes through the Emergency Room.

## Reno Recovery Collaborative

The Reno Recovery Collaborative started as the Drug Impact Task Force in April 2015 by Hutchinson Mayor Jade Piros de Carvalho to address substance use and misuse in Reno County after a rise in overdose fatalities occurred. The task force consists of stakeholders from multiple sectors, including schools, businesses, law enforcement, the recovery community, family members impacted by substance misuse, public health, and residents in the community. In 2020, the group changed its name to the Reno Recovery Collaborative to better encompass its makeup and purpose.

The subcommittees of the Reno Recovery Collaborative are prevention/education, treatment/healthcare, recovery/recovery supports, and backbone organization (Reno County Health Department). The group assists in determining new strategies and the direction of the work implemented in a short-term and long-term capacity. The Reno Recovery Collaborative meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month. If one wishes to be involved, they can call the health department at 620-694-2900.

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<sup>36</sup> Ibid.

Every 3 years Reno County Health Department and Hutchinson Regional Medical Center conduct a Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA), which helps determine the priorities and direction for the next 3 years in the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). In 2019, the CHNA showed mental health and substance use as some of the top concerns in the community. These were the topics pursued in the 2020 CHIP. The Reno Recovery Collaborative and its subcommittees met to discuss the next steps and goals for the 3 years. Some of these goals are complete, such as opening the detox facility and tracking overdoses in real-time. Other activities are currently in progress. The next CHNA will occur in the Spring of 2022, and the next CHIP will be released in 2023. You can view the 2020 CHIP here: <https://www.renogov.org/DocumentCenter/View/3285/Reno-CHIP-2020?bidId=>

## List of Resources

Find a Treatment Facility

<https://findtreatment.gov>

National Treatment Hotline

1-800-662-4357

Kansas Substance Use Disorder Treatment Referral Line

1-866-645-8216

Hutchinson Narcan Resource

<https://hutchinsonnarcan.8b.io/>

Crossover Recovery

<http://www.sackansas.org/crossover-recovery-center/>

620-669-9024

Substance Abuse Center of Kansas Detox Unit

620-259-2063

Mirror, Inc.

<https://mirrorinc.org/>

620-665-7750

BreakThru

<http://summitks.com/breakthru-medical/>

620-218-0636

Recovery Response Team

620-663-7595

Crisis Line

1-800-794-0163

Reno ASAP Alcohol and Drug Services

620-665-6446

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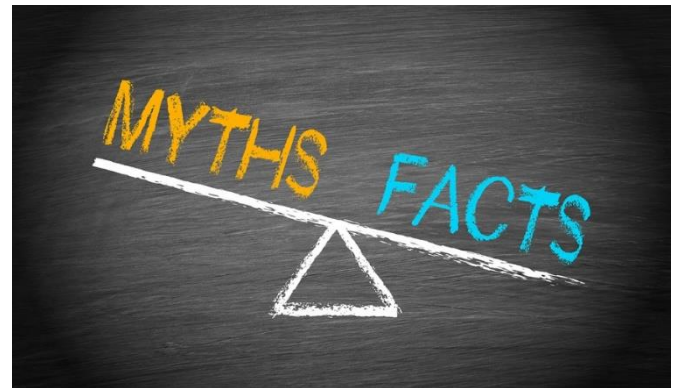
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# Myths and Facts About Medication-Assisted Treatment

Catching Up With COSSAP, December 2021

Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) has been shown to be a safe and effective method for treating opioid use disorders (OUDs), whether involving heroin, fentanyl, or pain relievers. This fact sheet debunks myths that continue to circulate about this treatment option and specifically addresses falsehoods about MAT in jails.

MAT is a holistic, or whole-person, approach to opioid and other substance use disorders that includes therapy and lifestyle changes in addition to medication. The [U.S. Food and Drug Administration](#) (FDA) has approved three medications for MAT:<sup>1</sup> methadone, buprenorphine, and naltrexone.



	Methadone	Buprenorphine	Naltrexone
<b>What it does</b>	Relieves withdrawal symptoms and prevents cravings without inducing euphoria	Relieves withdrawal symptoms and decreases cravings without inducing euphoria	Blocks euphoria and pain-killing effects of opioids <sup>2</sup>
<b>Type of drug</b>	Full opioid agonist	Partial opioid agonist	Opioid antagonist
<b>Administration</b>	Liquid, tablet, powder, diskette	Sublingual (under tongue), tablet, implant	Extended-release injection, tablet
<b>Brand name</b>	—	Suboxone	Vivitrol

medications work differently, tamping down cravings and withdrawal symptoms. While it is possible to overdose on methadone, that generally only happens when a person uses methadone that was prescribed for someone else.<sup>4</sup> In fact, research shows that methadone and buprenorphine are associated with reductions in opioid-related deaths.<sup>5</sup>

*Myth:* Everyone who uses MAT gets the same dosage and reacts the same way.

*Reality:* MAT is tailored to the individual receiving it. Prescriptions are for one of the three FDA-approved medications for MAT at a dosage that is adjusted for the person’s size and body type, as well as their history of opioid use.<sup>6</sup> As with any medication, people may respond to the same prescription in different ways, so it’s not uncommon to make medication changes or dosage adjustments.

## MAT Myths and Facts

*Myth:* MAT is just swapping addictions.

*Reality:* In fact, MAT helps heal damaged circuits in parts of the brain. Proper medication is part of an effective approach that includes therapy and lifestyle changes. Although some people can get high using methadone or buprenorphine, that’s not true for someone who has an OUD and uses opioids regularly.<sup>3</sup> For such individuals, the

*Myth:* If you start MAT, you must continue it for the rest of your life.

*Reality:* MAT is different for everyone, and that includes the length of time it is needed. Some people choose to taper off medication over time while others will continue on their recovery path and stay on medication for several years. MAT’s effectiveness depends, in part, on how long an individual has been using opioids and how much their

# Myths and Facts About Medication-Assisted Treatment

Catching Up With COSSAP, December 2021

brain has been affected by them.<sup>7</sup> Some people stay on MAT indefinitely.

*Myth:* It's better just to go cold turkey.

*Reality:* Addiction is a disease that affects your brain. If an individual stops or is forced to stop using a substance abruptly, including opioids, withdrawal symptoms can be intense and potentially harmful—even deadly. Symptoms can include vomiting, diarrhea, sleep problems, muscle aches, a runny nose, sweating, anxiety, agitation, and intense cravings for opioids, alcohol, or other substances. Withdrawal may lead to dehydration or other health complications that can be fatal. In addition, people with OUDs who discontinue use without the support of MAT are far more likely to relapse than people who receive MAT.<sup>8</sup>

*Myth:* Insurance doesn't pay for MAT, and it is expensive.

*Reality:* The Affordable Care Act mandates that insurance companies pay for treatment for OUD.<sup>9</sup> The World Health Organization added both methadone and buprenorphine to its [Model List of Essential Medicines](#), "the medicines that need to be available in a functioning health system at all times, in appropriate dosage forms, of assured quality, and at prices individuals and the community can afford."<sup>10</sup> Some states have regulations that may affect which medications are covered.<sup>11</sup>

*Myth:* Individuals must go to a clinic every day to get the treatment.

*Reality:* Certified opioid treatment programs (OTPs) and outside providers administer medications onsite. Methadone is commonly administered this way, although people who have made progress in their treatment and seem to be at low risk for diversion or sharing medication illegally may be allowed to bring it home.<sup>12</sup> The FDA has approved prescription buprenorphine. This means that with a prescription from their doctor—individuals can take it at home. More recently, the FDA approved [a six-month implant](#) and a [once-a-month injection of buprenorphine](#) for people who are already regularly taking it. All medications taken at home must be stored safely, out of the reach of children and other vulnerable populations.

*Myth:* Women who are pregnant or breastfeeding should not be prescribed MAT.

*Reality:* Stopping opioids suddenly during pregnancy may cause a miscarriage or early labor.<sup>13</sup> Therefore, both the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommend that pregnant women receive MAT.<sup>14</sup> Methadone has long been recognized as the gold standard of care for pregnant women with OUDs.<sup>15</sup> Infants born to women who have received MAT are likely to experience neonatal abstinence syndrome and will need treatment. Women who are receiving MAT and have recently given birth may be able to breastfeed, depending on their health and the health of the newborn.<sup>16</sup>

*Myth:* If you receive medication for an OUD, you don't need any other treatment.

*Reality:* SAMHSA defines MAT as "the use of medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a 'whole-patient' approach to the treatment of substance use disorders."<sup>17</sup> [Federal law](#) requires that anyone being treated in an OTP must also receive counseling in the form of behavioral therapy with a trained professional. This approach is supported by studies showing OUD treatments are most effective when they include counseling in combination with medication.<sup>18</sup> Counseling can help teach new behaviors and strategies for trigger avoidance and stress relief. Both the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 and the Affordable Care Act address coverage of mental health and substance use disorder treatment, requiring health plans to cover those at the same level of benefits they do physical health issues.<sup>19</sup>

*Myth:* There's no proof that MAT works.

*Reality:* Extensive scientific research has been conducted on the effectiveness of MAT for OUD. Methadone, for example, has been used as a treatment for opioid dependence since the 1950s and has been well researched over that time.<sup>20</sup>

## MAT and Jails

*Myth:* You can't get MAT in jail.

*Reality:* Many jails around the United States have MAT programs for both pre- and post-trial populations. The programs may be run by the jail or by an outside OTP. MAT for pretrial populations, while less common, is often offered to individuals who are most likely to return to their



# Myths and Facts About Medication-Assisted Treatment

## Catching Up With COSSAP, December 2021

communities sooner rather than later and after they have gone through medically managed withdrawal. Some facilities offer MAT-specific programming and have a case manager on staff who provides individualized assistance and in-person support for up to one year after release. Individuals eligible for Medicaid who were enrolled in a MAT program while in jail are entitled to continued coverage under Medicaid upon their release. For more information, see the *Implementing MAT in Jails* series below:

- [Implementing MAT in Jails—Focus on Methadone](#)
- [Implementing MAT in Jails—Focus on Buprenorphine](#)
- [Implementing MAT in Jails—Focus on Naltrexone](#)

**Myth:** Offering MAT increases the accessibility of drugs for people who are incarcerated.

**Reality:** Jails with MAT programs have actually reported a decrease in the demand for illicit drugs and a reduction in disciplinary problems.<sup>21</sup> Nonetheless, diversion remains a concern, and strict dispensing protocols must be followed to mitigate risk. For example, monthly injectable forms of medication essentially eliminate the risk of diversion, and even medication strips—which dissolve faster than pills—render diversion less likely. Best practices for medication administration include medication lines and dispersal windows, dual mouth-checks by both correctional staff and medical staff, and drug testing to confirm individuals adhere to prescribed doses.<sup>22</sup> For more risk-mitigation strategies and techniques, please visit:

- [Medication-Assisted Treatment Inside Correctional Facilities: Addressing Medication Diversion](#) by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and SAMHSA.
- [Use of Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in Criminal Justice Settings](#) by SAMHSA.
- [Jail-based Medication-Assisted Treatment: Promising Practices, Guidelines, and Resources for the Field](#) by the National Sheriffs' Association and the National Commission on Correctional Health Care.

If your jail needs training or technical assistance regarding MAT or other matters related to substance use disorders, complete a training and technical assistance request form on BJA's COSSAP Resource Center at <https://www.cossapresources.org/Program/TTA>.

This project was supported by Grant No. 2019-ARBX-K061 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.

### Endnotes

1. MAT is not the same as medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD), a standalone form of treatment that relies exclusively on medication.
2. Intramuscular extended-release naltrexone is approved by the FDA as a MAT option for alcohol use disorder, as well as for OUD.
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## Catching Up With COSSAP, December 2021

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## AGENDA ITEM

**AGENDA  
ITEM #VI.G**

**AGENDA DATE:** December 28, 2021

**PRESENTED BY:** Don Brittain - Director of Public Works

**AGENDA TOPIC:**

Planning Case #2021-12 - A resolution revising and updating the November 2018 Edition of of the Comprehensive Plan by amending a portion of Chapter 7 and Chapter 9 to provide additional guidelines related to commercial wind energy conversion systems.

**SUMMARY & BACKGROUND OF TOPIC:**

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the text amendments by a 6-0 vote.

The County Commissioners approved of the text amendments by a 3-0 vote on December 14, 2021.

This resolution journalizes the County Commissioners' decision.

**ALL OPTIONS:**

Approve of the resolution as submitted.

Deny the resolution.

Return to staff the resolution with changes.

**RECOMMENDATION / REQUEST:**

Approve and sign the resolution.

**POLICY / FISCAL IMPACT:**

None

**RESOLUTION 2021-**

**A RESOLUTION REVISING AND UPDATING THE NOVEMBER 2018 EDITION OF THE RENO COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN BY AMENDING A PORTION OF CHAPTER 7 UNDER THE TITLES OF “RESIDENTIAL LAND USES” AND “OTHER SPECIAL LAND USES” AND A PORTION OF CHAPTER 9 “GOALS FOR HOUSING”, OBJECTIVE #7 AND INCORPORATING BY REFERENCE NEW GUIDELINES**

WHEREAS, K.S.A. 12-747 authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to provide for the adoption or amendment of a Comprehensive Plan, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to K.S.A. 12-747 the Reno County Planning Commission has recommended to the Board of County Commissioners that the Comprehensive Plan of Reno County, 2018 Edition as amended be amended further, and;

WHEREAS, all public notice and public hearing requirements have been satisfied and all other statutory requirements prerequisite to the adoption of the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan have been met, and;

WHEREAS, at its regular agenda meeting on December 14, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners considered the Planning Commission recommendation. The Board of County Commissioners, following review of the same, determined that it would be in the best interest of Reno County to amend Chapter 7 under the titles of Residential Land Uses and Other Special Land Uses, and Chapter 9 under the title Goals for Housing, Objective #7 pertaining to commercial wind energy conversion systems and to adopt and incorporate by reference said amendments based upon the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

WHEREAS, upon conclusion of the Board’s deliberations, Commissioner Hirst moved to approve the Planning Commission’s recommendation to amend Chapters 7 and 9 of the Reno County Comprehensive Plan and to adopt and incorporate by reference the text amendments pertaining thereto found in the Reno County Planner’s Summary Report dated December 8, 2021. Commissioner Friesen seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RENO COUNTY, KANSAS, that:**

1. The November, 2018 Edition of the Reno County Comprehensive Plan and the proposed amendments thereto at Chapters 7 and 9 are hereby adopted, and the same are incorporated herein by reference pursuant to K.S.A. 19-3303.
2. At least one copy of the Reno County Comprehensive Plan, as amended, shall be filed with the County Clerk marked "Official Copy" as Incorporated by Resolution No. 2021- and to which there shall be attached a published copy of this Resolution, said copies to be open for inspection and available to the public at all reasonable hours.

- 3.. Any provision of this Resolution which shall be declared invalid shall not affect the validity and authority of any other sections.
4. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its publication once in the official county newspaper.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED in regular session this 28<sup>th</sup> day of December 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF RENO COUNTY, KANSAS

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Hirst – Chairman

\_\_\_\_\_  
Daniel P. Friesen – Member

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ron Sellers – Member

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna Patton – Reno County Clerk



## AGENDA ITEM

## AGENDA ITEM #VI.H

**AGENDA DATE:** December 28, 2021

**PRESENTED BY:** Don Brittain - Director of Public Works

**AGENDA TOPIC:**

Planning Case #2021-13 - A resolution revising and updating the April 2016 Edition of the Reno County Zoning Regulations by amending the Table of Contents, Article 1-105, Article 13, Article 15-111, and creating Article 24 to provide for additional guidelines related to commercial wind energy conversion systems.

**SUMMARY & BACKGROUND OF TOPIC:**

The Planning Commission recommended approval of the text amendments by a 6-0 vote.

The County Commissioners approved of the text amendments by a 3-0 vote on December 14, 2021.

This resolution journalizes the County Commissioners' decision.

**ALL OPTIONS:**

Approve of the resolution as submitted.

Deny the resolution.

Return to staff the resolution with changes.

**RECOMMENDATION / REQUEST:**

Approve and sign the resolution.

**POLICY / FISCAL IMPACT:**

None

**RESOLUTION 2021-**

**A RESOLUTION REVISING AND UPDATING THE APRIL 2016  
EDITION OF THE RENO COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS BY  
AMENDING THE TABLE OF CONTENTS, ARTICLE 1-105, ARTICLE 13, ARTICLE  
15-111 AND CREATING ARTICLE 24 AND INCORPORATING BY REFERENCE  
NEW REGULATIONS**

WHEREAS, K.S.A. 12-757 authorizes the Board of County Commissioners to provide for the adoption or amendment of zoning regulations, and;

WHEREAS, pursuant to K.S.A. 12-757 the Reno County Planning Commission has recommended to the Board of County Commissioners that the Zoning Regulations of Reno County, 2016 Edition as amended be amended further, and;

WHEREAS, all public notice and public hearing requirements have been satisfied and all other statutory requirements prerequisite to the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Regulations have been met, and;

WHEREAS, at its regular agenda meeting on December 14, 2021, the Board of County Commissioners considered the Planning Commission recommendation. The Board of County Commissioners, following review of the same, determined that it would be in the best interest of Reno County to amend the Table of Contents, Article 1-105, Article 13, Article 15-111, and create Article 24 pertaining to commercial wind energy conversion systems and to adopt and incorporate by reference said amended regulations based upon the recommendation of the Planning Commission.

WHEREAS, upon conclusion of the Board's deliberations, Commissioner Sellers moved to approve the Planning Commission's recommendation to amend the Table of Contents, Article 1-105, Article 13, Article 15-111, and create Article 24 of the Reno County Zoning Regulations and to adopt and incorporate by reference the text amendments pertaining thereto found in the Reno County Planner's Summary Report dated December 8, 2021. Commissioner Friesen seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a 3-0 vote.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RENO COUNTY, KANSAS, that:**

1. The April, 2016 Edition of the Reno County Zoning Regulations, as reflected on the official zoning district boundary map, and the proposed amendments thereto at the Table of Contents, Article 1-105, Article 13, Article 15-111, and Article 24 are hereby adopted and the same are incorporated herein by reference pursuant to K.S.A. 19-3303.
2. At least one copy of the Reno County Zoning Regulations, as amended, shall be filed with the County Clerk marked "Official Copy" as Incorporated by Resolution No. 2021- and to which there shall be attached a published copy of this Resolution, said copies to be open for inspection and available to the public at all reasonable hours.

3. Any provision of this Resolution which shall be declared invalid shall not affect the validity and authority of any other sections.
4. All applications duly submitted prior to the effective date of this Resolution, with appropriate payment of all fees, and in the process of being considered by Reno County officials under the provisions of the Reno County Zoning Regulations in effect prior to the effective date of this resolution, shall be considered and acted upon under the provisions of prior editions of said Zoning Regulations. Similarly, all orders issued by the District Court of Reno County, Kansas, enforcing provisions of the Reno County Zoning Regulations in effect prior to the effective date of this Resolution, which said orders remain within the continuing jurisdiction of the Court, shall be considered and acted upon under the provisions of said previous Reno County Zoning Regulations.
5. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its publication once in the official county newspaper.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED in regular session this 28<sup>th</sup> day of December 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF RENO COUNTY, KANSAS

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Ron Hirst – Chairman

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Daniel P. Friesen – Member

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Ron Sellers – Member

Attest:

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Donna Patton – Reno County Clerk





## AGENDA ITEM

## **AGENDA ITEM #VI.I**

**AGENDA DATE:** December 28, 2021

**PRESENTED BY:** Randy Partington, County Administrator

**AGENDA TOPIC:**

Resolution 2021-\_\_\_ pertaining to an application for a conditional use permit to establish an aggregate storage yard

**SUMMARY & BACKGROUND OF TOPIC:**

On December 14, 2021, the BOCC voted unanimously to deny the conditional use permit (CUP) submitted by T Real Estate LLC (through Mid-States Materials, LLC) to establish an aggregate storage yard. This Resolution journalizes the actions taken by the BOCC to deny the CUP.

**ALL OPTIONS:**

Adopt Resolution

Send the Resolution back to staff for changes and bring back to the BOCC at a later date

**RECOMMENDATION / REQUEST:**

Adopt Resolution

**RESOLUTION 2021-**

**A RESOLUTION PERTAINING TO AN APPLICATION BY T REAL ESTATE, LLC (APPLICANT: MID-STATES MATERIALS, LLC) FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT TO ESTABLISH AN AGGREGATE STORAGE YARD ON A PORTION OF A PARCEL OF REAL ESTATE IN RENO COUNTY, KANSAS, CASE NO. 2021-07**

WHEREAS, T Real Estate, LLC, by and through Mid-States Materials, LLC, applied for a Conditional Use Permit to establish an aggregate storage yard upon real property legally described in the Mid-States Materials Conditional Use Permit Application dated 5/6/21, Reno County Planning and Zoning Case No. 2021-07, in Reno County, Kansas; and

WHEREAS, said real property is currently zoned AG – Agricultural District for agricultural use in accordance with the Reno County Zoning Regulations; and an aggregate storage yard is permitted in the AG Zoning District with a Conditional Use Permit; and

WHEREAS, the Reno County Planning Commission conducted a public hearing on the Application commencing on June 17, 2021, which said hearing was recessed for further proceedings to July 15, 2021, August 19, 2021, September 16, 2021, and October 21, 2021, following satisfaction of all notice requirements for such hearing as required by K.S.A. 12-757; and

WHEREAS, at the public hearing all interested parties in attendance were provided an opportunity to be heard; and the Reno County Planner presented a written report for the Conditional Use Permit dated June 10, 2021 and a supplemental written report dated September 9, 2021 which report, under the heading “FACTORS”, included a discussion and applications to be considered when making land use decisions pursuant to

*Golden v. City of Overland Park*, 224 Kan.591. Additionally, the Reno County Planner presented a staff recommendation in support of the Application; and

WHEREAS, following the conclusion of the public hearing the Reno County Planning Commission by a vote of four (4) in favor and two (2) opposed recommended approval of the Conditional Use Permit based upon a review and analysis of the “FACTORS” to be considered pursuant to Golden and other factors as outlined in the Reno County Zoning Regulations and the supplemental staff report dated September 9, 2021.

WHEREAS, on December 14, 2021, the Reno County Commission received a Summary Report dated June 10, 2021 and September 9, 2021, of the proceedings before the Reno County Planning Commission and the Planning Commission’s recommendation for approval of the Conditional Use Permit; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners reviewed and discussed all eleven FACTORS, numbered one through eleven as presented in the Planner’s Summary Reports; and

WHEREAS, upon conclusion of the Board’s initial review of the Planning Commission’s recommendation, Commissioner Sellers moved to deny the request of T Real Estate, LLC, by Applicant: Mid-States Materials, LLC, for a Conditional Use Permit to establish an aggregate storage yard on a portion of a parcel zoned AG-Agricultural District, as defined in the Application.

Commissioner Sellers cited as a basis for his Motion to deny the following two Factors:

- (1) Whether the location of the proposed use is compatible with other land uses in the surrounding neighborhood. Mr. Sellers observed that the neighborhood is

comprised of farmland and residential homes and that there are no industrial uses in the neighborhood.

- (2) Whether the proposed use is made necessary or desirable because of changed or changing circumstances. Mr. Sellers again stated that the neighborhood consists primarily of large agricultural parcels and that there are no indications this area is trending toward a commercial or industrial use.

Prior to making his Motion and reciting the Factors in support of the Motion, Mr. Sellers summarized the lengthy time which had been taken by the Planning Commission to reach its decision, and he recommended that the matter not be tabled by the Board of County Commissioners but proceed to a decision. Mr. Sellers said that there were reasons to support a decision to approve the recommendation as well as to deny it but said he believed that the proposed Application was not the best use of the property.

WHEREAS, Commissioner Friesen seconded the Motion to deny. Commissioner Hirst cited portions of the Reno County Comprehensive Plan which he considered in determining his decision. By roll call vote the Motion to Deny was approved by a 3-0 vote.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF RENO COUNTY, KANSAS, that the above and foregoing recitals and the Board's unanimous vote to deny the Application were adopted as the decision of the Board. The aforementioned Conditional Use Permit Application by T Real Estate, LLC is denied for the reasons stated herein.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be effective from and after its adoption.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED in regular session this 28th day of December,  
2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF RENO COUNTY, KANSAS

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RON HIRST, Chairman

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DANIEL FRIESEN, Member

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RON SELLERS, Member

ATTEST:

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Donna Patton, County Clerk



## AGENDA ITEM

## **AGENDA ITEM #VII.A**

**AGENDA DATE:** December 28, 2021

**PRESENTED BY:** Karla Nichols, Karen Hammersmith, Megan Gottschalk, Bethany Jantzen, and Mike Matthews

**AGENDA TOPIC:**

Reno County Health Department (RCHD) would like to utilize the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) COVID-19 ELC Expanding Infrastructure Grant to purchase an Electronic Health Record (EHR).

**SUMMARY & BACKGROUND OF TOPIC:**

KDHE understands the importance of local health departments to have viable and sustaining electronic processes. With this in mind, KDHE has provided funding (the COVID-19 ELC Expanding Infrastructure Grant) for the RCHD to purchase an Electronic Health Record (EHR).

KDHE contracted with the Wichita State University (WSU) Community Engagement Institute (CEI) to create a cohort group of Kansas Local Health Departments to guide the process for selecting and implementing an EHR. Our proposed schedule is:

Nov 2021 – Vendor demos

Dec 2021 – Selecting Vendor/Signing Contract

March 2022 – Soft Implementation

April/May 2022 – Target Go-Live

During the month of October, the RCHD participated in our first meeting with the WSU CEI cohort group. We also developed our RCHD EHR Assessment and Implementation Team of Karen Hammersmith (Assistant Director of Clinical Services), Megan Gottschalk (Assistant Director of Population Services), Bethany Jantzen (Finance and Accounting Supervisor), Mike Mathews/Tim McClatchey (Reno County Information Technology Department), and Karla Nichols (Director).

During the month of November, we have had four EHR vendor demos, 1) Patagonia Health, 2) CDP (ezEMRx), 3) CureMD, and 4) Nightingale Notes. Of these four, our group decided to move forward with a site visit to Butler County Health Department to look at Nightingale Notes on Tuesday, November 30<sup>th</sup>, and a site visit to Cowley County Health Department to look at CureMD on Friday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

During the month of December, we finished up on site visits and continued to review and compare software options. After all options were reviewed, the RCHD EHR Assessment and Implementation Team is recommending CureMD as our EHR software vendor.

**ALL OPTIONS:**

1. Agree with the RCHD EHR Assessment and Implementation Team and approve the recommendation of CureMD as the RCHD EHR software vendor.
2. Ask the RCHD EHR Assessment and Implementation Team for additional information.
3. Disagree with the RCHD EHR Assessment and Implementation Team and reject the recommendation to purchase an EHR software system.

**RECOMMENDATION / REQUEST:**

The Reno County Health Department is requesting the Board of County Commissioners to approve the selection of CureMD as our Electronic Health Record (EHR).

**POLICY / FISCAL IMPACT:**

The RCHD does not currently have an EHR system.

KIPHS. We are currently utilizing Kansas integrated Public Health System (KIPHS) as our Practice Management system; the system does not have an Electronic Medical Record as part of its system. Our annual cost for KIPHS is approximately \$7,900.

CureMD. CureMD is a complete EHR – it is both a Practice Management System and an Electronic Medical Record. The proposed implementation costs for both CureMD, and the data integration from KIPHS into the CureMD system is projected to cost \$5,344. After install, monthly costs are projected to be \$548, for a projected annual cost of \$6,576.



Reno County Health Dept

# Electronic Health Records

December 28, 2021

RCHD EHR Assessment &  
Implementation Team



# Introduction

The RCHD would like to utilize the KDHE COVID-19 ELC Expanding Infrastructure Grant to purchase an Electronic Health Record (EHR)

- KDHE understands the importance of local health departments to have viable and sustaining electronic processes. With this in mind, KDHE has provided funding (the COVID-19 ELC Expanding Infrastructure Grant) for the RCHD to purchase an Electronic Health Record (EHR).



# ELC Funding

## ELC Infrastructure Expansion Grant

- A total of \$25 million in funds made available to Kansas local health departments for COVID response
- Funds allowed for the purchase of Electronic Health Records (EHR) systems and equipment
- Helping LHDs navigate the KDHE EHR implementation tools through group facilitation and individual Technical Assistance
- End goal of ensuring electronic connections to KS WebIZ, DAISEY, and possibly EpiTrax, & KHEL



# EHR Benefits

## General Benefits

- Improved resident accessibility and usage of internet portals/online scheduling
- Integrated Sliding Fee Schedule
- Electronic inventory tracking
- Enhanced reporting & data collection

## Cost Benefits

- Increased productivity
- Reduced data entry
- Increased charge capture
- Electronic claim processing to both increase productivity and avoid timely filing

# KDHE Cohort

- Began in March 2021
- Project Management and facilitation by WSU Community Engagement Institute
- Forum to discuss issues and questions with other Health Departments
- Coordination of multiple EHR vendor demos
- Reduced costs through combined training and support
- Increased buying power and vendor transparency in contract negotiations
- Reduced complexity of implementation through shared challenges & victories



# Criteria & Evaluation

- It must be integrated with DAISEY (the State of Kansas data application and integration solutions for the early years)
- It must be integrated with WebIZ (the State of Kansas immunization information system)
- It must have a Sliding Fee Schedule so our fees can follow the Kansas poverty guidelines (our previous EHR, Aprima, did not have this)
- It must have the capability to utilize electronic inventory for vaccine, pharmacy, and medical supplies
- It must have the capability for electronic billing enhancements (ERA/EFT)
- It must be cloud-based (requested by IT)
- It must be easy for staff to use, including adaptive providing scheduling
- Visit templates must follow Standard of Care criteria



# Steps Completed

- Conducted EHR readiness and needs assessment
- Identified members of EHR evaluation & implementation team
- Compiled compressive list of EHR requirements and critical features with which to evaluate vendors
- Attended multiple vendor demos
- Narrowed selection based on evaluation
- See the attached EHR Features and Pricing spreadsheet –
  - Patagonia Health – not linked with DAISEY yet. Recommend to not move forward.
  - CDP – separate logins for each functionality. Recommend to not move forward.
  - Nightingale Notes – sliding fee schedule is a spreadsheet to be added back into system. Recommend to not move forward.
  - CureMD – utilized by Cowley, Brown, Atchison, Jackson, Pratt, and Russell County Health Depts.



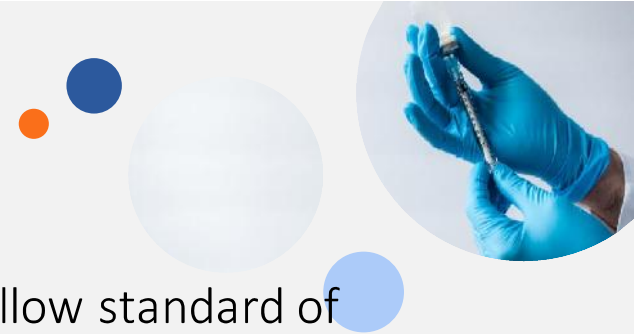
The background of the slide is a blue-toned photograph of an escalator, viewed from a low angle looking up. The steps and handrails create a strong sense of perspective and movement. A white square is positioned in the upper left quadrant, and an orange square is in the lower right quadrant. A white rectangular border frames the central text.

CureMD

Proposal

# CureMD Benefits

- It is integrated with WebIZ and DAISEY
  - It does have a Sliding Fee Schedule
  - It does utilize an electronic inventory system
  - It does have electronic billing capabilities
  - It is cloud-based
  - Other health departments that use the system note its ease of use
- Visit templates do follow standard of care criteria





# CureMD Benefits

- SaaS Architecture – Cloud-based platform that is secure & scalable
  - HIPAA and HITECH compliant
  - Access authorization
  - Role-based access control
  - Activity monitoring
  - Audit trail
  - 256-bit SSL encryption



# CureMD Certifications



ONC Certified HIT 2015 EDITION

ONC 2015 Edition Certified EHR




ISO 9001:2015 Certified



ISO 27001:2013 Certified



Gold Quality Solution



SureScripts Certified



CMS 5010 Certified



EHNAC HNAP-EHN Accredited

# Cost/Fiscal Impact



- The RCHD does not currently have an EHR system.
- KIPHS. We are currently utilizing Kansas integrated Public Health System (KIPHS) as our Practice Management system; the system does not have an Electronic Medical Record as part of its system. Our annual cost for KIPHS is approximately \$7,900.
- CureMD. CureMD is a complete EHR – it is both a Practice Management System and an Electronic Medical Record. The proposed implementation costs for both CureMD, and the data integration from KIPHS into the CureMD system is projected to cost \$5,344. After install, monthly costs are projected to be \$548, for a projected annual cost of \$6,576.

# Summary

- We request approval from the Commission to purchase CureMD as the RCHD EHR software vendor.

**Thank you!**

## EHR Features & Pricing

### Client Features

Name	CDP ezEMRx	Patagonia Health	CureMD	Nightingale Notes
Client Charting	Yes	Yes	Yes	Bronze Package
Immunizations	Yes	Yes	Yes	Bronze Package
Scheduling	Yes	Yes	Yes	Bronze Package
Client self-scheduling	Yes	Additional Cost	Yes	Silver Package
Appointment Reminders	Additional Cost	Yes	Yes	Gold Package
Patient Portal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Telehealth	Yes	Additional Cost	Additional Cost	Bronze Package
Secure Messaging/Email Service	Yes	Additional Cost	Additional Cost	Silver Package

### Clinic Features

Name	CDP ezEMRx	Patagonia Health	CureMD	Nightingale Notes
Household Mgmt	Yes	Yes	Yes	Silver Package
ID/Document Upload	Yes	Yes	Yes	Bronze Package
Digital Signature Capture	Yes	Yes	Yes	Gold Package
Lab Reporting	Yes	Additional Cost	Additional Cost	No
Inventory Mgmt	Yes	Yes	Additional Cost	Bronze Package
Mass Vaccination	Additional Cost	Additional Cost	Additional Cost	Bronze Package
Contact Tracing	Yes	Yes	Yes	Bronze Package
eRx	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

## Billing & Insurance

Name	CDP ezEMRx	Patagonia Health	CureMD	Nightingale Notes
Patient/Client Ledger	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sliding Scale Fees	Yes	Yes	Yes	Bronze Package
Eligibility Verification	Yes	Yes	Yes	Silver Package
Full Billing Services	Additional Cost	Additional Cost	Additional Cost	No
Claims submission	Yes	Yes	Yes	Silver Package
Clearinghouse	Additional Cost	Yes	Yes	Bronze Package

## Reporting

Name	CDP ezEMRx	Patagonia Health	CureMD	Nightingale Notes
Customizable Reports	Yes	Yes	Additional Cost	Gold Package
Time Tracking	Yes	Additional Cost	Yes	Yes
Dashboards	Yes	Yes	Yes	Gold Package
Program-level & Grant Reporting	Yes	Yes	Yes	Bronze Package

## Integrations

Name	CDP ezEMRx	Patagonia Health	CureMD	Nightingale Notes
KWebIZ	Yes	Yes	Additional Cost	Bronze Package
DAISEY	Yes	No	Additional Cost	Bronze Package
KHIN	Yes	Additional Cost	Additional Cost	No
KHEL	No	No	No	No
EpiTrax	No	No	No	No

## Support & Training

Name	CDP ezEMRx	Patagonia Health	CureMD	Nightingale Notes
Self-service	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Phone/Email	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Data Migration	Yes	Yes	Additional Cost	Yes

Title	Description	Cost
Gold Package Training/Implementation (one time cost)	Web-based training platform. If agency prefers in-person training, there will be additional costs. Please inquire for an estimate.	\$6,000.00 for up to 6 users. Each additional user is \$300.00 (If you have a large amount of users, we are open to the train the trainer model).
Gold Package Annual Subscription (annual recurring cost)	Annual Subscription includes phone, email and portal consultation and software updates including revisions to comply with changes in existing state and federal requirements. Subscription pricing may increase when significant updates are shipped or features are added. Annual cost of living increases are occasionally incurred. If subject to sales tax, please verify your local rate.	\$12,771.00 for up to 6 named users. Each additional named user is \$691.00.
Silver Package Training/Implementation (one time cost)	Web-based training platform. If agency prefers in-person training, there will be additional costs. Please inquire for an estimate.	\$4,500.00 for up to 4 users. Each additional user is \$200.00 (If you have a large amount of users, we are open to the train the trainer model).
Silver Package Annual Subscription (annual recurring cost)	Annual Subscription includes phone, email and portal consultation and software updates including revisions to comply with changes in existing state and federal requirements. Subscription pricing may increase when significant updates are shipped or features are added. Annual cost of living increases are occasionally incurred. If subject to sales tax, please verify your local rate.	\$9,491.00 for up to 4 named users. Each additional named user is \$576.00.
Bronze Package Training/Implementation (one time cost)	Web-based training platform. If agency prefers in-person training, there will be additional costs. Please inquire for an estimate.	\$3,500.00 for up to 2 users. Each additional user is \$150.00 (If you have a large amount of users, we are open to the train the trainer model).
Bronze Package Annual Subscription (annual recurring cost)	Annual Subscription includes phone, email and portal consultation and software updates including revisions to comply with changes in existing state and federal requirements. Subscription pricing may increase when significant updates are shipped or features are added. Annual cost of living increases are occasionally incurred. If subject to sales tax, please verify your local rate.	\$3,900.00 for up to 4 users. Each additional named user is \$233.00.
In-Person Training	All implementation and training will be web-based. If interested in in-person training, please contact us for an estimate.	Inquire about costs.



Optional Add-on "Time-Tracking Only" licenses available.	***We have bundles of "Time-Tracking Only" licenses available. These licenses are above and beyond the purchase of the named user or concurrent user licenses. When an individual is assigned to this license type, they will only have access to the Activities tab and the intention is for them to be able to log their time/dailies (Service, Start Time, End Time, Hours, Miles, Travel Time, Cost Center, Program, etc.). Whatever they enter in regards to the time-tracking is reportable and the data will also be included in any of the reports that you have currently built around these particular fields.	Time Tracking Licenses are available in a package of a minimum of 15 and in increments of 5. Annual Time Tracking Only Licenses for up to 15 employees: \$3,800.00. Add \$1,300.00 for each additional 5 Time Tracking Only Licenses.
Additional costs for the Availity Integrated Clearinghouse, Acuity Scheduling (Client Self-Scheduling), Teletask Appointment & Client Reminders, Secure Email Messaging, and Zoom Professional Rooms for Telehealth.	For all these services, you will be billed directly from the partner.	Please refer to the information about each partner below.
Concurrent License structure is available.	Concurrent license structure allows the agency to enter an unlimited amount of users, but only a certain amount of those users can be logged in at the same time. Example: You purchase a package of 15 concurrent licenses because you know that not more than 15 people will be accessing the system at the same time. However, you have 25 total users of NN. If a 16th user attempts to log in, they won't be able to.	Please request an estimate if interested in a concurrent license structure.
**Rural County Discount is being offered to agencies with a county population of 9,999 or less.		
**We strive to help meet the needs of the agency and their budget.		
*Agencies may prepay for multiple years upfront. The Rural County Discount (or any other negotiated discount) will be applied to all the years being prepaid.		

<b>Client Features</b>		
Name	Nightingale Notes (Champ Software)	Additional Cost/Notes
Client Charting	<b>Bronze = SOAP Notes/Narrative Documentation Silver &amp; Gold Packages = Omaha System Charting/Pathways</b>	No Additional Cost. Keep in mind that for all packages, you can create custom tabs to help supplement any charting.
Immunizations	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No Additional Cost

Scheduling	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No Additional Cost
Client self-scheduling	<b>Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	Integration with Acuity Scheduling. An Acuity Powerhouse plan is required for this integration and you would setup account and pay the partner directly. This integration has been a very efficient and welcoming tool for many agencies. Nightingale Notes integrates with this patient self-scheduling and registration application. An agency can create multiple calendars for events, publish those calendars and share them privately, and patients can self-register. The agency determines how much information is captured at the appointment scheduling. Demographic, clinical and billing information can be collected at the time of scheduling and is then brought into Nightingale Notes as part of the record (it eliminates some duplicate entry of information). See link to the right for pricing information. This integration does have some limited appointment reminder capabilities.
Appointment Reminders	<b>Gold Package</b>	Teletask is our Partner for appointment reminders, general client messages, closed clinic messages, group/community messages and interactive "Chat 2-way SMS texting. See link to the right for pricing information. You would be billed directly from Teletask.
Patient Portal	No - Not Immediately Available	This is in the future plans. The first phase of the portal will be incorporated with 2nd release/phase of the Custom Fillable e-Forms feature. This will lay the groundwork to expand the development of a patient portal. The Custom Fillable e-Forms feature will be a Gold Package feature.
Telehealth	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	The integration is no cost and Zoom can easily be launched within the Nightingale Notes application. You do need a Zoom Room. \$140.00 per professional room/year. You can take advantage of the free basic rooms as well. However, the professional rooms are HIPAA compliant, which is extremely important for compliance for telehealth visits.
Secure Messaging/Email Service	<b>Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	We partner with Secure Exchange Solutions (SES) or Inpriva for Secure Messaging. This integration with Nightingale Notes allows for secure email messages coming into Nightingale Notes. However, the agency can use their portals for additional functionality. We discussed where this could be utilized for bringing in lab reports received to easily attach to the client record. See link to the right for partner information pricing.

<b>Clinic Features</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Nightingale Notes (Champ Software)</b>	<b>Additional Cost (if applicable)</b>
Household Mgmt	<b>Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	If this is in reference to Home Health Aides/Homemaker Services, we have Home Health Aide and Homemaker tools available along with related nursing supervision documentation. No additional costs (as long as OASIS & Episodic Billing is not being done).
ID/Document Upload	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No Additional Costs. Documents can be uploaded and stored in the files tab at the Client Level, or at the Activity (DOS) level.
Digital Signature Capture	<b>Gold Package</b>	This will be a component of the upcoming Custom Fillable e-Forms feature.

Lab Reporting	No - but alternate options.	We do not have a lab integraton in place. It has been requested, but it isn't a high priority to our current customers. We continue to keep a pulse on the necessity of this feature. You do have the option to scan the lab results and attach to the client record or the activity. The other option is to take advantage of the secure email messaging feature. You will be able to give the lab the secure email address and the results can then be brought in within Nightingale Notes and easily attached to the client record.
Inventory Mgmt	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No Additional Cost
Mass Vaccination	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No Additional Cost Event Billing/Roster Billing is Available.
Contact Tracing	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No Additional Cost
eRx	No	This has been on the radar for development, but it hasn't been a high priority feature for the agencies we partner with. We will continue to keep a pulse on the requests and priority level from the agencies to determine timing of future development.

### Billing & Insurance

Name	Nightingale Notes (Champ Software)	Additional Cost (if applicable)
Patient/Client Ledger	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No Additional Cost
Sliding Scale Fees	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No Additional Cost
Eligibility Verification	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	This is a feature included with the Availity Clearinghouse Integration. Please refer to Clearinghouse information sectoin below for pricing structure.
Full Billing Services	Need further clarification.	Nightingale Notes has the ability to batch claims in 837/EDI files (professional & institutional & Episodic for Home Health Care). Claims can be submitted either with the Availity Integrated Clearinghouse or files can be downloaded and uploaded to the non-integrated Availity Clearinghouse, Clearinghouse of your choice or the applicable insurance website. 835 files can be imported for posting. Replacement Claims, Void Claims and Rebills can be done within the Billing area. Multiple reports and dashboards are available for monitoring the revenue cycle. If you are asking if we provide the resource/labor for managing your revenue cycle (batching and sending claims, generating patient statements, posting payments, working rejections, working denials, writing appeals, working aged claims, claims analysis, etc.), no we do not provide those services.
Claims submission	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No additional cost if you create your batch files and then download and upload the EDI files to the non-integrated Availity Clearinghouse, Clearinghouse of your choice, or the applicable insurance website.

Clearinghouse	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	<p>Availity Integrated Clearinghouse. This integration allows you to send all your claims with 1 push of a button. It would eliminate having you to save and upload files to multiple locations to send claims. You can do real-time eligibility checks within NN. You will be able to import 835s in for posting purposes. Availity has 2 plan options to choose from. The Base Plan or the Comprehensive Plan. The plan that is right for your agency depends on several factors, including which payers you submit to, whether you need to submit to government payers, and the # of transactions you submit each month. Most of the agencies we work with pay \$35.00 to \$55.00/month.</p> <p>&gt; Base Plan: This plan provides free access to all the payers in the Base Plan and allows for an unlimited # of transactions. &gt; Comprehensive Plan: This plan provides free access to all the payers in the Base Plan, as well as the entire payer network, including government payers. When you select this plan, you select the pricing tier that best meets your organization's volume. Please refer to the links to the right for additional information. In the payer list, if the insurance refers to "contract required for 837P", 835 submission", this means that it is a payer in the Comprehensive Plan. If the insurance refers to "Available for the 835 and 837P", this means that a payer is included in the Base Plan.</p>
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<b>Reporting</b>		
<b>Name</b>	<b>Nightingale Notes (Champ Software)</b>	<b>Additional Cost (if applicable)</b>
Customizable Reports	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No Additional Cost. The reporting tool allows you to create custom reports. Anything that you put into the system, you will be able to retrieve - and in multiple ways. The report building tool is phenomenal. We also provide you with a variety of pre-built reports.
Clinical Outcomes / Clinical Data Aggregation	<b>Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	These are the reports that are tied to the Omaha System Charting. KBS reports, Social Behavioral Determinants of Health reports, etc.
Enhanced Reporting Features	<b>Gold Package</b>	<p>The Enhanced Reporting is part of the Gold Package. Benefits include: &gt; Scheduling Reports: You can schedule reports to run automatically (Daily, Weekly, Monthly, or Yearly) and assign which employees the report should be made available to. Once they run, a message will appear when the employee is logged in that the report is available. &gt; Organizing/Categorizing Reports. You can organize reports into subfolders. &gt; You will get access to any report than at agency requested special programming for (it is a report that couldn't be built using the standard reporting tools or with assistance from the Support team). The report called "Employee Hours by Service or Cost Center" that I demoed is one of those reports. &gt; If you need a report built that requires special programming (the report can't be built with the standard reporting tools or with assistance from the Support team), your agency gets 8 hours of complementary programming to put towards a custom report.</p>

Time Tracking	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No additional cost for the named or concurrent users. *****We also have bundles of "Time-Tracking Only" licenses available. These licenses are above and beyond the purchase of the named user or concurrent user licenses. When an individual is assigned to this license type, they will <b>only have access to the Activities tab</b> and the intention is for them to be able to log their time/dailies (Service, Start Time, End Time, Hours, Miles, Travel Time, Cost Center, Program, etc.). Whatever they enter in regards to the time-tracking is reportable and the data will also be included in any of the reports that you have currently built around these particular fields. Time Tracking Licenses are available in a package of a minimum of 15 and in increments of 5. Annual Time Tracking Only Licenses for up to 15 employees: \$3,800.00. Add \$1,300.00 for each additional 5 Time Tracking Only Licenses.
Dashboards	<b>Gold Package</b>	Included in the Gold Package. Individual and Administrative Dashboards Available.
Program-level & Grant Reporting	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No Additional Cost

### Integrations

Name	Nightingale Notes (Champ Software)	Additional Cost (if applicable)
KWebIZ	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No Additional Cost. Available with Bronze, Silver & Gold Packages
DAISEY	<b>Bronze, Silver &amp; Gold Packages</b>	No Additional Cost. Available with Bronze, Silver & Gold Packages
KHIN	No	We previously developed this connection and then found that KS agencies did want to pay the additional fees charged by KHIN (which were pretty significant). We discontinued support of this due to non-use.
KHEL	No	Since connectivity is not currently an option, Champ Software is standing by for next steps as connectivity options are researched and evaluated by KDHE.
EpiTrax	No	Since connectivity is not currently an option, Champ Software is standing by for next steps as connectivity options are researched and evaluated by KDHE.

### Support & Training

Name	Nightingale Notes (Champ Software)	Additional Cost (if applicable)
Self-service/Knowledge Base	Yes	No additional cost. There is a knowledge base with a variety of resources (documentation, videos, etc.).
Phone/Email	Yes	No additional cost. Support requests can be made via phone, email or customer portal through Nightingale Notes. The customer portal allows agencies to submit support tickets as well as submit ideas and view other agency ideas.
Data Migration	Yes	No additional cost for the basic data set. Other data requests will be quoted based off of needs/specs. Please refer to bottom of page 5 - page 7 of the IT Packet. Link to pdf is to the right.

## EHR Features & Pricing

### Client Features

Name	CureMD	Cure MD Additional Cost/Notes
Client Charting	Yes	Included
Immunizations	Yes	Included
Scheduling	Yes	Included
Client self-scheduling	Yes	Included with patient portal
Appointment Reminders	Yes	Included
Patient Portal	Yes	Included
Telehealth	Additional Cost	\$49/month/provider for unlimited minutes
Secure Messaging/Email Service	Additional Cost	\$700 setup, \$20/month per provider

### Clinic Features

Name	CureMD	Cure MD Additional Cost (if applicable)
Household Mgmt	Yes	Home health included
ID/Document Upload	Yes	Staff can scan/upload ID and documents, included
Digital Signature Capture	Yes	Feature included, agency must purchase signature capture devices
Lab Reporting	Additional Cost	CureMD can connect to outside labs such as LabCorp, Quest, Cytochck, etc. Cost would be dependent on the volume the agency does with the lab.
Inventory Mgmt	Additional Cost	\$200 one-time setup, \$99/month
Mass Vaccination	Additional Cost	Vaccine Management System with online scheduler is \$1.49 per administered vaccine.
Contact Tracing	Yes	Index case reporting is included in the application
eRx	Yes	Included

### Billing & Insurance

Name	CureMD	Cure MD Additional Cost (if applicable)
Patient/Client Ledger	Yes	Included
Sliding Scale Fees	Yes	Included
Eligibility Verification	Yes	Included
Full Billing Services	Additional Cost	CureMD RCM is \$500 a month minimum or 5% of collections. Would be priced by agency. This is a guide.
Claims submission	Yes	Unlimited claim submission included
Clearinghouse	Yes	Included

### Reporting

Name	CureMD	Cure MD Additional Cost (if applicable)
Customizable Reports	Additional Cost	CureMD includes approximately 170 data mining reports no additional cost. For agencies that want ad hoc reporting, this is \$500 one-time setup and \$99/month/user.
Time Tracking	Yes	Included
Dashboards	Yes	Included
Program-level & Grant Reporting	Yes	Included

### Integrations

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Name	CureMD	Cure MD Additional Cost (if applicable)
KSWebIZ	Additional Cost	\$750 one-time setup
DAISEY	Additional Cost	\$750 one-time setup
KHIN	Additional Cost	\$750 one-time setup
KHEL	No	State Issue - no vendors connected
EpiTrax	No	State Issue - no vendors connected

## Support & Training

Name	CureMD	Cure MD Additional Cost (if applicable)
Self-service	Yes	Included
Phone/Email	Yes	Included
Data Migration	Additional Cost	Patient demographic conversion is typically \$1500 one-time; clinical data conversion is typically \$2500 one-time

Recurring monthly charges			
Personnel Roles	# of Users	User Fee	Total User Fees
Prescribers; MDs, NPs and APRNs, DDS,		\$125	\$0
LPNs and RNs, Case manager, Dental Hygienist, Direct Care/Clinical, Epidemiologists		\$115	\$0
Dietician, Social Workers, Case coordinators, Community outreach		\$105	\$0
P-T clinician (includes Health Director)		\$60	\$0
Administrative Personnel, Billing Personnel, Laboratory Personnel (collection role), Pharmacist(dispensing role)		\$45	\$0
Overseeing MD		\$0	\$0
<b>Automated Text Reminder</b>			
Per department	1	\$100	\$100
<b>AMA CPT Fees</b>			
	<b># of Rendering Providers</b>	<b>Monthly User Fee</b>	<b>Monthly User Fees</b>
Per month, per rendering provider		\$5.67	\$ -
<b>Option A</b>	<b>RCM Service (utilizing clearinghouse-Waystar)</b>		
	<b>Estimated</b>	<b>RCM %</b>	<b>Monthly Fee</b>
Monthly Payor paid claim revenue		10.5%	\$0
Monthly Self-Pay claim revenue		5.5%	\$0
Clearing house/real-time eligibility per billing NPI		\$200	\$0

Client picks either A or B

<b>Option B</b>	<b>Practice Management (LHD self billing, non-RCM)</b>		
	PM system Cost (non-rcm) per rendering provider	\$85	\$0
	Clearing house/real-time eligibility per billing NPI. <i>Estimated-LHD must contract directly with Clearinghouse-Waystar.</i>	\$145	\$0

<b>One-Time Fees</b>	
Data Migration	demographic data
Implementation	\$5,000
Initial Training, Soft Launch assistance by Two Staff (all remote)	\$8,000. Any additional time spent, \$125 per hour plus expenses
Integration used by all	No Charge
Integration specific	Uni-directional: \$4000 Bi-Directional: \$6000
Project management	\$2,500
<b>Additional:</b>	
Optional ezEMRx Mass Vaccine Scheduler	\$10,000
Optional additional travel requests	Optional additional visits (excluding kick-off/training/go-live) \$1200/per day, per person, inclusive of travel expenses.
iPad mobility app	\$25 per month / per clinician above their monthly rate shown below
<b>Other:</b>	
Support Services	No additional cost, included in user license fees.
Hosting Services	No additional cost, included in user license fees.
Software Maintenance	No additional cost, included in user license fees.
<b>Optional Integrated solutions available:</b>	
Integrated Fax Service - Interfax	TBD. Third-party vendor contracts required. No additional charges from CDP
*Integrated Text Messaging - Twilio	TBD. Third-party vendor contracts required. No additional charges from CDP
Merchant Services - BillFlash	TBD. Third-party vendor contracts required. No additional charges from CDP
ID card scanning and data extraction – Inuvio	TBD. Third-party vendor contracts required. No additional charges from CDP



### **ezEMRx Integrated Options**

ezEMRx has established several integrated features supported without modification. These features require agreements with third-party vendors and can be enabled once executed. Contact support for partner representative contact information. Third-party pricing is beyond the control of ezEMRx and should be

### **Integrated Fax Service - InterFAX**

<https://land.interfaxus.com/>

CDP's EHR – ezEMRx, has integrated with InterFAX for electronic fax services. Once an account has been created with InterFAX, share the credentials with CDP technical support, and they will enable the feature. InterFAX can be configured with ezEMRx to send and receive faxes, store faxes electronically and

### **Integrated Text Messaging - Twilio**

ezEMRx offers integrated SMS options for appointment reminders to patients. Notifications are sent to patients in the form of emails and SMS messages upon registration/cancellation/changes/re-notifications. An [www.twilio.com](http://www.twilio.com)

### **ID card scanning and data extraction – Inuvio**

<https://inuvio.com/>

ezEMRx offers data extraction of patient driver's license and insurance cards. Information extracted will be used to auto-populate demographics within ezEMRx screens. An agreement will be required to be established with Inuvio for extraction

### **Merchant Services/Credit Card processing - BillFlash**

<https://www.billflash.com/>

ezEMRx offers integrated credit card and check processing with its integrated partner. An agreement will be required to be established with BillFlash for merchant services. In addition, all swipe equipment will need to be procured from BillFlash.



## AGENDA ITEM

## **AGENDA ITEM #VIII.A**

**AGENDA DATE:** December 28, 2021

**PRESENTED BY:** Randy Partington, County Administrator

**AGENDA TOPIC:**  
Monthly Department Reports

**SUMMARY & BACKGROUND OF TOPIC:**

Every month, departments have been asked to provide an update on the previous month's major activities. The reports are intended to keep the county commission informed about the appointed and elected departments. Attached are reports for Human Resources, Information Technology, Maintenance, Public Works, Register of Deeds, Sheriff, Solid Waste and Youth Services.

**ALL OPTIONS:**

n/a

**RECOMMENDATION / REQUEST:**

Discussion Only

**POLICY / FISCAL IMPACT:**

n/a



**RENO COUNTY**  
206 West First Ave.  
Hutchinson, Kansas 67501-5245  
PHONE: (620) 694-2982  
FAX: (620) 694-2508

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**Board of Commissioners - Department Update**  
**Human Resources – November 2021**  
**Helen Foster – Human Resources Director**

**Compensation Study**

Phil and I met with all Department Heads over the course of 2 days to review the data for their employees. This allowed time for Department Heads to voice concerns and for Phil to explain the data and science behind the numbers. It was beneficial to not only the Department Heads, but for Phil and I as well. I feel that in meeting with the Departments Heads, concerns were addressed appropriately and will lead to a better final product from Phil. Phil has spent quite a bit of time reviewing all the data with me as well as updating employee data as it changes. This wage study will leave HR with tools to implement for a better success in years to come.

**Position Openings**

We currently have 15 job openings. For the month of November, we have had eleven (11) separations and gained three (3) new employees. This is the time of year that we normally see a reduction in the amount of separating employees, but that has not been the case for this month. We have had more employees separate from employment this month than any other month of the year. Out of the eleven separations, two of them were due to medical which leaves nine employees that were a voluntary separation. Most of those reported on their exit evaluations that the reason for leaving were for a new employer with better pay. The market pressures are creating a challenge for HR departments across the state to recruit and retain talent. It was reported that 4.4 million workers within the United States left their jobs in September and not just for more money, but many of the Americans leaving their jobs were reporting severe burn-out. Many Directors are concerned about their departments since they have employees feeling the burn-out too due to additional hours and additional duties because of a shortage in staff. Reno County is not alone in this struggle since most of my HR colleagues are reporting the same problems in their line of business' as well.

**2021 Service Awards**

Elise has been working hard on our service awards. We have received all the frames for the certificates which proved to be one of our biggest challenges this year. The engraved awards have been ordered and proofs were received this week. I am very happy with the new vendor and the quality of their work. We are hoping to receive the engraved order by the end of the year. If we can get the awards by the end of the year, we will try to schedule the awards ceremony for the later part of December. We have held off scheduling the ceremony until all products have arrived.

**New Carriers**

USI has been working hard with the HR team to coordinate with our new carriers to resolve issues as they arise. The occurrences of disruption have seemed to be less over the course of this month. The new employee portal through BML is still a work in progress so employees are not able to see claims information regarding their RX claims. BML and Maxor are working on this and will hopefully have this resolved before the end of December. November was the first month that BML started medical claim pulls.

The employee portal for Fair Market Health is live and employees are utilizing it. This was a feature of our new plans that employees were very excited about and the interest in this program has been overwhelming. Sara Berney with Fair Market Health came out this month and did 3 presentations to employees. I was pleased to see the turn-out of employees that took time to learn about this benefit.



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Dec 3, 2021

Monthly Report Information Services

Michael Mathews

### **Staffing changes or issues**

We are down one staff member and are currently advertising for a Help Desk Tech. Applications have been slow.

### **Budget YTD summary**

At the end of November, I have used 87% of our adopted budget, we are on track for our year.

### **Projects/Issues/Challenges/Concerns**

We completed the install of the new copiers in November. We are close to finishing the first version of the time keeping system that is being developed by IT. We need to have one more meeting for input from key users and will then be able to get the Health department to be our beta users. We are also now, to help meet the cybersecurity insurance requirements, beginning to implement Multi Factor Authentication for all the users of our network. We have installed it in a few departments to work out any bugs that we might have, and it is going well. We hope to finish that install next week. I have also been involved in two onsite visits to review EMR software for the Health Department.

**Issues that we dealt with the past month include.** We had a few challenges this month mostly from being short handed by a staff member.



## **Maintenance & Purchasing Monthly Report 12-1--2021**

**Harlen Depew, Director**

**Staffing:** Maintenance is still taking applications for an entry level tech, but we are getting very few applications. I'm optimistic some wage adjustments would entice more interest in this position. Current Maintenance employees have done a great job of maintaining positive attitudes while taking on additional work to cover the open position.

### **Budget YTD summary**

The Maintenance & Purchasing operating budget is still on track for this time of the year. Actually, it appears our year will end a little further under budget than usual due to staffing shortages and not needing to purchase some supplies that were purchased with COVID funding.

### **Projects/Issues/Challenges/Concerns**

We recently removed an underground diesel tank from underneath the alley behind the courthouse as a result of new requirements from KDHE. This tank was for fuel storage for our backup generator. We determined between local vendors and our own Public Works Dept. we have the ability to truck in fuel in a timely enough manner that ongoing expenses for meeting new testing and monitoring requirements are not justified. This will be one avoided expense going forward.

Decker and Mattison submitted the lowest proposal for replacing the split HVAC unit which serves the Emergency Management offices in the LEC. This new unit is scheduled to be installed the week of December 5, 2021. This solution does not address the long term needs of the Emergency Operations Center, but will resolve comfort issues in the EM office areas, and should help with the larger EOC in the short term.

Courthouse improvement projects are still moving forward, and as long as the weather cooperates, the exterior work is still projected to be completed soon. See attached progress report from Pishny Restoration.

I have immensely enjoyed participating in the Leadership Training sessions our County Administrator has been coordinating. It's been great to connect with other key county managers and directors in this setting, and I am looking forward to seeing resulting improvements in county operations in many areas over the coming months. I would like to thank Randy Partington for his efforts to lead this project, and the County Commissioners for their support of this effort.

## PROJECT SCHEDULE

**DATE:** 12-1-21  
**PROJECT:** Reno County Courthouse  
**RE:** Project Schedule Narrative

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### **Dome-**

**To Date:** All stones that needed to be removed from the dome and lowered to the ground has been complete. 95% of the existing steel has been cleaned of rust and repaired. All CMU block has been laid per the drawings. Grouting of the CMU is Complete. Pouring of the lightweight concrete will be done within the next week. 80% of the debris has been removed from the dome.

**October / November:** Pans will all be set and lightweight concrete poured. Existing steel will be fully cleaned and repaired.

**November / December:** Weatherproofing and flashing will be installed.

**December / January:** Stones will be reinstalled, and sealer applied.

**January / February:** Any remaining painting of steel will be done during this month once dome is closed in from weather.

Estimated substantial completion date: 1-15-22

### **Plaster-**

**To Date:** Plaster wall is currently repaired up to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Crews are currently working on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor and 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> floor. All larger areas will be finalized with crack repair by the end of this week 12-3-21. Plaster guys will be moving into 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> floor offices.

November / December: 4<sup>th</sup> floor will be complete and will be working on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor.

December / January: 5<sup>th</sup> floor will be complete, and crews will drop back to fix around installed window units for the duration.

Estimated substantial completion 1-18-22

**Windows-**

**To Date:** All of the windows that were called to come out, up to and including the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, have been removed. All of the sashes have been restored and brought back to the site including the well covers on the basement units. All of the sills that needed to be removed have been removed and are refurbished and back on site. All sills for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floor are on site refurbished and ready to install. Shades are installed on all finished windows to date. All shades are ordered and being held at Schammerhorn.

**November:** 2<sup>nd</sup> floor windows will be complete.

December: 2<sup>nd</sup> floor windows will be complete. 3<sup>rd</sup> floor windows will be in process.

January: 3<sup>rd</sup> floor windows will be complete. 4<sup>th</sup> floor windows will be in process.

February: 4<sup>th</sup> floor windows will be complete.

March: 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> floor windows will be complete.

Estimated substantial completion date: 3-31-22 (this may improve if we are allowed to go back to working days and not be shut down for making noise and if the Sheriff's office can turn around background checks faster than 10 days)

**Weatherization-**

**To Date:** 95% of the building has been cleaned. Repairs of stone patch/repair and tuck point has begun.

December: Apply sealer to entire building. Complete stone and patch repair.

Estimated substantial completion date: 1-13-21



Public Works  
600 Scott Boulevard  
South Hutchinson, Kansas 67505  
620-694-2976  
Don Brittain, Director

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November 2021 Monthly Report

### **YTD Budget Spent**

Road & Bridge 87%  
Planning & Zoning 80%  
Noxious Weed 90%  
Highlands Water District #8, 42%  
Yoder Water District #101, 49%  
Cedarview Lodge Sewer District 90%  
Habit Sewer District #202, 41%  
Yoder Sewer District #201, 44%  
Blue Spruce District #3-10, 36%  
Highlands Sewer District #8, 36%

### **Equipment**

All items have been delivered except the Boom Mower and it should be delivered this month.

### **Projects**

Asphalt Crew is now shouldering the edge of the roadways.  
Mowing/Sign has completed mowing final round throughout the County and is painting new overlaid roads.  
Dirt Crew is cleaning ditches throughout the County.  
Bridge Crew has finish Hodge Rd. bridge and will start building Nickerson Blvd. bridge 20.65, 1.5 miles north of K-96.  
Planning & Zoning has completed Commission request to revise wind regulations and the comprehensive plan in order to be able to ban wind in the current zoned area of the county, and also created a special zoning district for commercial wind within the current unzone area of the county. It will be presented to the County Commission for consideration in December.

### **Contracted Projects**

I have a meeting with the Willowbrook City Council about the Willowbrook bridge on Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>.  
Railroad has to make a final inspection before we can close the 43<sup>rd</sup> Rd. bridge project.  
Construction on the Arlington Rd. bridge within the Arlington city limits should start in December.  
Scott Blvd. bridge is in the utility locate and planning phase of the project

### **Challenges**

Working on how to pay for rehabilitating Sewer District 201 Yoder and Sewer District 202 Habit. Rate study should be completed in December.  
Working on Water District 101 Yoder high nitrate problem. Trying to find property to drill new well on.  
Short 7 full time positions and this will affect scheduled county functions getting accomplished and ability to accomplish snow and ice operations.





## Reno County Register of Deeds Office

Michelle Updegrove, Registrar  
125 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Hutchinson, KS 67501  
Phone: (620) 694-2942 • Fax: (620) 694-2944  
michelle.updegrove@renogov.org

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### Register of Deeds Annual Report for County Board of Commissioners November 2021

#### Current Business

##### November 2021: **\$67,992.00**

- Documents Recorded: 962
- Recording Fees Collected: **\$50,991.00**
- Technology Fund Fees Collected: **\$12,039.00**
  - *County Clerk: \$2,006.50*
  - *County Treasurer: \$2,006.50*
  - *Register of Deeds: \$8,026.00*
- Heritage Trust Fund (HTF): **\$30,000.00**
  - \* HTF Overage (to General Fund): **\$14,586.00**
- Service Fees Collected: **\$949.00**

#### Budgetary

- Percent of Budget Spent: 83% (updated Nov.17, 2021)

#### Upcoming Events:

Scheduled to give Annual Department Report 12/14/2021

#### Digitizing Project:

Under review with Reno County IT Office

#### New Land Record Management Software (LRMS):

Under review with Reno County IT Office



Sheriff: Darrian Campbell  
Undersheriff: Shawn McHaley

**RENO COUNTY**  
Sheriff's Office  
206 West First Ave.  
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(620) 694-2735 Office (620) 694-2702 fax  
TDD: Kansas Relay Center 1-800-766-3777

## Nov 2021 BOCC Update

11/29/2021

**The Reno County Sheriff's Office Mission is to ensure the highest level of public safety while protecting the rights and dignity of those we serve through community partnerships and unbiased enforcement of the law.**

### **Staffing changes or issues:**

The Reno County Sheriff's Office is staffed at 99 personnel; 84 full time sworn Deputies, 11 civilian support staff and 4 part-time Offender registry personnel. The administration of the Sheriff's Office consists of myself, Undersheriff Shawn McHaley, Captain of the Detective Division Steve Lutz, Captain of the Patrol Division Levi Blumanhourst, and Captain of the Jail Division Shawn McClay.

The jail is currently down 5 deputies. This number will soon be 7 by the end of Dec. We have 2 deputies that are halfway complete with their training. We have 2 applicants currently in the background portion of the hiring process. We have 1 ready to interview and another scheduled for testing.

We recently completed the Sergeants test, interviews, and have promoted Deputy Ted Smith to Sergeant. (Congratulations Sgt Smith!)

At the beginning of the year, the rank structure will change at the jail. The agency has grown over the years and the recommended span of control for a supervisor, and a Deputy filling in for a supervisor when

they are gone will no longer go uncompensated as we look to doing some restructuring.

The Patrol Division is currently down three Deputies; however, we are in the process of preparing a Deputy to attend the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center (KLETC), following successful completion that Deputy will begin their Field Training program for the Patrol Division. We continue to try and recruit those in our community to work for the Sheriff's Office and join our TEAM.

**Budget YTD summary:**

The total agency budget is \$6,611,844.00. There are two sides of the budget, the Jail and what is considered to be the Sheriff side. We are currently under budget and there are no issues forecasted here.

**Projects/Issues/Challenges/Concerns:**

The Patrol Division participated in a special enforcement with specific emphasis on seat belt enforcement over the Thanksgiving holiday. Special enforcements such as this are a requirement for the traffic safety grant program we have participated in for many years.

We received our 2021 Ford F-150 Patrol pickup that was ordered much earlier this year, vehicle manufacturing has been hit hard by supply chain and worker shortages so we expect this kind of delay on future vehicles. The 2022 vehicle bids were opened this month and the quoted numbers were very comparable to past years. We continue to see good performance from our fleet of Ford vehicles and after the first of the year will be working to order cars for the coming year.

Our response team (SRT) attended training with several other teams in our region to continue our teamwork and reliance on each other in difficult situations.

Several of our newer Deputies attended a basic rifle training course where they gain familiarity with the rifle platform, shooting positions and shoot multiple qualification courses. This course is required prior to a Deputy being issued a patrol rifle, each Deputy who attended the training passed the course. A portion of this training is to refresh Deputies on our Use of Force policy which applies to legal use of force ranging from officer presence to lethal force in a deadly situation.

The Sheriff's Office has been working with the Reno County Public Information Officer (PIO) to increase our social media footprint. The PIO has attended many training events the Sheriff's Office has conducted. She has taken video of the events and conducted interviews of employees and put together a great video which show some of the capabilities of our agency.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zg4x0aCz0Qg>

This is all I have to report.

Darrian L. Campbell  
Reno County Sheriff



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Solid Waste Monthly Update November 2021  
Prepared by Megan Davidson, Director

**Staffing:** We currently have an equipment operator II position open on the Wednesday-Saturday shift.

**Projects/Issues/Challenges/Concerns:** The Gas Collection and Control System Gas Well Expansion project is getting close to completion. The new facilities are slowly coming along we have had some supply issues that we are working through to keep the project as close to on schedule as possible. The new scale was installed at the new scale house and will be ready for operation as soon as we are all moved over. They have begun painting inside the buildings as well as putting in cabinets in the scale house.

Staff has been busy beginning the dirt work process for a new haul road entrance once we move in to the new facilities. All of the old fence is getting removed by staff to make room for the new haul road. Compost and brush sites have been busy the past few weeks with the unseasonable weather we have been having. We are also getting ready to send out information on the new construction demolition charges that will take affect after the first of the year.

Office staff has been busy preparing for the end of the year reports, transitioning over to the new facilities and getting the office packed up and ready to be moved.

**Budget:** We have received all of the equipment that was ordered on our CIP for the year of 2021. The landfill has spent close to 34% of its total overall budget.



JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER  
JUVENILE INTAKE & ASSESSMENT  
BOB JOHNSON YOUTH SHELTER

## RENO COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES

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TDD: Kansas Relay Center 1-800-766-3777

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## Youth Services Monthly Report

November 2021

### Staffing changes or issues (if any)

This has been a very slow month regarding applications being submitted. We're currently seeking on call Youth Care Specialist/Juvenile Detention Officer, a 30-hour and 40-hour female only Juvenile Corrections Officer, a 40 hour female only Youth Care Staff, and a 20-hour Youth Care Specialist. All positions, except standby positions, offers insurance benefits and KPERs. Those interested in the open positions can apply online at [Renogov.org](http://Renogov.org).

The employee of the month for November is Dayton Hodson. Dayton is a very positive role model encouraging and teaching youth to make good choices. He engages them in games and conducts a group discussion called Choices. Dayton is flexible and will work extra hours and willing to rearrange his schedule to assist with open hours. Dayton worked for us from May 2011 to June 2016. He then returned in Feb. 2021. We are very fortunate to have him back in our facility and guiding our youth.

### Budget YTD Summary

As of 11/30/2021, we have spent 71% of our Shelter budget (Dept.90). The expenses are routine and are mostly due to salaries. The total shelter budget is \$1,051,666. We have spent 78% of our detention budget (Dept.91). Detention expenditures consists of mostly salaries. The total detention budget is \$1,054,065.

### Projects/Issues/Challenges/Concerns

The past several years Nickerson High School's Stucco Club organizes an opportunity to gather needed items for the youth in our shelter. They held this event on Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>. Items they collected from public donations were several hygiene products, colored pens and pencils, make up, nail polish, ear buds, hats and gloves, and board games to name a few. All of their items covered an entire conference room table. A big thank you goes out to these high school students for such a successful and appreciated event. Our youth enjoyed going around the table and selecting their items from the donated gifts.

Unfortunately, Covid has once again hit our staff and youth. As one can imagine, it's a challenge in congregate care. Youth and staff are handling it well. Youth are completing school remotely until the end of their quarantine phase.