



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

115 N. 4th Street, 1st Floor
Manhattan, Kansas 66502
Phone: 785-565-6844
Fax: 785-565-6847
Email: adillon@rileycountyks.gov

February 3, 2015

Chairman Steve Huebert
Committee on Local Government
State Capitol, Room 281-N
Topeka, KS 66612

Re: H.B. 2164

Dear Chairman Huebert and Members of the Committee:

I have been authorized to speak on behalf of a unanimous Board of Riley County Commissioners. Our Board unanimously supports H.B. 2164, but with the competitive bid threshold raised to \$25,000.

We believe the current law is impractical and that H.B. 2164 represents a necessary change. The Board of Riley County Commissioners is the governing body of all 7 Riley County sewer benefit districts. It is not sound management for our Board to direct Public Works that it must competitively bid every district repair over \$1,000. Based upon information our Public Works Director has provided to us, and now this committee, it makes sense to increase the threshold for competitive bids. Based upon information our County Counselor has provided to us, and now this committee, it makes sense to set that increased threshold at \$25,000.

This proposed change will allow our Board to more effectively carry out its management responsibilities for its 7 sewer benefit districts. Of equal importance, this change will benefit sewer benefit districts (and their governing boards of county commissioners) statewide. No district will be forced to allow a district's system to remain inoperable while formal competitive bids are let for repairs costing as little as \$1,001.

Thank you for allowing us to voice support for H.B. 2164, as amended above.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Robert L. Boyd Jr., Member

cc: Ronald E. Wells, Chair
Ben Wilson, Member
Senator Tom Hawk
Representative Sydney Carlin
Representative Susie Swanson
Representative Tom Phillips
Representative Ron Highland