

FCC Public Issues & Programs List: First Quarter 2023

Contents:

- (A) Legend/map key for abbreviations
- (B) Summary of major news stories, features, interviews, forums and debates regarding state, area and local issues* for

JANUARY 2023

FEBRUARY 2023

MARCH 2023

*Enclosed is a listing of some of the significant issues to which Kansas Public Radio (KANU-Lawrence 91.5 FM, KANH-Emporia 89.7 FM, KANV-Olsburg/Junction City 91.3 FM, and KANQ-Chanute 90.3 FM) responded, along with some of the most significant programming treatments of those issues for the period of time specified. This listing is by no means exhaustive, and a more complete, detailed listing can be found in the official KANU news archives. The order in which the issues appear has no significance, and does not reflect any particular priority for these stories.

TOPIC CODE

AG – Agriculture

AR – Arts & Entertainment

CR – Crime

ECO – Economy & Business

ED – Education

ENV – Environment

HE – Health

HI -- History

HS – Human Sexuality

KU – University of Kansas-related story

MI – Military-related story

POL – Kansas Government & Politics

RE – Religion

RR – Race Relations

SP – Sports

WX – Weather-related story

FORMAT CODE

R – Report

C – Commentary

PROGRAM CODE

ME – Morning Edition

ATC – All Things Considered

WE -- Weekend Edition

KPR NEWS SUMMARY FOR JANUARY 2023

1. Dylan Lysen of the Kansas News Service reported on the growing rural/urban divide in the state of Kansas. Conservatives continue to dominate in the Kansas Legislature, and their goals are often at odds with the needs of urban Democrats. Despite Democratic gains made in the Kansas House thanks to suburban voters, Republican dominance of rural districts has fueled the problem.
(DL-DIVIDE.wav) – aired 01-05-23 – ME/R – length: 4:05 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

POL/ED

2. David Condos reported on the looming water crisis in the High Plains area of Kansas. The underground water in the Ogallala Aquifer is drying up after decades of large-scale crop irrigation. There are now plans afoot to try to preserve more of what remains, but those are being met with skepticism by farmers with already razor-thin profit margins.
(DC-LESSWATERAG.wav) – aired 01-11-23 – ATC/R – length: 4:08 – airtimes: 3:43pm, 5:44pm

ECO/AG/ENV/POL

3. Rose Conlon and Stephen Koranda of the Kansas News Service discussed the possible abortion-related proposals that could surface in the 2023 Kansas legislative session. Despite Kansas voters overwhelmingly rejecting a ballot measure that would have led to an abortion ban, special interest groups opposing abortion rights are not giving up on their plans.
(KNS-ABXGR.wav) – aired 01-13-23 – ME/R – length: 4:00 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

POL/ECO/HE/REL

4. Samantha Horton of the Kansas News Service reported on the lack of clinics in Kansas designed to treat long COVID symptoms. It's one of only two states with no clinics specifically for people suffering from the malady. Horton reported on what these kinds of clinics are designed to treat and how they have become important to people dealing with the aftereffects of COVID and the many mysteries surrounding long COVID ailments.
(SH-LONGCOVID.wav) – aired 01-17-23 – ME/R – length: 3:57 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

HE/KU

5. Rose Conlon and Blaise Mesa of the Kansas News Service discussed a move toward changing certain custodial and treatment requirements for the Kansas foster care system. In the last year, two children in the state foster care system ended tragically after they ran away from their placements and died. Now, the state is making some progress in addressing the needs of kids who run away from foster care.

(BM-RUNAWAY.wav) – aired 02-24-23 – ATC/R – length: 3:59 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

POL/ED/CR/HE

6. Kansas Public Radio aired the 2023 State of the State address delivered by Laura Kelly to a joint session of the Kansas Legislature. It was followed by a broadcast of the Republican Party response to Kelly’s address. The live program was hosted by news director J. Schafer and featured analysis from statehouse reporter Jim McLean and editor Stephen Koranda of the Kansas News Service.
(2023-SOS2.wav) – aired 01-24-23 – SPECIAL EVENT – length: 59:00 – airtimes: 6:30pm

POL/ED/HE/ECO

7. Kate Keckeisen of the Kansas Historical Society told the story of the official Kansas state song, Home on the Range. The man who wrote the famous tune, Dr. Brewster Higley, had moved to Kansas in 1871 to claim land in the Homestead Act, and wrote a poem in 1872 that became the lyrics to the song. The song became wildly popular, and establishing its writer became a fascinating historical exercise.
(JDS-PKGKSDAY-2023.wav) – aired 01-30-23 – ME/R – length: 5:11 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

HI/AR

8. Kaye McIntyre hosted a conversation with the new poet laureate of Kansas, Dr. Traci Brimhall. Brimhall explains her mission for her four-year term as poet laureate and reads some poems for the listeners. Brimhall teaches creative writing at Kansas State University and is the author of several books of poetry.
(KPRPresents 011523.wav) – aired 01-15-23 – KPR Presents – length: 59 minutes
airtime: 6 pm

AR/ED

KPR NEWS SUMMARY FOR FEBRUARY 2023

1. Frank Morris reported on the manufacturing plant in Missouri that creates most of the parts used in U.S. nuclear warheads. The Kansas City National Defense Campus has recently seen an uptick in orders, due to a \$600 billion nuclear arsenal update and overhaul. The facility is planning to expand, bringing more jobs to the region and billions of dollars to the local economy. (FM-KCNUKES.wav) – aired 02-01-23 – ATC/R – length: 4:01 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

ECO/MI

2. Celia Llopis-Jepsen followed up on the recovery and abatement process following a major oil pipeline spill in Washington County, Kansas. Nearly two months after some 600,000 gallons of crude oil leaked onto Kansas farmland and into a creek, the pipeline operator says about 90% of the spill has been cleaned up. But the efforts are not yet complete, and the effects of the spill are still being felt throughout the area. Llopis-Jepsen interviewed residents of Washington County to learn more about how the spill and the recovery process have been affecting daily life in the area. (CLJ-OILREAX.wav) – aired 02-02-23 – ATC/R – length: 6:55 – airtimes: 3:51pm, 5:51pm

AG/ECO/ENV

3. Television producer Dave Kendall and KPR commentator Rex Buchanan have been working on a new documentary focusing on climate change in Kansas. We heard an excerpt from Buchanan's interview with former Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius, former Secretary of Health and Human Services during the Obama Administration. Sebelius explained how officials at the Kansas Statehouse have been working with information that predicted the current water level decline in the Ogallala Aquifer for many years, and have faced stiff opposition from western Kansas interests in curtailing use of the aquifer for massive irrigation projects. Now, the predictions have been borne out in reality, and state agricultural producers and politicians are having to make some hard decisions. (CLIMATE-KSEB.wav) – aired 02-06-23 – ME/R – length: 3:54 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

AG/ENV/POL

4. Suzanne Perez reported on the fight over use of public money for private education services in a special education case in Wichita. A family sued a school district that had refused to pick up the tab for specialized services required for their child to succeed in public schools. The case epitomized the ongoing friction between families and schools over the specialized services, which schools are required to provide as per federal law. (KNS-SPEDCASE.wav) – aired 02-07-23 – ATC/R – length: 4:03 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

ED/POL

5. Greg Echlin spoke with George Toma, a well-known professional groundskeeper who has worked for various Kansas City sports teams since the early 1960s. Toma has worked with the NFL for every Super Bowl ever played, including this year's in Glendale, Arizona. They discussed Toma's work, the demands of groundskeeping, and his many years working in an often-overlooked aspect of professional sports.
(GE-GROUNDS.wav) – aired 02-09-23 – ATC/R – length: 3:29 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

SP/HI

6. David Condos reported on youth rodeo competitions in western Kansas. As small town populations have declined, people who love the area and lifestyle have been looking for ways to keep them alive for coming generations. "Cowboy culture" and youth rodeo have become extremely popular and a favorite activity for ranching and farming families.
(DC-RODEOKIDS.wav) – aired 02-21-23 – ME/R – length: 4:07 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

AG/ECO/AR/ED

7. Education reporter Suzanne Perez and statehouse reporter Dylan Lysen discussed the dozens of education-oriented bill on this year's legislative agenda in Kansas. The bills include controversial measures that would redirect public education funding to families that want to use that money to subsidize sending their kids to private schools. There are also bills concerning transgender students and their access to public facilities, vaccination requirements, teacher pay, and special education funding.
(KNS-EDBILL2WAY.wav) – aired 02-22-23 – ATC/R – length: 4:04 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

ED/POL

8. Katie Keckeisen of the Kansas Historical Society told the story of Lorenzo Fuller, who was a popular singer, Broadway star, and early television personality in the late 40s and early 50s. Fuller hailed from Stockton, Kansas, in Rooks County. He's not well-known now, but in his day, he was considered a musical icon.
(JDS-KK-FULLER.wav) – aired 02-24-23 – ATC/C – length 4:48 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

HI/AR

9. Commentator Rex Buchanan had an overview of a new art installation focusing on unusual views of the Kansas River. Lawrence artist Lisa Grossman's paintings show the river in unusual ways, often viewed from above, and using aerial images that utilize a novel light-detecting radar technique. Grossman's show was at the Haw Contemporary Gallery in Kansas City, Missouri.
(JS-RB-GROSSART2.wav) – aired 02-27-23 – ATC/C – length: 4:55 --
airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

AR

KPR NEWS SUMMARY FOR MARCH 2023

1. Celia Llopis-Jepsen reported on efforts by rural residents to change laws concerning lighting on and around wind turbines. Lights are typically installed on the turbines to warn off airplanes. However, their intermittent flashing has caused many residents in and around wind farms a lot of distress, as drivers find them distracting and stargazers say they spoil the night sky. Legislation has been introduced to equip the warning lights with sensors so that the blinking would not be constant.

(KNS-WIND2.wav) – aired 03-01-23 – ATC/R – length: 3:45 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

AG/ECO/ENV

2. Jim McLean interviewed Kansas Governor Laura Kelly. Kelly discussed the tax proposals being put forward by Republican leaders in the Legislature. She believes many of their tax cut demands are too expensive for the state to afford, and that she's not hesitant to veto any that make their way to her desk.

(JM-KELLYINVIEW.wav) – aired 03-06-23 – ME/R – length: 4:08 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

POL/ECO

3. Commentator LuAnne Stephens discussed waterfalls in Kansas. While many people unfamiliar with Kansas geography might assume that waterfalls aren't common in the area, there are actually quite a few. She visited a waterfall that's one of her favorites, and provided this audio postcard.

(STEPHENS-WATERFALLS.wav) – aired 03-06-23 – ATC/C – length: 2:54 – airtimes: 5:44pm, 6:44pm

ENV/HI

4. Eva Tesfaye with Harvest Public Media reported on the issue of foreign ownership of U.S. farmland. Proposals to restrict foreign ownership of farmland are now working their way through Congress and many state legislatures. It's not the first time lawmakers have tried to restrict who can and cannot purchase land in the United States, and Tesfaye provided a historical overview along with analysis of the pros and cons of some of this legislation.

(HPM-FARMTHREAT.wav) – aired 03-09-23 – ATC/R – length: 3:44 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 4:44 pm, 6:44pm

AG/POL/ECO

5. Blaise Mesa reported on efforts to oversee foster care for children with developmental disabilities. Dozens of children enter the Kansas foster care system annually because their developmental disabilities are more than their families can handle. Parents, foster care agencies, and advocacy groups say that's a terrible precedent and not in the best interests of the children. Mesa learned that the issue has existed for years.
(BM-IVERSON.wav) – aired 03-14-23 – ME/R – length: 4:07 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

HE/ED/ECO

6. Rose Conlon reported on a new volunteer organization providing private flights for women seeking abortions in states where the procedures are heavily restricted to states where they are more readily available. Pilots are taking the patients across state lines for little or no cost, and the program is being coordinated by abortion rights groups.
(RC-PILOTS.wav) – aired 03-21-23 – ATC/R – length: 4:02 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

HE/CR/POL

7. Aaron Bonderson reported on some of the initiatives underway in rural areas to improve access to grocery stores. There are 76 counties in the United States that have no grocery stores at all, including seven such counties in Kansas. Communities are being forced to come up with creative solutions to the problem.
(HPM-RURGR.wav) – aired 03-23-23 – ATC/R – length: 3:43 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

AG/ECO/HE

8. Samantha Horton reported on the problems some Kansans are facing in obtaining medical equipment from KanCare and Medicaid providers. Requests for items like wheelchairs, walkers, and bath chairs can end up with months-long or years-long delays. The state says it's working on streamlining matters, since much of the difficulty comes from red tape between Medicaid providers and private insurers.
(KNS-DMEWAITS.wav) – aired 03-29-23 – ME/R – length: 3:43 – airtimes: 6:45am, 7:45am

HE/ECO

9. Greg Echlin provided an overview of the University of Kansas Jayhawks women's basketball team, as the group prepared to play in the semifinal round...or "Fab Four" round...of the WNIT. The Jayhawks' deep run in the tournament has been exciting, but the team actually held much higher hopes for their season after starting off very strong.
(GE-KUFAB4.wav) – aired 03-29-23 – ATC/R – length: 4:00 – airtimes: 3:44pm, 5:44pm

SP/KU

10. Commentator Katie Keckeisen told the story of Georgia Neese Clark Gray, the first female Treasurer of the United States. Gray was a native Kansan from the Topeka area, who had at one time been an aspiring actress.
(JDS-KKTREASURER.wav) – aired 03-31-23 – ME/C – length: 4:12 – airtimes: 6:35am, 7:35am

HI
