

Quarterly Issues Program List

Quarterly Issues Program List for station KFXJ-FM

1st Quarter – January 1st through March 31st, 2024

Section I – Issues

- Disability Services
- State Government
- The State Judicial System
- Public Education
- Veteran Homelessness
- Crime
- Local Government
- Clean Energy
- Building and Construction Trades
- Severe Weather Safety
- Psychiatric Services

Section II – Programs

Issue: Disability Services

Program Title: At Issue

January 7th, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 26 minutes – KFDI’s George Lawson presented an extended, long-form, in-depth news report that featured comments from a news conference held in November. The news conference was held at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, and featured Kansas State Treasurer Steven Johnson, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services Secretary Laura Howard and Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities Sara Hart Weir. They talked about the effort to promote the Kansas ABLE Savings Program for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are on the waiting list for services in Kansas. The Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act allows individuals to spend on disability qualified expenses, save and invest money without jeopardizing their benefits like Medicaid and Social Security. There were also comments from Kansas Congressmen Ron Estes and Jake LaTurner about this new program.

Issue: State Government

Program Title: At Issue

January 14th, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 33 minutes – KFDI’s George Lawson presented an edited replay of Kansas Governor Laura Kelly’s State of the State Address, which was presented to the Kansas Legislature on January 10th. The Governor talked about Medicaid expansion, school funding, tax cut proposals, childcare and the State’s water crisis.

Issue: The State Judicial System

Program Title: At Issue

January 21st, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 27 minutes – KFDI’s George Lawson presented a replay of the State of the Judiciary address given by Kansas Supreme Court Chief Justice Marla Luckert earlier in the month. The address, delivered to a joint session of the Kansas Legislature, provided an update on the October, 2023 cyberattack that led to a shutdown of the State’s online court records system. Luckert discussed this as well as other issues addressed by the State court system.

Issues: Public Education and Veteran Homelessness

Program Title: At Issue

January 28th, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 31 minutes – KFDI’s George Lawson presented an extended, long-form, in-depth news report that featured comments from two recent news conferences. In the first segment, Wichita School Superintendent Kelly Bielefeld talked about the plan to deal with a projected \$42 million deficit for the next school year, with the closing of some school buildings. He said a closure plan will be presented to the Board of Education in February.

The second segment is a news conference held at the Robert J. Dole VA Medical Center to report progress in efforts to end veteran homelessness in the community. There were comments from Wichita Mayor Lily Wu, United Way of the Plains spokesman Steve Burt, and Michael Payne, Director of the Dole VA Medical Center, along with Wichita Housing and Community Services Director Sally Stang.

Issues: Crime and Local Government

Program Title: At Issue

February 4th, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 33 minutes – KFDI’s George Lawson presented an extended, long-form, in-depth news report with comments from recent news conferences on a criminal act in Wichita. Thieves stole a statue of Major League Baseball legend Jackie Robinson from McAdams Park. It was later found burned and destroyed in Garvey Park. The news conferences featured comments from Wichita City Council Member Brandon Johnson, Wichita Park and Recreation Director Troy Houtman, Police Chief Joe Sullivan, Wichita Metro Crime Commission President Steve Cohlma and League 42 Director Bob Lutz. They talked about the investigation and plans to replace the statue.

The second segment of the program featured comments from a recent Wichita City Council meeting on a parking plan that will be developed for the downtown area. Assistant City Manager Troy Anderson explained the plan, which includes the placement of new meters and new uses for parking lots that aren’t getting much use. There were also comments and questions from Vice Mayor Maggie Ballard and City Council Member Mike Hoheisel.

Issue: Clean Energy

Program Title: At Issue

February 11th, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 26 minutes – KFDI’s George Lawson presented an extended, long-form, in-depth news report with comments from an online news conference held in September. The event was held by E2 (Environmental Entrepreneurs) and Evergreen Climate Innovations, to release the 2023 Clean Jobs Midwest Report, which covers 12 states including Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Illinois, and Iowa. The speakers included U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth of Illinois, along with Ian Adams of Evergreen Climate Innovations, Micaela Preskill of E2, Rick Stockburger of BRITE Energy Innovators of Ohio, Nate Baguio of Lion Electric, and Isaiah Field with Trajectory Energy Partners of Illinois. Numbers from Kansas were presented after the comments from the news conference.

Issue: Public Education

Program Title: At Issue

February 18th, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 29 minutes – KFDI’s George Lawson presented an extended, long-form, in-depth news report that featured comments from a news conference that was held during the past week. On Monday, February 13th, the Wichita Board of Education was presented with a plan for the closing of six schools, four elementary and two middle schools. The news conference was held the next day, and it featured Superintendent Kelly Bielefeld and Board of Education President Stan Reeser, talking about the plan and the next steps involved in putting the plan into effect.

Issue: Building and Construction Trades

Program Title: At Issue

February 25th, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 28 minutes – KFDI’s George Lawson presented an interview with Wess Galyon, President and CEO of the Wichita Area Builders Association. Galyon talked about the upcoming 70th Anniversary Home Show that will be held March 7 – 10 at Century II. He also discussed a new event for high school students called WABA Build My Future, aimed at showing students the career opportunities in the building and construction industry.

Issue: Severe Weather Safety

Program Title: At Issue

March 3rd, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 30 minutes – KFDI’s George Lawson presented an interview with KWCH-12 Chief Meteorologist Ross Janssen, who talked about Severe Weather Awareness Week March 4th through the 8th with information on severe weather safety. Ross talked about the past winter and the conditions he’s watching through the spring as the severe weather season approaches.

Issue: Severe Weather Safety

Program Title: At Issue

March 10th, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 30 minutes – KFDI’s George Lawson presented a repeat of the previous week’s interview with KWCH-12 Chief Meteorologist Ross Janssen, with some added information about upcoming storm safety presentations by the National Weather Service and Sedgwick County Emergency Management.

Issue: Psychiatric Services

Program Title: At Issue

March 17th, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 29 minutes – KFDI’s George Lawson presented a program featuring comments from a recent town hall meeting in Wichita, dealing with the chosen site for a new regional psychiatric hospital with 50 to 100 beds. The site is at MacArthur and Meridian, and the town hall was held to hear from residents in the area. There are comments from Monica Murnan with the Learning Tree at Greenbush, Sedgwick County Commissioner Sarah Lopez, Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services representative Scott Brunner, and Assistant Sedgwick County Manager Tania Cole, along with Sheriff Jeff Easter.

Issue: Psychiatric Services

Program Title: At Issue

March 24th, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 29 minutes – This is a repeat of the previous week’s program about a State psychiatric hospital.

Issue: Disability Services

Program Title: At Issue

March 31st, 2024 – 6 a.m. – 27 minutes – This is a repeat of the January 7th “At Issue” program. KFDI’s George Lawson presented an extended, long-form, in-depth news report that featured comments from a news conference held in November. The news conference was held at the University of Kansas in Lawrence, and it featured Kansas State Treasurer Steven Johnson, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services Secretary Laura Howard and Kansas Council on Developmental Disabilities Sara Hart Weir. They talk about the effort to promote the Kansas ABLE Savings Program for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are on the waiting list for services in Kansas. The Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE) Act allows individuals to spend on disability qualified expenses, save and invest money without jeopardizing their benefits like Medicaid and Social Security. There were also comments from Kansas Congressmen Ron Estes and Jake LaTurner about this new program.