

March 2024 Edition

Greetings from the Commissioner



Spring has sprung! Tulsa County is hopping with all kinds of fun events. Our parks are busier than ever with the Easter egg hunt in Chandler park, World Water Day at Haikey Creek Park, and registrations for summer camps!

Collinsville is celebrating the 125th Anniversary of its founding this year! The celebration will kick off at the Founders Day event on Saturday, April 6. There will be a parade, BBQ competition, and more!

Weather will always be on our minds in Oklahoma, so be sure to keep your eyes to the sky and weather aware as we enter Tornado season. Speaking of weather, TAEMA has

finally closed on the first two properties for our FEMA flood buyout. These properties are in flood prone areas, and will never be developed again in order to keep citizens safe. Tulsa County is very appreciative of the disaster recovery grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that made this project possible. Click here to learn more about the voluntary flood buyout program.

Have a wonderful Easter and we look forward to seeing you at an event soon!

Sincerely, Stan Sallee District 1 County Commissioner and Chair of BOCC

Clean Up Events

The Collinsville Spring Clean Up on March 22 and 23 was a huge success. The collaboration between the City of Collinsville and Tulsa County netted several containers of trash! Thanks to everyone who helped out.

The next District 1 cleanup will be held on April 20 in Turley! Bring your household waste to the corner of 66th St N and N Peoria from 7am to 12:30pm. ↓





Road and Bridge Updates

The much needed renovation and deep patching of 126th street is underway between Garnett and 129th E. Ave. Expect delays in the area until the project is completed, though much of the construction took place over Spring break to minimize disruption to schools.

Collinsville also received some updates on 137th E. Ave. Deep patching and a fresh asphalt overlay were just completed as part of our Interlocal agreement.

Owasso received fresh asphalt thanks to interlocal agreements on 76th street North from 129th to 145th.

Roadwork continues in Sperry south of W Main St. thanks to a partnership between the Town of Sperry and Tulsa County, made possible through a Tulsa County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Urban County funding initiative for infrastructure improvements.

Visit our <u>highway engineering webpage</u> for information on road projects as well as a map of road conditions.



donation.



ARPA Updates

Small Business Incubator

Tulsa County is proud to assist in the creation of the new Business Incubator for small businesses and entrepreneurs in the Tulsa Global District.

Federal ARPA dollars were approved to help with the construction of the New Business Incubator at 21st and S. Garnett. The Incubator will assist immigrant entrepreneurs with navigating resources for their businesses. Groundbreaking at Plaza Santa Cecilia is set to begin this summer.



Courthouse Repairs

After a conditions assessment showed the need for critical repairs to the 70 year old Courthouse building, Tulsa County authorized \$27 Million in Federal ARPA dollars to begin the process. The main focus of repairs will be life safety improvements, air quality, and stabilizing the deteriorating exterior. Fentress and Lilly Architects are working on the construction designs that should be complete by the end of the summer. The long-term future of the Courthouse is still being decided.



Early Voting at Expo Square

The Tulsa County Election Board held early voting for the presidential primary on February 29 through March 2 at the Fair Meadows building on the fairgrounds. The extra space for parking and voters was much needed as the Election Board has outgrown their current space on N Denver Ave. The Election Board will soon be moving to their new location on E Skelly. Money for the expanded facilities was allocated from Federal ARPA dollars.



Opioid Settlement Update

Commissioner Sallee is leading the Tulsa County Opioid Committee to decide the best way to utilize settlement dollars the County and State will be receiving.

Currently, the County is partnering with several local organizations for a grant application to the State. Tulsa County Court Services, District Court, Alternative Courts, OSU, Justice Links, Women in Recovery, and the Family Safety Center, are collaborating on the application for funding projects that will combat opioid misuse.

A few options on how the money can be used include:

- Expanded treatment availability
- Prevention strategies
- Awareness education
- Mental health services
- Diversion programs, recovery courts
- Distribution of overdose treatments

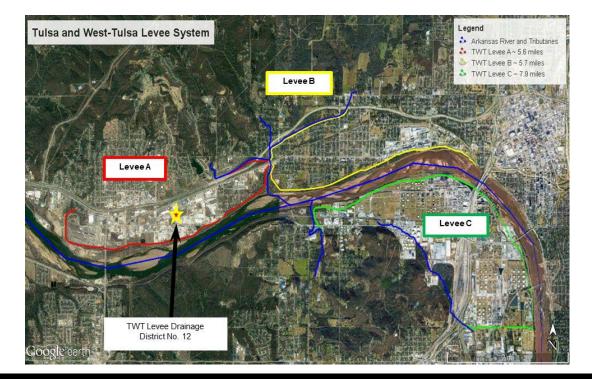
Levee Updates

The Senate Appropriations Committee voted unanimously to approve \$50 million for levee improvements along the Arkansas River in Tulsa. The Arkansas River Levee

Improvement Revolving Fund would provide funding for much needed critical repairs. The Levee Feasibility Study, completed in September 2019, showed the levee system could fail due to overtopping and inadequately controlled under-seepage and through seepage.

The levee project cost has since increased to \$191 million. \$137 million in federal funding has already been secured, but requires the match of \$67 million from local and state funds. \$15 Million has been identified from Tulsa's Fix Our Tulsa Program, the Vision Tulsa Program, Vision Tulsa County, and from Drainage District No.12.

If the bill is signed into law, the appropriated funds would be available in Fiscal Year 2025.



Out and About



Commissioner Sallee attended the Owasso Chamber of Commerce "Dignitaries and Donuts" on March 15th.





All three Commissioners presented at the Jenks Chamber of Commerce Legislative Luncheon on March 13th.



The Commissioner enjoyed the Sand Springs Chili Cook Off on February 24. He's pictured here with Treasurer John Fothergill. The Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce Gala on February 3 was a great opportunity to support local businesses.

Moving On

Pam Polk- Collinsville

After 19 years of service as the City Manager of Collinsville, Pam Polk has left to take on the role of City Manager in Durant, Oklahoma. The move also takes her closer to family. A farewell reception was held on Tuesday, March 26. Pam truly has a servant heart and has accomplished many great things during her time in Collinsville.

Warren Lehr- Owasso

Warren Lehr retired from his role as Owasso City Manager on March 1. Warren was named the interim City Manager in May of 2013, and became the permanent City Manager in January of 2014. Owasso saw great growth under Lehr's leadership. Former Assistant City Manager Chris Garrett has already stepped in to take over the lead roll.





Calendar of Events

Date	Event
March 28 - 30	Green Country Arabian Horse Association Spring Fling- Ford Truck Arena Expo Square
March 29	Tulsa County Offices Closed- Good Friday
April 6 - 10am to 3pm- FREE	Bio Blitz- Chandler Park
April 6	Founders Day Celebration- Collinsville
April 6 & 7	Buckskin's Bloomin' Blowout- Ranger Arena Expo Square
April 6 & 7	Wanenmacher's Arms Show- SageNet
April 14 - 21	National Reining Breeders Classic- Ford Complex Expo Square
April 20 - 10am to 2pm- FREE	Earth Day Celebration- Chandler Park
April 20	Turley Clean up Day
April 19 - 21	Spring Home & Outdoor Expo- SageNet
April 26 - 28	Mid-Continent Kennel Club All Breed Dog Show- SageNet
May 3 - 5	OKRVA Regional Championships- SageNet
May 25 - 26	Family Camping Night- Chandler Park

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