

Barton County Commission Agenda Meeting Minutes

Recorded audio is available on compact disk upon KORA request to the Barton County Clerk's Office, 1400 Main – Room 202, Great Bend, Kansas 67530.
Phone (620) 793-1835 \ Fax (620) 793-1990 \ Email clerk@bartoncounty.org
Meetings Live Streamed through **Microsoft Teams**

April 27, 2020

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 27th day of April 2020, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Kenny Schremmer, Commissioner, 1st District, Chairman
Homer Kruckenberg, Commissioner, 2nd District
James R. Daily, Commissioner, 4th District
Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District (Chairman Pro-Tem)
Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk
Phil Hathcock, County Administrator

Members attending via Phone/Teams:

Don Davis, Commissioner, 3rd District
Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

Commissioner Schremmer called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

Commissioner Schartz moved to approve the agenda.
Commissioner Daily seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Schartz said she would make that motion with a correction, she believed Patrick Hoffman County Counselor was not here, moved to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2020, Regular Meeting.
Commissioner Daily seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

III. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS:

-An Accounts Payable Register will be submitted to the Commission for the period of April 13, 2020, and ending April 27, 2020.

Commissioner Daily moved to approve appropriations for the period of April 13, 2020, to April 27, 2020 and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.
Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE: Request for Approval – Added / Abated / Escaped / Refunded Taxes:

-Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk, will present a listing of Added / Abated / Escaped / Refunded Taxes. Orders for these actions are kept on file in the County Clerk's Office. These are used to correct assessments and are requested by the County Appraiser's Office or the County Clerk's Office.

Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk, presented the following tax roll adjustments and the year-to-date RFCAP:

BATCH #13	Property Types	Values	Escaped Taxes	Added / Abated	Refunds
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Gas				
Oil				
Personal Property	- 3,669	\$32.46	-\$ 542.80	\$ 542.80
Real Estate	- 8,934		-\$1,635.50	\$1,635.50
16/20 M Trucks				
State Assessed Utilities				
Special Assessments				
Grand Totals	-12,603	\$32.46	-\$2,178.30	\$2,178.30
Total Taxes	-\$2,145.84			
Total Records Selected	4			

Commissioner Schartz moved to the Listing of Added / Abated / Escaped / Refunded Taxes as reviewed by the County Appraiser and presented by the County Clerk and direct the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Daily seconded the motion.
 All voted aye. Motion passed.

B. PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE: COVID-19:

-Karen Winkelman, Interim Health Director, will provide an update relative to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Karen Winkelman, Interim Health Director, said in the State of Kansas, as of yesterday, there were 3,174 confirmed cases. 76 of the 105 counties have cases with a total of 118 deaths. Median age is 47 years. Barton County remains at 9 confirmed with zero deaths. As of yesterday, 99 Isolation/Quarantine orders have been served with the assistance of the Sheriff's Office. 37 of those remain active at this time. The Health Department has been busy with contact investigation and contact tracing. Must follow-up with the contacts to see if they develop symptoms. Contact tracing is phone calls. Electronic surveillance system through the State is used to track results. Started discussions with KDHE last week about community testing. KDHE has a group of people who have been trained to help staff community testing. In early planning stage. Would like to just test Barton County, but some of the conversation include regional testing.

Commissioner Schartz asked if testing is more available. Swabs are more available, but the medium we put the swabs into is still in short supply. Labs have now said we can now use saline. If Barton County were to be chosen to do the community testing, the state would work with us on securing supplies.

Commissioner Schremmer asked if the hospitals do the testing. Winkelman said they do collection, but specimens are sent off to either KDHE or private labs. Schremmer asked if people go to the hospital, does the hospital do the testing. Winkelman said if the patient fits the criteria they have set, the hospital will test them and send it to a private lab. The health department would be notified that a test had been done and they have to wait for results.

Commissioner Schartz asks who makes the decision to do community testing. Winkelman said it is made at the state level with our input. They look at areas that are lacking. Schartz asked Winkelman if she thought we should have community testing. Winkelman said yes, we should have community testing.

Commissioner Davis asked if they keep records of people who are recovered or are recovering. Winkelman said recovered is a very subjective thing. They look at the onset of symptoms and that is day 0. They look at the next 7 days. They have to be fever and symptom free. They do not recommend testing people at the end of their isolation.

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Commissioner Daily asked if they are keeping track of any false positives. Winkelman said the accuracy of the tests are in the 99% ranges. The recommended testing is the nasal pharyngeal because of the accuracy. There has also been a lot of discussion about serology testing to look at the antibodies. Antibody IGM shows usually current infection and antibodies IGG which shows past infection. Right now, those tests are not real specific for COVID-19, also could be false positive negative with other coronaviruses so they are staying with the nasal pharyngeal as being the best practice.

Sheriff Bellendir said they had initially planned a press release this morning. Last week an individual had direct sustained contact with a known positive and was served a quarantine order. The Health Director said he was non-cooperative. Thursday evening, they were made aware that he was in violation of the quarantine order causing disturbances around town. Friday evening, he caused a disturbance at another residence. He was arrested pursuant to K.S.A. 65-129b and charged with violating a quarantine order. Tyler D. Witten is in quarantine at the jail. Bellendir said he has been in consultation with the District Court Judges and the County Attorney. Faced with the difficult decision of allowing the guy to run around and continue to potentially expose the public or potentially expose inmates in the jail. He made the difficult decision to protect the public. Witten is housed in a separate cell block at the jail. The Detention staff is not having any direct contact with him. The only person with direct contact is Karen Winkelman. May 5th is the end of his quarantine.

Commissioner Schremmer asked if he had been tested. Bellendir said yes but could not disclose results.

Commissioner Kruckenberg asked if the staff dress down. Bellendir said yes, they wear PPE.

Commissioner Schartz said it is sad they are not taking it seriously, but glad that leadership roles are taking it seriously. Bellendir said they thought this through the best they could. Could not, in good conscience, put the public at risk. This individual was not cooperating even on phone calls.

Commissioner Daily asked if you are using masks on inmates or just staff. Bellendir said just the staff. We're taking temperatures on everyone coming in and out of the jail. We have adequate PPE for now.

Commissioner Schartz asked if they have thought about other places to house inmates. She said some are using hotels for example. Bellendir said they discussed it extensively, and just do not have a place to put them. Even thought about old city jails. No one wants your corona cases.

Commissioner Schremmer asked who makes the decision to arrest. Bellendir said the statute gives the Health Officer the authority to have them issue quarantines. Felt he had no other choice other than to take him into custody,

Commissioner Schremmer asked if it was the Governor's decision to decide to quarantine. If the Governor goes ahead and says it's ok to go to work, do you have any more ability, can you do this on your own. Winkelman said she would not do it on her own. Schremmer said he is getting calls to open back up. Do you think this is going to break in a week or what? Winkelman said there is a lot that has to be a part of that conversation.

Commissioner Schartz said we can be more restrictive than the state.

Information Only. No Action Required.

V. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements 2. Appointments

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VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business.

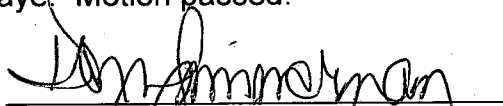
VII. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Daily made a motion to adjourn at 9:29 A.M.

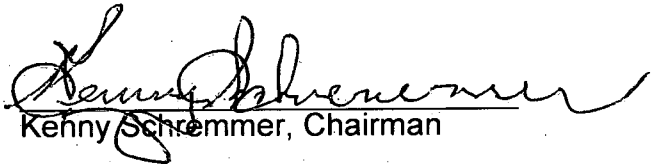
Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Donna Zimmerman
Barton County Clerk



Kenny Schremmer, Chairman