

Barton County Commission Agenda Meeting Minutes

Recorded audio is available on compact disk upon 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
Requests to be made pursuant to the Kansas Open Records Act and County Policy. Estimated cost of disk – Five Dollars (\$5.00).

February 18, 2020

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 6th day of January 2020, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Kenny Schremmer, Commissioner, 1st District, Chairman
Homer Kruckenberg, Commissioner, 2nd District
Don Davis, Commissioner, 3rd District
James R. Daily, Commissioner, 4th District
Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District (*Chairman Pro-Tem*)
Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk
Phil Hathcock, County Administrator
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 moved to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2020 Regular Meeting.
Commissioner Daily seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS: 13th Month – 4th Run:

-An Accounts Payable Register for the 13th Month, 2019, will be submitted to the Commission.
Thirteenth month expenditures include any unpaid bills for a product, service, or utility that has been received in 2019.

Commissioner Daily moved to approve the 13th Month – 4th Run appropriations for 2019 and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.
Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

III. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS:

-An Accounts Payable Register will be submitted to the Commission for the period of February 3, 2020, and ending February 18, 2020.

Commissioner Schartz moved to approve appropriations for the period of February 3, 2020, to February 18th, 2020 and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.
Commissioner Kruckenberg seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

A. PUBLIC INFORMATION: Kansas Wetlands Education Center:

The Kansas Wetlands Education Center (KWEC) is a nature center operated by the Fort Hays State University Werth College of Science Technology & Mathematics in cooperation with the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks & Tourism (KDWP). The facility overlooks the 19,857 acre Cheyenne

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Bottom Wildlife Area managed by KDWPT and the 7,694 acre Cheyenne Bottoms Preserve managed by The Nature Conservancy. At this time, Curtis Wolf, KWEC Director, will provide an update.

Curtis Wolf, KWEC Director, said a new addition to the Kansas Wetlands Education Center last year was a new introduction video that was paid for by the Morrison Foundation. Wolf also recognized Duane Shook, another long time donor from Hutchinson. Wolf said the center saw its second highest number of contacts this past year with over 27,000 contacts. Wolf also noted they offered 853 total programs, which is the greatest number of programs ever offered. Wolf said 610 of those programs were presented to schools in Barton County and other parts of central and western Kansas. Wolf said other events that brought out-of-county visitors included the Butterfly Festival, Wings and Wetlands Birding Festival, Perseids Meteor Shower Watch Party, Biosphere Blockparty, Hunter Appreciation Breakfast, Kansas 4-H Insect Spectacular and a Regional Kid Wind Challenge Event. Wolf said they appreciate the connection with the County.

Commissioner Schremmer asked if there was any activity to the east of the main building. Wolf said the marsh to the east of the main building was part of the mitigation marsh that was built in the 90's when the dike renovation project was done at the bottoms. Wolf said there is a pump that pumps water from the other side of the highway to fill the marsh.

Commissioner Schartz said there was a lot of strength in the partnerships involved to create the KWEC. There are many free programs available for the public.

Commissioner Daily asked how they get students in wheelchairs out to the marsh. Wolf said they work with the school districts and said the trail is wheelchair accessible.

Information Only. No Action Required.

B. PUBLIC INFORMATION: Wetlands & Wildlife National Scenic Byway:

-The Wetlands & Wildlife National Scenic Byway is a 77-mile route that runs through Barton, Stafford and Reno Counties. It is anchored by Cheyenne Bottoms and Quivira National Wildlife Refuge, with natural, historic and educational sites identified along the route and in the seven corridor communities. Mr. Wolf, a member of the Wetlands & Wildlife National Scenic Byway Committee, will provide a formal report on 2019 activities.

Curtis Wolf, Byway Committee President, said the Byway project began over 15 years ago with the seven corridor communities of Claflin, Ellinwood, Great Bend, Hoisington, Hudson, Stafford and St. John as well as the two anchor wetlands. Wolf said the committee is made up of 27 members from those communities and meet every other month at different venues in one of the corridor communities. Wolf said the next meeting will be held April 16th in Hoisington. Wolf said they are required to submit an annual report and work plan each year to the State, participate in quarterly phone calls and an annual meeting with the other 11 byways across the State. Wolf said there is new signage across the state.

Bj Wooding said she refreshed the SOCS website, maps and calendars. Wooding said a refresh of the website information has also been done.

Wolf thanked Wooding for all of her work. Wolf said the Byway had not been active about seeking funds from the other communities, but this past year they requested \$500 from each of the corridor communities. Wolf reported Hoisington, Claflin and Ellinwood each contributed \$500 and the Stafford County Commission has verbally committed to giving \$1,000 this coming year. The Great Bend Convention and Visitors Bureau has contributed over \$20,000 in the last two years for in-kind advertising, which benefits the County and all of the communities along the byway. Wolf said the "Reviving America

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Scenic Byway Act” was passed recently which will provide funding. Wetlands & Wildlife National Scenic Byway is one of only two designated as National Scenic Byways in Kansas.

Information Only. No Action Required.

C. APPRAISER'S OFFICE: Valuation Update:

-By March 1 of each year, the Appraiser's Office is to have completed valuation of property and mailed notices to the public per K.S.A 79-1460. Barb Esfeld, County Appraiser, will report on the mailing of notices of valuation and valuation trends.

Phil Hathcock, County Administrator, said Barb Esfeld, County Appraiser, was not available, but would provide an update later.

D. ROAD AND BRIDGE: Cold Mix Asphalt Bids 2020:

-The Road and Bridge Department requested a quote from Venture Corporation for mixing approximately 25,000 tons of cold mix asphalt for the 2020 overlay program. With the County providing all aggregates and liquid asphalt, Venture would be required to set up a drum mix at a location on South Washington and furnish all labor, equipment and fuel needed to mix, weigh and stockpile the finished product on site. Venture proposed doing the work at a cost of \$7.91 per ton, that rate being unchanged from 2019. Monies were included in the 2020 Budget for this anticipated expense.

Darren Williams, County Works Director, said the county provides all of the aggregates. Williams said Venture will set-up on the South Washington site and noted their quote was the same as last year. Williams said the total mixed would be dependent on the price of oil. Venture anticipates a May 4th start with a May 22nd end date.

Commissioner Schartz moved to approve the Cold Mix Asphalt Quote for up to 25,000 tons of cold mix asphalt material from Venture Corporation for \$7.91 per ton. Cost to be paid from the Road and Bridge Fund, Contract Construction Line, 002-92-6250.

Commissioner Daily seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

E. 2020 SUSANK ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT:

-Road and Bridge received a quote from Venture Corporation for overlaying a portion of Susank Road. The project includes that portion of Susank Road from Highway 4 north to the edge of the Hoisington Activity Center parking area. Work includes milling the current roadway, applying 1.5" of hot mix overlay, adjusting one manhole and placing temporary tape on the work service. Monies are available in the Road and Bridge fund for this project.

Darren Williams, County Works Director, requested approval for the project with the City of Hoisington.

Commissioner Daily asked how far it was from K-4 Highway. Williams said approximately 1,400 feet. Commissioner Daily asked if Hoisington was putting money in for the project. Williams said yes, a pretty good amount.

Commissioner Daily moved to approve the Venture Corporation quote for the 2020 Susank Road Resurfacing Project. The \$56,659.80 cost is to be paid from the Road and Bridge Fund, Professional Service Fee, Road Overlay Line, 002-92-5475-96.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

VI. ENDING BUSINESS:

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1. Announcements
2. Appointments

VII. OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business.

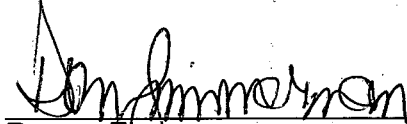
VIII. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn at 9:40 A.M.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Donna Zimmerman
Barton County Clerk



Kenny Schremmer, Chairman