

# 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](mailto:clerk@bartoncounty.org)

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December 28, 2021

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 28th day of December 2021, at the Barton County Courthouse.

*Members present:*

Kirby Krier, Commissioner, 1st District  
Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District  
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3<sup>rd</sup> District (*Chairman Pro-Tem*)  
James R. Daily, Commissioner, 4th District, Chairman  
Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District  
Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk  
Barry McManaman, Interim County Administrator

*Members absent:*

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

## **I. OPENING BUSINESS:**

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

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

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2021, Regular Meeting, the December 15, 2021, Special Meeting and the December 21, 2021, Regular Meeting.  
Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **II. OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

## **III. SWEARING IN OF COUNTY CLERK:**

-Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk, will swear in Bev Schmeidler as the next Barton County Clerk. The term will begin on January 1, 2022.

## **IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE: Recognizing Donna Zimmerman upon Her Retirement:**

-Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk / Election Officer, has been employed with the County since August, 1983. Having served the County in both the Treasurer's and the County Clerk's Office, she was first appointed as County Clerk in 1995. Ms. Zimmerman, a Master Certified County Clerk, has since served in the roles of Public Information Office, Freedom of Information Officer and Assistant County Administrator. The Commission will honor Ms. Zimmerman at this time.

Commissioner Daily said Donna Zimmerman served not only in the Clerk's Office but also the Treasurer's Office and has been a rock when it comes to county operations. Daily said it has been a privilege to have worked with her and to have been a part of what she has made us all.

Commissioner Krier moved to recognize Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk / Election Officer, upon her retirement from Barton County and would also like to say I agree with Commissioner Daily. I met her in 1999 and she has been an unbelievable resource when it comes to, well we do not want to say you have been here a long time, a seasoned veteran or something like that but she has been unbelievable when it

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comes to helping the County Commissioners. What I have noticed the most is that she is very pro-taxpayer, she looks out for the taxpayer and her workers.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Daily read the "Certificate of Appreciation" and presented Zimmerman with a clock. Zimmerman said it has been an honor and a privilege to have served the voters of Barton County.

## **B. APPRAISER'S OFFICE: Recognizing Ellen Fischer upon Her Retirement:**

-Ellen Fischer, Personal Property / Appraisal Clerk, has been employed with the County since May, 1992. Ms. Fischer has been a valuable asset to the Appraiser's Office, continuing to meet the educational requirements of her position and working with taxpayers in a courteous manner.

Wendy Prosser, County Appraiser, said Fischer has been so much fun to work with. Mark Hixon hired Fischer in May 1992 and she has spent almost 30 years with the county. Fischer outlasted 7 different appraisers: Mark Hixon, David Stithem, Gary Post, Jack Baines, Kyle McMallow, Barb Esfeld and Wendy Prosser. Through that time, she worked two positions: Real Estate Clerk first and then as Personal Property Appraiser since 2008 or 2009. Prosser awarded Fischer a personalized blanket.

Commissioner Esfeld said before she makes a motion she wanted to recognize Ellen and said she has trained seven appraisers and that is probably why she is retiring. Esfeld said she was honored to have worked with her.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to recognize Ellen Fischer, Personal Property / Appraisal Clerk, upon her retirement after 29 years of dedicated service with Barton County.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **C. SPECIAL ALCOHOL FUNDING: Transfer to All-Stars:**

-The Commission will be asked to transfer \$3,931.62 from the Special Alcohol Fund to All-Stars. Per Kansas Statute, Special Alcohol Funding shall only be expended for the purchase, establishment, maintenance or expansion of services or programs, whose principal purpose is alcoholism and drug abuse prevention and education, alcohol and drug abuse detoxification, intervention in alcohol and drug abuse, or treatment of persons who are alcoholics or drug abusers, or are in danger of becoming alcoholics and drug abusers. It is noted that All-Stars is a school-based prevention / intervention program designed to delay the onset of youth engaging in risky behaviors such as substance misuse, bullying, violence and sexual activity.

Matt Patzner, Finance/HR Director, asked the Commission to consider the transfer to All-Stars.

Casey Rowland, Juvenile Services Community Case Manager, said we are in every elementary school in Great Bend and are excited Ellinwood is joining. Rowland said they are already in Hoisington and have reached out to Central Plains as well. Rowland said they serve almost 1,000 youth and work hand in hand with law enforcement and other agencies to network the program through our schools and continue those services for our families.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the transfer of \$3,931.62 from the Special Alcohol Fund, Transfer Out Line, 015-00-9000 to the All-Stars Fund, Transfer In line, 115-00-8000. This transfer will also be considered an in-kind match for the CDC Drug-Free Communities Grant.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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## **D. PUBLIC HEALTH: RFP – Lobby and Exam Room Chairs:**

-On December 21, 2021, the Commission approved the purchase of certain chairs. After further examining bids from both vendors, it was determined that both proposals included the same brand of product, delivery, setup, and warranty. The Commission will review the bid award to assure compliance with Office of Management and Budget.

Karen Winkelman, Health Director, said they approved the purchase of 24 chairs from OPI last week. Winkelman said they had received two bids, one from OPI and one from Commercial Concepts. The bid that was accepted was from OPI. After the meeting Sue Cooper notified her that when expending Federal funding, the county needs to use the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

Commissioner Krier moved to rescind the December 21, 2021 motion approving the award to Office Products Incorporative (OPI) for \$20,072.00 to purchase lobby chairs for the Health Department and accept the Commercial Concepts and Furnishings bid for \$15,181.31 to purchase lobby chairs for the Health Department. Payment to be made from line 006-73-6165 Equipment, funded through the ELC COVID-19 Expanded Infrastructure Grant awarded to Barton County by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment.

Commissioner Krier said our goal was to keep our money here local, but Commercial Concepts is in a neighboring state. Would still vote the same way, but now we are taking the low bid and saving the taxpayers money.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

Commissioner Daily said it is important we are saving taxpayers money, but it is also important to support our local businesses.

Commissioner Krier said we still have \$5,000 in the grant and maybe we can spend that locally.

Commissioner Hutchinson said I would make this mistake to support local business all day long. This was in no way Director Winkelman's fault.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **E. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Wireless Door and Alarm System:**

-The Information Technology Department, in cooperation with Purchasing Management, released a Request for Proposal (RFP) for this project. The proposal included access control for three doors and include a panic button to lock down the door.

Dereck Hollingshead, Information Technology Department, said since July 2018, Barton County has used access control for our doors. Nex-Tech was the only bidder. The locks will be placed on the Commission Chambers and the IT door with a panic button.

Commissioner Krier said this will be a trial run to see if it works before spending the money on other doors.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve the bid from Nex-Tech Security for the door improvement project. The project cost, not to exceed \$5,000.00, to be paid from the Equipment Replacement Fund, General Line, 072-00-6380.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **F. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: Property Insurance for Sand Dredge:**

-Barton County received property insurance proposals for the sand dredge for calendar years 2022 and 2023 until 1:00 p.m., December 14, 2021. Alliance Insurance Group presented the only proposal.

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Amy Miller, Emergency Risk Manager, said we have to go out for bid since this is a specialty inland marine piece of equipment.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to accept the \$7,427.42 proposal from Alliance Insurance Group for 2022-2023 for the Sand Dredge. Cost to be paid from the General Fund, Insurance / Bonds Line, 001-18-5520.

Commissioner Krier seconded the motion and said man that is expensive.

Commissioner Hutchinson said for the record, Commissioner Krier joked we should do without that insurance.

Commissioner Schartz said all kidding aside, that equipment sets in a very isolated area and vandalism is not out of the question.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **G. SOLID WASTE: Used Landfill Wheel Loader:**

-Solid Waste maintains approximately two miles of roads within the landfill property. Historically, landfill staff has used a skid steer to move rock and relied on Road and Bridge equipment to stockpile rock. Landfill management requested bids for a used wheel loader that will be used to more efficiently maintain the roads, move heavy items and stockpile rock. Bids were accepted until December 17, 2021. Four bids were received.

Phil Hathcock, Landfill Director, said the landfill maintains quite a bid of roadway. The Road & Bridge Department has been very generous in moving the rock around, but the time has come to obtain their own equipment to move the rock. Bids were received from Foley, two from Murphy and one from Central Power of Kansas City. Central Power was the low bidder with Murphy Tractor as the second lowest bidder. Murphy provides a warranty until 2024.

Commissioner Krier thanked Phil (Hathcock) for looking for used equipment and said it is a much needed piece of equipment. We should not use Road & Bridge equipment since it is purchased with tax dollars and the Landfill equipment can be purchased with user fees.

Commissioner Krier moved to approve the \$129,500.00 bid from Murphy Tractor for a 2017 544K Wheel Loader. Bid price to be paid from the Solid Waste Fund, Equipment-Operate & Construction, 140-68-6190, 2022 Budget.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

Commissioner Schartz said Murphy Tractor is local and can do the maintenance.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **V. ENDING BUSINESS:**

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

## **VI. OTHER BUSINESS:**

- Comm Hutchinson: Thanked the Treasurer's Office, the Clerk's Office and the Appraiser's offices who will be working diligently through the end of the year to get the final year-end business done.
- Comm Schartz: The Treasurer's Office will not be working on December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- Donna Zimmerman: Said they have been known to work on the 31<sup>st</sup> to ensure all payments are deposited.
- Comm Krier: We need to make sure the building is secure since it will be unlocked, but the offices are not open.
- Comm Daily: Will get with the Sheriff to make sure the building is secure.
- Comm Krier: We also need to look at used equipment in the Road & Bridge Department.
- Comm Hutchinson: Sheriff Bellendir texted to say he will take care of making sure the courthouse is secure.

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## VII. ADJOURN.

Commissioner Schartz moved to adjourn at 9:40 A.M.

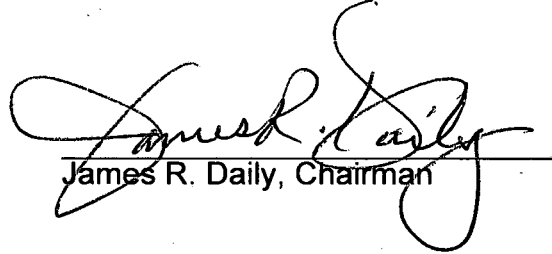
Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Donna Zimmerman  
Barton County Clerk



James R. Daily, Chairman