

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**® at the following link: <https://bit.ly/3w5CW7s>

May 17, 2021

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 17th day of May 2021, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Kirby Krier, Commissioner, 1st District
Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District (Chairman Pro-Tem)
James R. Daily, Commissioner, 4th District, Chairman
Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District
Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk
Phil Hathcock, County Administrator
Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Roll Call taken by County Clerk.

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

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2021, Regular Meeting.
Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.
voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. BOARD APPOINTMENT: Memorial Parks Advisory Committee:

-The Memorial Parks Advisory Committee is charged with advising and assisting the Commission regarding the care and maintenance of the Barton County Owned and Operated Memorial Parks and Cemetery. With not less than five, nor more than seven members, there are two terms expiring in July, 2021.

Darren Williams, County Works Director, said they received one application and noted Dan Esfeld has been on the board for the past six years. Williams requested he be reappointed.

Current membership:

APPOINTMENT	REQUIREMENT	DATE APPOINTED	TERM DATE
Dan Esfeld	Resident, 4 yr trm	8/20/2018	7/1/2021
Frank S Ochs	Resident, 4 yr trm	8/20/2018	7/1/2021
Mick Lang	Resident, 4 yr trm	7/15/2019	7/1/2023
Stanley Jantz	Resident, 4 yr trm	8/26/2019	7/1/2023
John Haberman	Resident, 4 yr trm	12/14/2020	7/1/2024
Ginger Herрман	Resident, 4 yr trm	4/5/2021	7/1/2024
Toni Rice	Resident, 4 yr trm	4/5/2021	7/1/2024

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Commissioner Krier moved to reappoint Dan Esfeld to the Barton County Memorial Parks Advisory Committee. The uncompensated term ends July 1st, 2025.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

B. COVID UPDATE:

-The Commission will receive an update on COVID-19 operations.

Karen Winkelman, Health Director, said they administered 113 doses last week and 138 the previous week. All vaccine preparations (Moderna, Pfizer, Johnson & Johnson) are available. Winkelman said 10,329 total vaccines have been administered so far and noted they got the EUA (Emergency Use Authorization) approval for Pfizer vaccine for ages 12 and up. Winkelman reported six active positive cases currently and a total of 2,516 positive cases. They administered ten tests this past week. KDHE reported one additional death last week for a total of 49 COVID related deaths.

39.9% of the total population of Kansas has been vaccinated with at least one dose.

Barton County is 32.8% vaccinated.

Winkelman reported that the Governor's release stated that effective immediately, Kansas will adopt the CDC's latest guidance which states that fully vaccinated Kansans are no longer required to wear masks indoors or outdoors or physically distance except in circumstances such as those required by businesses, public transportation, or health care facilities.

Winkelman said last night they became aware of a possible United Kingdom variant in Barton County and noted there was no COVID vaccine on board with this individual. The "variant of concern" is the B117 United Kingdom variant. 51 counties in Kansas are experiencing a variant. There are 884 variants of concern in Kansas.

The next Saturday vaccine distribution will be at June Jaunt on June 5th from 10am-2pm.

Commissioner Daily asked if a person could get a replacement vaccine card. Winkelman said the data is documented in WebIZ and a new card could be reissued.

Commissioner Schartz asked what if a person does not know which vaccine they want. Winkelman said they let the individual make that decision. They generally know what they want. If not, they provide them the documentation to read.

Commissioner Krier asked who else provides vaccinations. Winkelman said the hospitals rely on them to order the vaccine. Clara Barton asks her to order Pfizer. The pharmacies are also providing vaccinations.

Commissioner Krier asked if those numbers are included in our percentages. Winkelman said all the data is included. Krier asked if we need to remove the 6-foot social distancing signs. Winkelman said not yet.

Commissioner Esfeld asked if a person was protected from the variants if they received the COVID vaccine. Winkelman said there are still studies being done but they felt there was some protection from the variants.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked when the six active cases will be released. Winkelman said as of Friday, four are fairly recent. Hutchinson asked of all vaccines available which one would she take. Winkelman said she took the Moderna. Hutchinson asked what percentage the county needed to be at herd immunity and would she include natural immunity in that percentage. Winkelman said what she

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had been hearing was a target of 80%. Having the active disease and the antibodies would also be included in that number.

Commissioner Krier asked if it was realistic, we will reach 80%. Winkelman said it is hard to reach 80% with any vaccine. Krier asked if she had a goal of 50% and Winkelman said 50% would be great. Krier asked if the CDC had said if a person who had COVID had as much immunity as someone who received the vaccine. Winkelman did not have information on that specifically and said when looking at quarantine after an exposure, people who have had the disease fit in the same category as those who were vaccinated.

Winkelman explained that KDHE said we can co-administer the vaccine now. We can now administer when they come for another service. Prior to that they had to wait two weeks. TB skin tests still need to wait four weeks after a COVID vaccination.

Commissioner Krier asked, in her estimation, how many people had COVID but were never tested. Winkelman said she would not even speculate but felt we have a large percentage of the population who do not test due to quarantine, etc. Krier asked if self-testing is adequate. Winkelman said that is tough to answer. They do nasal pharyngeal, which is a tough test.

Information Only. No Action Required.

IV. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business.

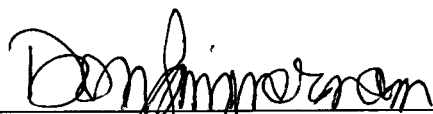
VI. ADJOURN.

Commissioner Schartz moved to adjourn at 9:21 A.M.

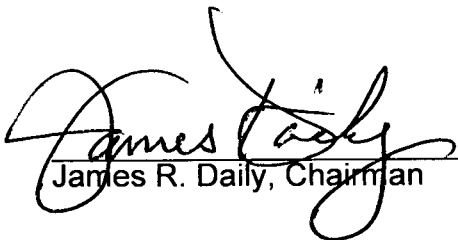
Commissioner Krier seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Donna Zimmerman
Barton County Clerk



James R. Daily, Chairman