

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/3s8KzrR>

October 26, 2021

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 26th day of October 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
Barry McManaman, Interim County Administrator
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 Hutchinson seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Schartz moved to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2021, Regular Meeting.
Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Minutes of October 12, 2021, Regular Meeting were not available.

II. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS:

-An Accounts Payable Register will be submitted to the Commission for the period of October 12, 2021 and ending October 26, 2021.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve appropriations for the period of October 12, 2021, to October 26, 2021 and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.
Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

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.

Bev Schmeidler, Assistant Deputy County Clerk, presented the following tax roll adjustment for Fuller Industries:

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/3s8KzrR>

BATCH #13	VALUES	ESCAPED TAXES	ADDED / ABATED	REFUNDS
Gas				
Oil				
Personal Property				
Real Estate	293,292			
16/20 M Trucks				
State Assessed Utilities				
Special Assessments				
Grand Totals	293,292	-	\$ -	\$ -
Total Taxes	\$ -			
Total Records Selected	1			

Commissioner Esfeld said the Appraiser's Office must prorate it back on, but the new company may apply for an exemption.

Commissioner Krier moved to approve the Listing of Added / Abated / Escaped / Refunded Taxes as reviewed by the County Appraiser and presented by the County Clerk's Office. Direct the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

B. COMMISSION: Façade Improvement Grant: Review Applications

-The Façade Improvement Grant program has available funding. The Commissioners will review multiple applications to determine award amounts up to 75% of eligible project costs, with a maximum award of \$20,000.

Awards will be given based on the project's size and visual impact. The program prioritizes retailers and restaurants and project applications that commit more than the minimum required match amount.

Sue Cooper, Grant Coordinator, said \$136,801.03 in funding remains. The first application for A440 Musical Instrument Supply & Repair, LLC located at 1207 Main Street, Great Bend has a total project cost of \$14,630 with a request of \$10,973.15. The project includes painting, brick cleaning and lettering.

Commissioner Krier moved to approve the Façade Improvement Grant for **A440 Musical Instrument Supply & Repair, LLC, at 1207 Main St, Great Bend**, for an award of \$10,973.15 and direct the Finance Officer to encumber this award amount from the Capital Improvement Fund, Building and Fixed Equipment - General Line, 071-00-6305.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Sue Cooper, Grant Coordinator, said the second application is for Forest Avenue Antiques located at 2025 Forest Avenue, Great Bend with a total project cost of \$8,661.49. They are requesting \$6,496.12 for a 25% match. Cooper said the property tenant will be doing this project and will install a new awning, paint on the front as well as adding an awning on the Williams Street side.

Commissioner Hutchinson said it was important to note that the tenant had already paid for the mural on the side of the building to be redone.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve the Façade Improvement Grant for **Forest Avenue Antiques, LLC, at 2025 Forest Ave, Great Bend**, for an award of \$6,496.12 and direct the Finance Officer to encumber this award amount from the Capital Improvement Fund, Building and Fixed Equipment - General Line, 071-00-6305.

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/3s8KzrR>

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Sue Cooper, Grant Coordinator, said the last two properties are owned by Randall Polzin. The first project is the Tap Room located at 170 S. Main, Hoisington. The project cost is \$6,396.83 and requesting \$4,797.62, a 25% match.

Commissioner Daily asked if the entire front of the building would be improved. Cooper said yes.

Cooper said it will be painted, rotted areas will be repaired and the metal that is lifting will also be repaired. This will be a complete façade improvement for the textures of the building.

Dale Hogg, Great Bend Tribune, asked if it was the entire white area in the picture. Commissioner Hutchinson said there are three businesses but only two taxable parcels.

Commissioner Schartz said we had discussed that we want bigger improvements, not only normal maintenance and this project seems more maintenance than actual façade improvements. The other address applied for involves repairing the side of the building. Commissioner Schartz hoped it would be prepared for a mural in case Barton County Arts Council wants to place one there.

Commissioner Krier said he understood that the City of Hoisington may be putting a mural there after the metal sheeting is secured.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked Cooper to skip ahead and give them the amount requested for 172 S. Main also.

Cooper said the amount requested for 172 S. Main was \$7,054.50. Total requested amount for the two parcels is \$11,852.12 and the total project cost for both is \$15,802.83, a 25% match.

Commissioner Hutchinson said Polzin had planned a bigger project, but it was over his budget. Cooper said that was a good point. These are small business owners are trying to make good business decisions within the scope of their company.

Commissioner Krier moved to approve the Façade Improvement Grant for **Randall Polzin, at 170 S. Main, Hoisington**, for an award of \$4,797.62 and direct the Finance Officer to encumber this award amount from the Capital Improvement Fund, Building and Fixed Equipment - General Line, 071-00-6305. Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the Façade Improvement Grant for **Randall Polzin, at 172 S. Main, Hoisington**, for an award of \$7,054.50 and direct the Finance Officer to encumber this award amount from the Capital Improvement Fund, Building and Fixed Equipment - General Line, 071-00-6305. Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Cooper said there was \$107,479.64 remaining with ten applications to look at in study session.

Commissioner Daily asked the total requested in those applications. Cooper said \$148,781.00. Commissioner Hutchinson asked if there were any other applications besides the ones for the afternoon. Cooper said she has heard about a few others but had not yet received any.

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/3s8KzrR>

C. COMMISSION:

-On May 20, 2021, Barton County received \$2,503,634.50 from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Rural Water District No. 1, Ellsworth County, Kansas seeks funding assistance for 17 automated meters for Barton County residents.

Sue Cooper, Grant Coordinator, said the commissioners had made financial allocations including enhancements to public communication efforts, premium pay for county employees during the pandemic, payroll for workers performing essential COVID-19 related duties, COVID related legal counsel and single audit relating to Federal funds. To date, \$2,550,987 has been allocated which is approximately \$50,000 more than the funds received. Cooper said the second half of the funding is expected in May 2022 which is approximately one year later. Rural Water District No. 1 is looking to update the water infrastructure which is an allowable cost.

Commissioner Schartz asked how this would be paid for if there was not enough money left, would the project be delayed until the funding was received next May. Cooper said there are several options, for example, they could back out the payroll if necessary.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked how soon the district needed the money. Sharon Condit, Rural Water District No. 1 Office Manager, said a lot of items are on backorder due to COVID. Condit said they do not have a specific date when they will receive materials and noted they could make it work if the money was not available until 2022.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked Cooper if we could pay them back after the work was already completed. Cooper said that it could be done as a reimbursement. If the Rural Water District moved forward, they would have to do so with the understanding that they may not receive the funding.

Commissioner Krier said they could approve the funding today and say the money would not be available until May 2022; review it in the future and say they might get the money; or just deny it completely.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked what was the amount requested. Commissioner Daily said \$17,192.

Commissioner Krier said they get 266 gallons of water per year from Kanopolis. There are 1,800 miles of pipe and serves eight counties in central Kansas.

Commissioner Daily asked Condit if the plan were to add additional service in Barton County. Condit said that depends on the water source. It may get to a point that they cannot add any more customers.

Commissioner Schartz said these type projects are the intended purpose for the money and was in favor. Schartz said she did not want to commit the money today when they really do not have it to give yet.

Commissioner Hutchinson said the implications on the decision we make today could be huge as far as going forward with other water districts, so for further discussion, I move to table this until next week.

Commissioner Krier seconded the motion, it is important we discuss this more, we are not saying no. Commissioner Krier said there is a lot of implications here and I agree with Commissioner Schartz and Commissioner Hutchinson.

Commissioner Schartz said because it is the only one that comes forward and you want to be fair. Commissioner Krier said we do not know if we are going to get the money. We do not want to play that game. Then you feel like you got the money and then all of a sudden, we just pull the rug out. Cooper said this would be Old Business for next week.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to table this until November 2, 2021, for the next agenda meeting. Commissioner Krier seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

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/3s8KzrR>

Cooper asked if they would like Sharon to be available next week. Commissioner Hutchinson said it would not be necessary.

D. EMERGENCY RISK MANAGEMENT: Fiscal Year 2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant Program:

-The Kansas Division of Emergency Management is accepting applications for the FY 2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program. The EMPG Program provides funding to assist states and local governments in developing and carrying out emergency management programs.

Amy Miller, Emergency Management Director, said this was an annual application and explained this is federal funding that comes down to the state. The state makes it available to local government. It is designed to help counties carry out emergency management programs. Miller said Barton County received \$25,460 in FY 2020 and is estimated to receive the same amount for FY 2021.

Commissioner Krier moved to authorize submitting the application package for the FY 2021 Emergency Management Performance Grant Program to the Kansas Division of Emergency Management and direct the Commission Chairman to sign the Emergency Management Performance Grant application and appropriate application grant forms.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

E. APPRAISER'S OFFICE: CIC – Personal Property Portal:

-K.S.A. 79-303 authorizes the listing of tangible personal property for assessment. To create the listing, Barton County has historically provided personal property owners a rendition via the mail. CIC has developed a personal property portal that allows taxpayers the opportunity to complete the process online. Wendy Prosser, County Appraiser, will ask that the Commission authorize the purchase of the hardware, software and Peopeware Agreement for a first-year total of \$2,770.00.

Wendy Prosser, County Appraiser, said Kansas is a self-reporting personal property state. Any personal property owned on January 1st each year must be reported to the Appraiser by March 15th. As a courtesy, Barton County sends out the current listings to each property owner. This shows what is currently on the tax roll. If a person no longer owns the property, they can report who they sold it to, where it went and whether it is still in Barton County. They started looking at different ways to communicate with taxpayers after COVID. CIC has a portal that taxpayers can access online and complete the process. Prosser said the county would have to pay an initial set-up fee and training fees with a yearly maintenance fee. The Appraiser's Office would mail a postcard with the rendition number as well as additional information for the taxpayer to log onto the portal. The taxpayer could also request a paper rendition or use a public computer in the Appraiser's Office if they do not have computer access. They would also like to create a video explaining the process that could be posted on the website and Facebook page. Prosser said this was not budgeted for this year, but because of COVID and participating in classes online, they have saved travel expenses that could be used. Prosser said the initial cost would be \$2,770 with a yearly fee of \$1,405.

Commissioner Schartz asked if this would save the county money. Prosser said it would save supplies and postage. CIC is creating an online program for Oil & Gas also to be available the first of the year.

Commissioner Esfeld said she visited with a few counties that were already utilizing it and they were pleased with the service.

Commissioner Krier asked if the program would automatically do the calculations in the Oil & Gas portal. Prosser said it will download the data into the system when her office is ready for it, and this will save them a lot of time on data entry.

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/3s8KzrR>

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve the purchase of the Personal Property Portal, to include hardware, software, and the Peopleware Agreement, for a total cost of \$2,770.00 from Computer Information Concepts (CIC). Cost to be paid from the Appraiser's Account of the General Fund, Professional Service Fees Line, 001-14-5475.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion and added he thinks it is important that we look at automating as many processes as we can going forward.

It may not be as important today as it is going to be tomorrow and the day after but having that already implemented and in place is going to make the learning curve a little less steep.

Prosser said and again, I know for our constituents that it would be something new, but we will try to make sure to have resources available to walk you step by step through that or you are more than welcome to come into our office and we will go through it with you as well.

Commissioner Esfeld said it is actually for dummies like me who are not good on the computer, it is really easy. Even I can walk through it.

Commissioner Krier asked if you make a mistake, does it automatically send it back to you to correct.

Do you have your boxes painted? Like KCC has theirs painted red, those must be filled in.

Prosser said yes, it does. If you try to get out of it and you have not finished it, it will warn you. We also have reports where if the taxpayer enters and does not finish, we actually have a report that we can run to see those. To see that they had accessed it, they did not finish it and that way we can contact them as well.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

F. FACILITIES MANAGEMENT: Replacement of Air Conditioning Unit and Air Handler:

-In June of 2021 one of two air conditioning units that serve the County-owned building at 1208 – 12th, Great Bend, failed. At that time, the outside temperature was consistently 90 to 100 degrees, therefore it was imperative to have the unit replaced quickly to maintain a reasonable work environment for employees. The County has received the invoice for this emergency repair.

Phil Hathcock, Facilities Director, said there was a mix-up with the bill in processing and was only recently received.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to pay the Comfort Pro, Inc. invoice of \$8,677.70 for the emergency replacement of the air conditioning unit at 1208 – 12th, Great Bend. Payment to be made from the Courthouse General Account of the General Fund, Building and Fixed Equipment Line, 001-18-6305. Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Daily asked Hathcock when the last time the air conditioner at the courthouse was evaluated. Hathcock said there was a contract for the chiller with Trane, Knipp Services out of Wichita and is essentially looked at monthly.

Commissioner Daily said he was asking because the units behind him are quite noisy. Hathcock said that is more of an issue with the units. They have requested estimates for replacement of the units and will be discussing it in study session today.

G. NOXIOUS WEED: Ratification of Spray Services Charge:

-The Noxious Weed Department regularly provides spraying services for area farmers, municipalities and railroads. In doing this work, the department has subcontracted spraying railroad right of way to Hydro Chem for a number of years as County equipment, particularly tires, have been destroyed when performing services. It has been determined, however, that this practice is outside the scope of the procurement policy. There is no corrective action to be taken at this time as the service has been provided. Darren Williams, County Works Director, will ask that the Commission ratify the \$2,890.00 service charge from Hydro Chem Spray Services.

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/3s8KzrR>

Darren Williams, County Works Director, said he was asking for ratification of spraying services for Hydro-Chem for spraying the K&O Railroad right of way. Barton County Noxious Weed supplies the chemicals and Hydro-Chem does the application. With the new procurement plan, this will be handled differently in the future.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to ratify the \$2,890.00 service charge from Hydro Chem Spray Services for spraying chemicals on railroad right of way.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

H. NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT:

-Proposed settlements have been reached in the opioid legislation against McKesson, Cardinal Health and AmerisourceBergen (Distributors) and Janssen Pharmaceuticals and its parent company, Johnson & Johnson (Janssen). As the State of Kansas has opted to participate in these settlements, the Commission must now determine if Barton County will participate.

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor, said after years of negotiations, there are two proposed nationwide settlement agreements between the several states that have sued the three largest pharmaceutical distributors and one of the manufacturers. The State of Kansas has participated in this opioid settlement and every local unit of government has to formally vote to participate and authorize someone to fill out the paperwork and sign. The more local government units that formally participate, the bigger share the state will receive. Hoffman said the settlement for Kansas will go towards undoing the effects of opioids.

Commissioner Schartz asked Hoffman if there was any guess as to how much could be received. Hoffman said there are too many variables involved to know that yet.

Commissioner Schartz asked if it would be at the discretion of the commission to determine the use of the money once it was received. Hoffman said he did not think so.

Commissioner Daily said the distribution will be over an 18-year period.

Commissioner Krier said he would make the very painless motion to opt in to the National Opioid Settlement. Direct Mr. Hoffman to act as the representative for Barton County in this matter and to electronically register.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

I. KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES: Annual Meeting Review:

-On October 18 – 20, 2021, County officials met at the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) Annual Conference. In addition to the educational workshops and vendor exhibits, the KAC Legislative Policy Statement was finalized. Member attendees will discuss the conference. Commissioner Shawn Hutchinson, who was named as Voting Delegate, will lead the discussion.

Commissioner Esfeld said Jay Hall, KAC legal counsel, will have an online meeting every Friday. There will be several bills that get looked at such as SB13 and others. They talked a lot about Home Rule and stressed that everyone needs to meet with their legislators.

Commissioner Schartz asked if they could invite legislators here for study session some time. Commissioner Esfeld said that would be a very good idea. Esfeld said there was a lot of discussion about ARPA funds. One of the most beneficial meetings was with commissioners of counties of similar size and noted one of the biggest issues was daycare. Finney County had a lot of great ideas and have already started working on it. There was discussion on whether to keep Kansas County Commissioner Association going, but they decided to keep it.

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/3s8KzrR>

Commissioner Hutchinson said he had three main takeaways from the conference. KAC needed to be tougher on the State and SB13 needs to be gotten rid of. Everyone was amazed at how our pay raise structure was set up.

Commissioner Krier noted for the media that the lower paid employees were getting a larger increase than the higher paid employees.

Commissioner Hutchinson said the biggest takeaway after getting to meet with all the other counties is that he is very proud to be a part of this group in Barton County. He would have liked to share more but felt we were somewhat in competition with other counties as far as attracting industry and population.

Wendy Prosser, Barton County Appraiser, said there are 4 or 5 sessions going on at a time. Some are geared towards the Appraiser, some more for infrastructure and other topics. Prosser said she attended the Dark Store Theory session. There was a lot of discussion about legislation recently passed in Wyandotte County and how that may trickle down. Different things are being reviewed by the Board of Tax Appeals and the rulings that could affect all of us. Things the legislators have done to benefit big business has trickled down and hurting individual residential owners. Prosser said the appraisers were informed about bills possibly being presented and said they are not in favor of residential owners. With SB13 giving taxing entities until October 1st to file their budgets, tax statements will be delayed. There are always some that do not meet the deadline and that holds up the process.

Treasurer Jim Jordan said we as human beings have forgotten that the politicians work for us. KAC needs to put more pressure on our politicians. The pressure now is going to be on the Clerk's Office. They are going to have to work until who knows when, hours and hours to get stuff done. They then pass it to him.

Commissioner Hutchinson read the Legislative Policy Priority on Property Tax.

Commissioner Daily asked if each KAC group had a lobbyist or was there just one for KAC. Everyone thought there was just one at this time.

Commissioner Daily said it was important to have meetings with our legislators before they go to Topeka. We need to communicate in writing our ideas and corrections.

Commissioner Esfeld said as good public servants, we need to take an active role with laws being made.

Commissioner Schartz said KAC needs to use what muscle they have to impose what we want on the legislature. Things vary with the eastern part of the state because they have the population.

Barry McManaman said he and Commissioner Esfeld attended a FEMA session. They talked about their four tenants of preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation. He and Commissioner Hutchinson attended the History of Kansas Taxation which was very informative. Valuations for property taxes by the mid 1980's were badly outdated; a lot of counties had not been valued since the 1960's. Heard about the history of the 1985 Reappraisal Bill and the 1992 School Finance Law. A lot of talk centered on the 3-legged stool: income tax, sales tax, and property tax. In 1992, the residential share of the tax base was 35% and is over 50% now. Schools levy 43% of the property taxes currently. McManaman said he also attended presentations on KPERS, Kansas Department of Commerce and Constitutional Home Rule for Counties. Cities have Constitutional Home Rule, but counties have Statutory Home Rule. It is a lot easier for the legislature to put restrictions on counties by changing statute where changing the Constitution is more difficult.

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/3s8KzrR>

Patrick Hoffman, Barton County Counselor, said Constitutional Home Rule versus Statutory Home Rule is a big deal. Because of how the Kansas Constitution is set up, cities have much more ability to govern than counties do.

Commissioner Hutchinson said his first session on The Cost of Building Infrastructure in the Social Media Age set a bad tone. He sat there for an hour while they tried to sell windfarms.

Commissioner Krier asked Amy Miller if in the past at KAC, didn't the Clerk and the others split off and do their own deal. It used to be bigger and stronger. Miller said yes.

Commissioner Daily said the Sheriff Association used to be attend KAC but found that it did not really benefit them, so they started their own.

Commissioner Esfeld asked Jordan if the Treasurer Association was part of KAC. Jordan said they had not joined back up yet; they were still in the negotiating stage. Commissioner Esfeld asked if the Clerk's Association was part of it. Commissioner Schartz said they were and said the Register of Deeds is also. Commissioner Esfeld said the Appraiser's Association could not leave since they are not elected officials.

Information Only. No Action Required.

V. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business.

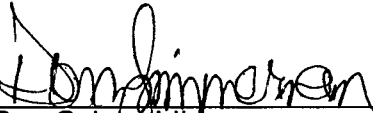
VII. ADJOURN.

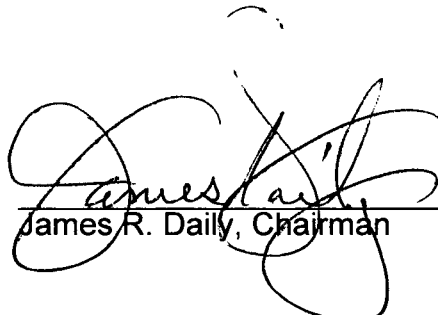
Commissioner Krier moved to adjourn at 10:19 A.M.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:


Bev Schneider
Barton County Assistant Deputy Clerk


James R. Daily, Chairman

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (Held during study session)

At 11:16 A.M. Commissioner Hutchinson moved that we recess into executive session for the purpose of discussing the performance of an employee under the exception for discussing personnel matters for non-elected personnel. The individuals in the executive session will be the board, as well as Don Osenbaugh and John Deardoff, Barry McManaman, and our County Clerk. The open meeting will reconvene at 12:00 P.M.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

At 12:00 P.M. Commissioner Esfeld moved to go back into study session.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Krier announced no action taken.