

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/3wzqUF9>.

December 7, 2022

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 7th day of December 2022, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Kirby Krier, Commissioner, 1st District
Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District, (Chairman Pro-Tem)
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District, Chairman
Jon Prescott, Commissioner, 4th District
Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District
Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk
Matt Patzner, Director of Operations
Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

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

Commissioner Schartz moved to approve the minutes of the November 16, 2022, and November 30, 2022, Regular Meetings.
Commissioner Prescott seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS:

-An Accounts Payable Register will be submitted to the Commission for the period of November 23, 2022, and ending December 7, 2022.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve appropriations for the period of November 23, 2022, to December 7, 2022. Authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.
Commissioner Prescott seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

A. OCCUPANCY AGREEMENT: 12th and Kansas, Great Bend:

-Matt Patzner, Director of Operations, will provide details. As a means of community support, the State of Kansas Parole office is housed in the County office building at 1208 Kansas, Great Bend. This agency reimburses Barton County for a portion of the building's utility costs. The proposed agreement is set to expire December 31, 2023. This item was tabled on November 30, 2022, to allow the Commission time to discuss the agreement's extension.

Matt Patzner, Director of Operations, presented details.

Commissioner Hutchinson said with the upcoming HVAC project, they did not want to give up valuable space that could be used. The space being used for the Parole Office was basically a closet office and could remain as is.

Commissioner Krier moved to approve the Occupancy Agreement for the State of Kansas Parole Office the Agreement set to expire December 31, 2023. Direct staff to submit the approved Agreement to the Kansas Department of Corrections.

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

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

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

-Bev Schmeidler, 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, County Clerk, presented details.

BATCH #1	VALUES	ESCAPED TAXES	ADDED / ABATED	REFUNDS
Gas				
Oil	(70,300)		(\$10,122.88)	\$1,280.82
Personal Property	(29,878)		(\$5,060.34)	
Real Estate				
16/20 M Trucks	(936)		(\$144.00)	
State Assessed Utilities				
Special Assessments				
Grand Totals	(101,114)	\$0.00	(\$15,327.22)	\$1,280.82
Total Taxes	(\$15,327.22)			
Total Records Selected	32			

Commissioner Prescott 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 Schartz seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Esfeld asked if the amount was about the same every year. Donna Zimmerman said roughly the same.

Commissioner Schartz said they always make allowance for 3-4%. Zimmerman said yes on the delinquency computation.

Commissioner Krier said as far as the oil, some people file for minimum production and get those taxes abated.

B. GOLDEN BELT HUMANE SOCIETY: Operational and Support Agreement:

-Commissioner Barb Esfeld will present details. The Golden Belt Humane Society offered an updated agreement to the County designating the Humane Society as the Animal Control Authority. This is a one-year agreement.

Barb Esfeld, County Commissioner, said a few wording changes had been made to the contract and it would be reviewed annually. There are 8 employees, 4 full-time and 4 part-time. It is considered a no kill shelter. However, occasionally an animal may be ill and must be euthanized. The rate is 96%, up from approximately 50% before director Heather Acheson. Esfeld said the facility was very clean and the animals well cared for. They have a large committee who dedicated a lot of time for fundraising. They do partner with other shelters and help each other.

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Commissioner Prescott noted that the Humane Society covered the entire county, a lot of square miles. Commissioner Prescott asked what other shelters they partner with.

Commissioner Esfeld said Pawnee County was one but have with others in the state as well. They recently went to Topeka and picked up 10 dogs from a puppy mill. There is a cat society that is not associated with the Humane Society, but they are in the process of obtaining a 501C3. They will get the feral cats, spay or neuter and chip them and then rehome the cats.

Commissioner Schartz moved to approve the Golden Belt Humane Society Agreement for a one-year period ending December 31, 2023.

Commissioner Krier seconded the motion.

Dale Hogg, Great Bend Tribune, asked how much funding the Humane Society received from the county. Matt Patzner said \$31,500. Hogg added that he has one of the dogs received from Topeka.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

C. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Operating Improvements:

-Dereck Hollingshead, Information Technology Director, will provide details. Office 365 Business enables all computer users to have email hosting, protection and archiving as well as a desktop version of Office. It is suggested that the Commission approve the purchase of licenses for up to 185 users.

Dereck Hollingshead, Information Technology Director, said Barton County had used Microsoft 365 since July 2018 for the hosting, archival and protection of our email. In addition to the licensing, it included Microsoft TEAMS at no extra cost. Without TEAMS, the county would have to purchase a third-party video conferencing solution. They did go out for bids and received several, asked for approval of a bid.

Commissioner Prescott asked if Microsoft TEAMS was secure. Hollingshead said yes it was secure.

Commissioner Schartz moved to purchase licensing of Office 365 Business Platform and Advanced Threat Protection from True.Org Cloud. Cost of the service, \$31,224.00, is to be paid from the 2023 Budget, General Fund, Information Technology Department, Licensing Line, 001-24-5423.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

D. DISTRICT CORONER: Appointment of Deputy Coroners and Special Deputy Coroners:

-Mr. Patzner will provide details. In action taken last week, Dr. Patrick Stiles was appointed to a four-year term as coroner beginning January, 2023. Dr. Stiles has subsequently made recommendation as to the appointment of Deputy Coroners and Special Deputy Coroners as prescribed by Kansas Statutes and by Resolution 2006-11, District Coroner. Deputies serve a four-year term equal to that of the Coroner and Special Deputies serve one-year calendar terms.

Matt Patzner, Director of Operations, presented details.

Commissioner Krier asked what the requirements for special deputies were. Patzner said they have to have a medical background.

Commissioner Prescott said he did not know there were as many as there were.

Commissioner Schartz said they have to cover 24/7.

Commissioner Schartz moved to appoint the following Deputy Coroners and Special Deputy Coroners

* * Matt just mentioned

Commissioner Krier seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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COUNTY NAME		TYPE	TERM
20th JD	Dr. Patrick Stiles	Coroner	12/31/2026
Barton	Dr. Edward Jones	Deputy	12/31/2026
Barton	Dr. Charles Keener	Deputy	12/31/2026
Barton	Dr. William King	Deputy	12/31/2026
Barton	Dr. Lyle Noordhoek	Deputy	12/31/2026
Barton	Dr. Dan Witt	Deputy	12/31/2026
Ellsworth	Dr. Eastin Casey	Deputy	12/31/2026
Ellsworth	Dr. Jerzy Slomka	Deputy	12/31/2026
Ellsworth	Dr. Katie McWilliams	Deputy	12/31/2026
Ellsworth	Dr. Ronald Whitmer	Deputy	12/31/2026
Rice	Dr. Kristina R Darnauer	Deputy	12/31/2026
Rice	Dr. Stacy L Dashiell	Deputy	12/31/2026
Rice	Dr. James Decker	Deputy	12/31/2026
Rice	Dr. Roger Klein	Deputy	12/31/2026
Rice	Dr. Logan Shetlar	Deputy	12/31/2026
Stafford	Dr. Fred Farmer	Deputy	12/31/2026
Barton	Dustin Daniels	Special Deputy	12/31/2023
Barton	Scott Fleming	Special Deputy	12/31/2023
Barton	Meghan Kern	Special Deputy	12/31/2023
Barton	Sheila Phillips	Special Deputy	12/31/2023
Barton	Melissa Prosser	Special Deputy	12/31/2023
Barton	John Stettinger	Special Deputy	12/31/2023
Barton	Laura Webster	Special Deputy	12/31/2023
Ellsworth	Shawn McGowan	Special Deputy	12/31/2023
Russell	Chris Venters	Special Deputy	12/31/2023
Russell	Ashley Fowler	Special Deputy	12/31/2023
Stafford	Melissa Dove	Special Deputy	12/31/2023
Stafford	Doris Tompkins	Special Deputy	12/31/2023

V. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Commissioner Krier – regarding air quality at potential facilities when the courthouse relocates, would like to have professionals check the air quality.
- Commissioner Krier – has had several people ask about relocating the County Treasurer to the first floor of the courthouse. Thinks that may be planned.
- Commissioner Krier – said taxpayers would like to receive tax statements sooner and asked for an explanation of the process.
- Jim Jordan, County Treasurer – the only thing the Treasurer does is send out the tax statements, they do not put the numbers together. He needs the correct numbers but does not get them until the County Clerk sends him the tax rolls. The Clerk has to wait on information from taxing entities.

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- Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk – there are many shared districts with other counties. Barton County had to wait on some of those before they could continue.
- Commissioner Krier – how can it be improved.
- Jordan – use July values.
- Donna Zimmerman – Barton County is part of one of the largest joint districts in the state, being a part of Central Kansas Library System, which is 16 counties. A few years ago, they allowed that to be the only one set with mill levy and July values. If they would allow for all joint districts to use July estimated values, you would not be waiting on other counties.
- Commissioner Krier – why is it November, are there changes.
- Zimmerman – everything was set on November final value. There could be unreported property and such. She believed it was discussed in legislature last year but did not know where that would go.
- Wendy Prosser, County Appraiser – personal property in the entire state makes up 2.9% of the property tax brought in. If certifying off of July, vehicles, trailers, watercraft are prorated on and off, so there could be a lot of changes like is seen through AAE's. For Barton County it is pretty consistent but perhaps larger counties would have more changes.
- Zimmerman – RNR did not help the process at all with moving budget deadlines.
- Commissioner Krier – Senate Bill 13 needed to be abolished.
- Jordan – all tax payments must be entered in the system by December 31st. His staff is working overtime to get the payments entered.
- Commissioner Hutchinson – there were 56 taxing entities that must report to the County Clerk and just one can hold up the entire process.
- Commissioner Esfeld – believe Senate Bill 13 would be worked on in the future but everyone needs to be contacting legislators.
- Commissioner Esfeld - said she will have some videos to help explain the workings of the county.
- Jordan – a person can go to www.bartoncounty.org , quick link Property Tax Search, enter name and see current taxes owed.

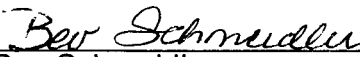
VII. ADJOURN.

Commissioner Schartz moved to adjourn at 9:52 A.M.

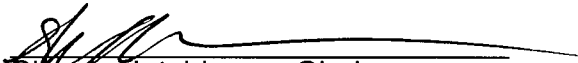
Commissioner Prescott seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk



Shawn Hutchinson, Chairman