

# 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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February 1, 2023

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 1<sup>st</sup> day of February 2023, at the Barton County Courthouse.

## *Members present:*

Duane Reif, Commissioner, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2<sup>nd</sup> District, *(Chairman Pro-Tem)*  
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Chairman  
Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner, 5<sup>th</sup> 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 Zimmerman moved to approve the agenda.  
Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2023, Regular Meeting.  
Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS: 13th Month – Second Run:**

-An Accounts Payable Register for the 13th Month, 2022, will be submitted to the Commission.  
Thirteenth month expenditures include any unpaid bills for a product, service or utility that was received in 2022.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve the 13<sup>th</sup> month appropriations – Second Run for 2022 and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.  
Commissioner Schlessiger 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 January 18, 2023, and ending February 1, 2023.

Commissioner Reif moved to approve the appropriations for the period of January 18, 2023, to February 1, 2023. Authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.  
Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **IV. OLD BUSINESS:**

-There was no Old Business.

## **V. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Champ Software – KS Nightingale Notes Subscription:**

-Karen Winkelman, Health Director, will provide details. In December, 2017, the Commission approved purchase of Nightingale Notes Electronic Health Records. The Health Department has received a billing of \$29,731.00 from Champ Software for the 2023 - 2024 subscription of 23 named licenses.

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Karen Winkelman, Health Director, asked that the commission consider renewing the subscription for electronic medical records. Since the purchase in December of 2017, 29,806 clients had been entered in the system. It had worked very well and they were looking at some enhancements through collaboration with KDHE to bring some of their stand alone program information into the system. Winkelman said she anticipated and budgeted for an increase from last year and it still came in under budget.

Commissioner Hutchinson said there were more people registered in the system than we have in Barton County.

Winkelman said that number escalated quickly during the COVID pandemic. The cost would have been phenomenal if they had to make paper charts for every one of those clients. The program was used for documentation, billing, they can scan in records that come to them as well as pull data from it required for their grants.

Commissioner Reif asked how often the subscription needed to be renewed. Winkelman said this was an annual subscription from March 1, 2023 through February 28, 2024. Winkelman did explore a multiyear option, but it would have to be for 3 year minimum. With the fluidity in EMR, she did not want to commit to 3 years when there could be changes.

Commissioner Schlessiger moved to approve the subscription charge of \$29,731.00 from Champ Software, Inc, for 23 named licenses to the KS Nightingale Notes subscription. Cost to be paid from the Health Fund, EMR Maintenance Line, 006-52-5661.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **MATCHING FUND REQUEST: SouthWest Kansas Area Agency on Aging:**

-Matt Patzner, Director of Operations, will provide details. The SouthWest Kansas Area Agency on Aging (SWKAAA) is requesting \$1,650.00 in matching funds from Barton County. These funds, which would be used as "Seed Dollars", are an equivalent match to the \$549,966.00 in services received by older residents and low-income families from Barton County. The County has traditionally provided a match from the Finance General Account of the General Fund.

Matt Patzner, Director of Operations, said at the time of the adoption of the 2023 budget, the sitting commission made the decision to keep all outside agencies at their previous funding levels. The amount budgeted was \$1,500.00.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to authorize the 2023 funding to SWKAAA in the amount of \$1,500.00. Payment to be made from the Finance General account of the General Fund, SWKAAA Line, 001-26-6930.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **C. DISCUSSION: Kansas Legislative Policy Group Winter Meeting:**

-Commissioner Barb Esfeld will lead the discussion. The Kansas Legislative Policy Group (KLPG) held it's 2023 Winter Meeting on January 24, 2023. Commissioner Esfeld will provide the Commission with a summary of meeting business.

Barb Esfeld, County Commissioner, attended the meeting in Topeka. She informed the commissioners about the speakers and topics discussed.

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## **D. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

-Chairman Shawn Hutchinson will present. Any Commissioner may make a motion for the board to recess to executive session at this time as allowed by K.S.A. 75-4319. Any motion must contain the justification for the executive session, the subject matter to be discussed, any individuals in addition to the board who will attend the executive session and the time at which the regular session shall resume.

At 9:27 A.M. Commissioner Esfeld moved that the Commission go into Executive Session for a period of twenty minutes. The subject to be discussed will be consultation with the County Counselor to discuss non-elected personnel as this matter is protected by attorney / client privilege. The reason this needs to be discussed in Executive Session is to provide the attorney / client privilege and the County's position on the matter on which legal advice is being sought. Matt Patzner, Director of Operations, is to be included in said meeting as well as all five commissioners. The Open Meeting will resume at 9:47. Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

At 9:47 A.M. Commissioner Zimmerman moved to return to regular session with no action taken. The commission intends to discuss the role of County Administrator next week. Commissioner Reif seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **VI. ENDING BUSINESS:**

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

## **VII. OTHER BUSINESS:**

There was no other business.

## **VIII. ADJOURN.**

Commissioner Esfeld moved to adjourn at 9:51 A.M. Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:

  
Bev Schmeidler  
Barton County Clerk

  
Shawn Hutchinson, Chairman