

Barton County Commission Agenda Meeting Minutes

Recorded audio is available on compact disk upon 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

Requests to be made pursuant to the Kansas Open Records Act and County Policy. Estimated cost of disk – Five Dollars (\$5.00).

October 26, 2009

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 26th day of October 2009, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District, Chairman
Kenny Schremmer, Commissioner, 1st District *(Chairman Pro-Tem)*
Homer Kruckenberg, Commissioner, 2nd District
John Edmonds, Commissioner, 3rd District
Kirby Krier, Commissioner, 4th District
Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk
Richard Boeckman, County Counselor/Administrator

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Edmonds moved to approve the agenda.
Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Minutes of the October 19, 2009, 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, 2009 through October 26, 2009.

Commissioner Schremmer moved to approve appropriations for the period of October 12, 2009 through October 26, 2009.
Commissioner Krier seconded the motion.
Commissioner Schartz, Commissioner Schremmer, Commissioner Kruckenberg and Commissioner Krier voted aye.
Commissioner Edmonds abstained.
Motion passed 4 – 0.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. GREAT BEND NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PLAN: Interlocal Agreement:

-The County is entered into an interlocal agreement with the City of Great Bend to provide assistance on the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. This program provides tax rebates for qualified new improvements. In order for the City to continue to offer this incentive, the County must continue to perform the administrative tax functions. The provisions of the program are outlined in the interlocal agreement and in the City's Revitalization Plan. The plan would be effective for another three years and would be renewable at the end of that time.

Nick Gregory, Assistant Great Bend City Administrator, provided details.

According to information provided by both the City of Great Bend and the County, the effect of the program is as follows:

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NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION					
January, 2002 - October, 2009					
Year	Primary Area		Secondary Area		
	Market Value	Assessed Value	Market Value	Assessed Value	
2002	\$ 726,279	\$ 172,598	\$ 402,425	\$ 52,822	
2003	\$ 1,133,713	\$ 139,570	\$ 3,140,489	\$ 618,668	
2004	\$ 1,368,762	\$ 209,087	\$ 658,334	\$ 102,999	
2005	\$ 1,464,403	\$ 290,785	\$ 1,891,793	\$ 232,837	
2006	\$ 9,816,500	\$ 1,747,014	\$ 24,253,858	\$ 4,373,948	
2007	\$ 10,925,500	\$ 1,941,166	\$ 26,834,618	\$ 4,703,418	
2008	\$ 11,524,160	\$ 2,026,101	\$ 30,263,103	\$ 5,359,505	
2009	\$ 14,197,070	\$ 2,574,319	\$ 35,348,822	\$ 6,330,330	
	\$ 51,156,386	\$ 9,100,640	\$ 122,793,442	\$ 21,774,527	
Total Market Value			\$ 173,949,828		
Total Assessed Value			\$ 30,875,167		

Neighborhood Revitalization Usage				
Year	Secondary Area	Primary Area	Total	
2002	6	8	14	
2003	24	22	46	
2004	19	25	44	
2005	22	18	40	
2006	43	19	62	
2007	19	22	41	
2008	2	31	33	
2009*	11	21	33	

* This includes only those properties submitted for completion by September 2009

Fiscal Impact of Rebate from the Neighborhood Revitalization Program (Tax Years 2004 to 2008)						
Neighborhood Revitalization Rebates Based on Various Great Bend Taxing Authorities						
Tax Year	Barton County*	USD 428 School General	Barton Community College*	City of Great Bend	USD #428 Other (Incl. Rec Comm)	USD 428 Bond
2004	\$59,335.91	\$29,358.13	\$54,225.53	\$65,959.82	\$36,647.85	\$15,944.51
2005	\$74,704.75	\$37,029.83	\$62,463.23	\$80,671.91	\$48,394.08	\$16,371.86
2006	\$124,418.05	\$65,692.00	\$112,566.24	\$145,182.81	\$85,755.40	\$28,172.32
2007	\$133,513.00	\$71,067.00	\$132,285.88	\$157,440.11	\$90,984.35	\$29,045.08
2008	\$146,246.39	\$79,621.00	\$141,029.70	\$173,672.50	\$96,032.97	\$31,642.69

* For Barton County and Barton Community College, this amount includes Neighborhood Revitalization from all participating cities in Barton County.

Gregory noted this program has been going on since 2001. This is the third time to renew it. USD No. 428 and BCCC have already signed interlocal agreements.

Richard Boeckman, County Counselor/Administrator, reported procedural changes suggested by the Barton County Appraiser.

Gregory explained the only other change this year would be to allow a NRP to be transferred from developer to a new owner on commercial property. This is currently allowed on residential property.

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Commissioner Krier moved to adopt the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Great Bend and Barton County, allowing for the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan for the City of Great Bend, subject to approval by the Attorney General of the State of Kansas.

Commissioner Kruckenberg seconded the motion.

Commissioner Edmonds abstained because the Children's Clinic is involved in this program and he has a conflict.

Motion passed 4 – 0.

B. SUNFLOWER DIVERSIFIED: Early Childhood Intervention:

-In the 2009 Barton County Operating Budget, Sunflower Diversified's Early Childhood Intervention Program was funded at a level of \$57,250. The program is designed to assist the families of disabled infants and toddlers. No funds were committed for 2010.

Jim Johnson, Sunflower Diversified Director, presented details and requested funds.

Johnson noted they fully expected the Commission to reduce their request by 5%, which would be \$54,387.50.

The following individual(s) presented information or made comments:

Crystal Cross

Kyle Krebaum

Commissioner Schremmer moved to express the intent to obligate 2010 funding to Sunflower Diversified Services – Early Childhood Intervention in the amount of \$54,387.50. It is the understanding that the agency will need to return to the Commission in January, 2010, to formally request 2010 funding for this program. It's with great joy that I make this motion.

Commissioner Kruckenberg seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

C. 2010 CENSUS: Public Update:

-On September 23, 2009, a 2010 Census meeting for local governments was held at the Courthouse.

Richard Boeckman, County Counselor/Administrator, provided an update.

Commissioner Kruckenberg moved to direct Richard Boeckman, County Counselor/Administrator, to fulfill the role of Partner for the County in the 2010 Census.

Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

D. EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK AND ADMINISTRATION MANUAL: Policy Updates:

-The County Administrator's Office reviews the Employee Handbook on a regular basis to ensure that all policies are current with court rulings and other employment trends. At this time, certain updates will be recommended to include:

Richard Boeckman, County Counselor/Administrator, provided information on the updates.

Employee Handbook

Section 104, Employee Medical \ Psychological Examinations – Excepting on-call workers;

Section 205, Performance Evaluation – Body revised to be reflective of January 1, 2010, evaluation date;

Section 205.3, Performance Incentive Award – Payment based on budgetary constraints;

Section 304, Sick Leave Benefits – May require medical certificate for intermittent absences;

Section 310, Longevity Pay – Payment based on budgetary constraints;

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Section 311, Group Health Insurance – Substantial revision reflective of joining the State Health Plan;
Section 509, Business Travel Expenses – Require itemized ticket; and
Section 509.1, County Credit Cards – Require itemized ticket.

Administration Manual

Section 104, Employee Medical \ Psychological Examinations – Excepting on-call workers;
Section 205, Performance Evaluation – Body revised to be reflective of January 1, 2010, evaluation date and administrative requirements;
Section 205.4, Performance Incentive Award – Payment based on budgetary constraints;
Section 304, Sick Leave Benefits – May require medical certificate for intermittent absences;
Section 310, Longevity Pay – Payment based on budgetary constraints;
Section 311, Group Health Insurance – Substantial revision reflective of joining the State Health Plan;
Section 509, Business Travel Expenses – Require itemized ticket; and
Section 509.1, County Credit Cards – Require itemized ticket.

Commissioner Edmonds moved to adopt certain revisions to the Employee Handbook – Section 104, Employee Medical \ Psychological Examinations; Section 205, Performance Evaluation; Section 205.3, Performance Incentive Award; Section 304, Sick Leave Benefits; Section 310, Longevity Pay; Section 311, Group Health Insurance; Section 509, Business Travel Expense; and Section 509.1, County Credit Cards – Require itemized ticket and the Administration Manual – Section 104, Employee Medical \ Psychological Examinations; Section 205, Performance Evaluation; Section 205.4, Performance Incentive Award; Section 304, Sick Leave Benefits; Section 310, Longevity Pay; Section 311, Group Health Insurance; Section 509, Business Travel Expenses; and Section 509.1, County Credit Cards. Direct the Administrator's Office to remit the updated policies, Revision Index and the related documents departments for distribution.

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

E. CONSOLIDATION OF OFFICES: Public Input:

-At the evening meeting in Hoisington on October 19, 2009, the Commission discussed with the public Commissioner Kirby Krier's idea for the possible consolidation of certain County offices. Included in his proposal would be the elimination of the positions of the County Treasurer, the County Clerk and the Register of Deeds. Krier's plan is that the duties of the three positions would then be assigned to one professional who would also oversee the functions of each office's statutory duties. Although a public vote would be required during a gubernatorial election, the next being in 2010, the placement of the question on the ballot could be the result of Commission action or citizen petition.

Chairman Jennifer Schartz led a discussion on the process for receiving public input, asking for this item to be placed on the November 2nd agenda.

After the evening meeting on October 19th, Commissioner Kruckenberg heard the next day that there wasn't much support for consolidation of County offices.

Information Only. No Action Required.

F. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS: Update:

-As a part of their public service, the Commissioners often sit on various boards and committees. This educational item has been scheduled so that each Commissioner can report, as appropriate, on the happenings of their individual assignments.

formation Only. No Action Required.
• Comm Schartz: nothing to report

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- Comm Schremmer: nothing to report
- Comm Kruckenberg: little dogs bark and big dogs need to be fed
- Comm Edmonds: nothing to report
- Comm Krier: nothing to report

V. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Kyle Radenberg: How much is the county saving by eliminating longevity?
- Janet Crane: Approximately \$50,000.
- Kyle Radenberg: At the Hoisington evening mtg Comm Schremmer didn't give his opinion on the elected official controversy because he wanted to hear from his constituents. Has he heard from them?
- Comm Schremmer: As it stands now, the majority are opposed to this issue.
- Tim Keenan: Will the consolidation issue be on the November 2nd agenda?
- Comm Schartz: Yes.
- Richard Boeckman: Commission will need to give direction on whether to do further study on the issue. If further work isn't done, it will never get to the point of making a resolution.
- Catherine Strecker, Educational Strategies: Voiced concerns on consolidation of the offices of County Clerk, Register of Deeds & County Treasurer. She was employed by the County Clerk in the 1980's & is opposed to the consolidation. She contacted Allen, Reno & Douglas Counties and reported they all have separate county offices for Clerk, Deeds & Treasurer. We need to look at other options to lower our budget.

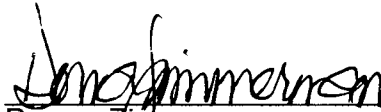
VII. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Krier made a motion to adjourn at 9:45 A.M.

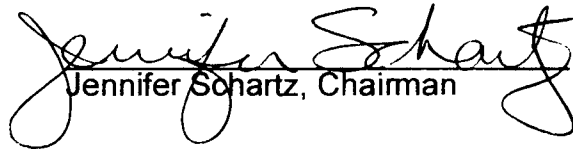
Commissioner Kruckenberg seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Donna Zimmerman
Barton County Clerk



Jennifer Schartz, Chairman