

RESOLUTION 2008-07

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR THE REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN AND REQUESTING THAT THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE DESIGNATE BARTON COUNTY, KANSAS, AS A DESIGNATED NON-METROPOLITAN REGION AND RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2004-31, SAME, ADOPTED DECEMBER 20, 2004

WHEREAS, a regional strategic plan as required by K.S.A. 74-50,116(c)(2), has been adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas at the February 25, 2008, regular meeting; and

WHEREAS, regional business incentives will be offered to all qualified businesses in the County, to include; and

WHEREAS, Barton County has established and will maintain the Barton County Community Development Advisory Board in accordance with KSA 74-50,116(c)(1), and any amendments thereto, and will take all necessary measures to insure that the entire Barton County area is represented; and

1. The County Counselor \ Administrator will act as the Economic Development Officer to assist with local economic development activities. He will be available to assist all eligible new or expanding businesses within the region with technical assistance on site selection, zoning, financing, and act as a liaison, when needed, between local government, the Kansas Department of Commerce and Great Plains Development, Inc.
2. Barton County will, during its annual budget process, provide for appropriations for economic development efforts throughout the region.
3. Working with the Business and Industry Institute at Barton County Community College (BCCC), a customized employee training program will be offered to all qualified, new and expanding businesses located within the region. This training may occur on either the job site or on campus, as determined by the assisted business and BCCC. Each business qualifying for the State of Kansas Enterprise Zone Incentives shall be eligible to apply for this training program.
4. A Property Tax Abatement policy has been in effect which will provide an increased level of property tax relief for eligible firms located within the region. Eligible firms must, however, make application to the Board of Barton County Commissioners who will review and take action on each application. Property tax abatements will be tied to the number of jobs performed and to wage scales existing within the firm. Each business qualifying for the State of Kansas Enterprise Zone Incentives shall be eligible to apply for property tax abatement.
5. Local County Economic Development Revolving Loan Funds may be made available to all businesses located within the region. Eligibility for regional loan pools shall be based on the financial viability of the project, number of employees and existing wage scales within the firm. Each business qualifying for the State of Kansas Enterprise Zone Incentives shall be eligible to apply for Economic Development Revolving Loan Funds.
6. The County will continue with the Neighborhood Revitalization Program in cooperation with area cities.

WHEREAS, all businesses in the County will be notified of the availability of assistance through the local media, through the public discussions of the County Commission and through regular media contact by the County Counselor \ Administrator; and

WHEREAS, the Barton County Commissioners selects Barton County, and its cities, as part of a Kansas Enterprise Zone designated non-metropolitan business region as provided by K.S.A. 74-50,116; and

WHEREAS, the Barton County Commissioners have received an Opinion Letter from the County Counselor finding compliance with the Kansas Enterprise Zone Act, KSA 75-50,113, et seq.; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, that the Kansas Secretary of Commerce and Housing is hereby requested to approve Barton County, Kansas, as a designated non-metropolitan region pursuant to the Kansas Enterprise Zone Act as cited above; and

FURTHER, that Barton County Resolution 2004-31, Same, is hereby rescinded.

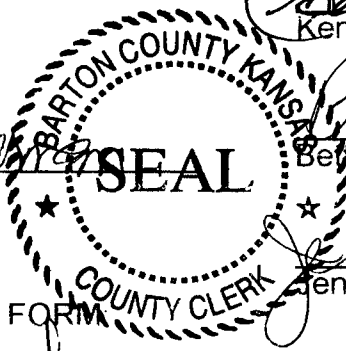
ADOPTED this 25th day of February, 2008.

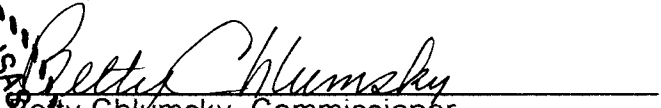
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BARTON COUNTY, KANSAS**


Kenny Schremmer, Chair

ATTEST:

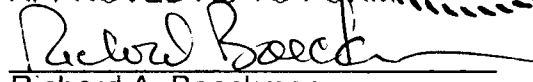

Donna Zimmerman
County Clerk

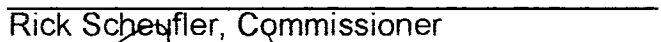



Betty Chlumsky, Commissioner


Jennifer Scharz, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM


Richard A. Boeckman,
County Counselor


Rick Scheufler, Commissioner


Joe Wilson, Commissioner