

# 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](mailto: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).

February 8, 2016

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 8th day of February 2016, at the Barton County Courthouse.

*Members present:*

Kenny Schremmer, Commissioner, 1st District (Chairman Pro-Tem)  
Homer Kruckenberg, Commissioner, 2nd District  
Don Davis, Commissioner, 3rd District, Chairman  
Alicia Straub, Commissioner, 4th District  
Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk  
Richard Boeckman, County Counselor/Administrator

*Members absent:*

Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District

## I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Kruckenberg moved to approve the agenda.  
Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

Commissioner Straub said Mr. Chairman, if you would rescind that motion, I would like to make an amendment to the agenda and add another item under New Business an Item E to discuss personnel matters in regards to the Employee Handbook.

Commissioner Davis said he would rescind the motion. Commissioner Davis said he thought Jennifer should probably be here for something like that, can it be on another day? Commissioner Straub said we have a quorum.

Commissioner Kruckenberg asked what this was about. Commissioner Straub said she would like to discuss a personnel matter and concerns with the employee policy. Commissioner Kruckenberg asked if this would be in executive session. Commissioner Straub said yes, it's a personnel matter and is confidential information.

Commissioner Kruckenberg said, if it's legitimate, I'll second it. Commissioner Straub said it is. Commissioner Straub and Commissioner Kruckenberg voted aye.  
Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Schremmer voted nay.  
Motion failed 2 - 2.

Commissioner Straub said, in the Employee Handbook under item Section 713, when an employee makes a written request about a personnel matter, it is the commissioners obligation to address these issues. Commissioner Straub asked that it be noted that she made an attempt to address the matter.

Commissioner Davis said she could bring the item up at another time.

Commissioner Schremmer said he needed time to see what this is about. Commissioner Straub said they all received the same letter last Monday and said she was just making an attempt to address that concern. Commissioner Straub said it is not necessary to have all five members present, because there is a quorum.

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Commissioner Schremmer moved to approve the agenda.  
Commissioner Kruckenberg seconded the motion.  
Commissioner Schremmer, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Kruckenberg voted aye.  
Commissioner Straub voted nay.  
Motion passed 3 – 1.

Commissioner Kruckenberg moved to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2016, and the February 1, 2016 Regular Meetings.  
Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

## II. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS: 13<sup>th</sup> Month:

-A third Accounts Payable Register for the 13<sup>th</sup> Month, 2015, will be submitted to the Commission. Thirteenth month expenditures include any unpaid bills for a product, service, or utility that was actually received in 2015.

Commissioner Schremmer moved to approve the appropriations for the third round of 13<sup>th</sup> month payables for 2015 and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.  
Commissioner Kruckenberg 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 25, 2016, and ending February 8, 2016.

Commissioner Schremmer moved to approve appropriations for the period of January 25, 2016, to February 8, 2016 and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.  
Commissioner Kruckenberg seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

## IV. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

## V. 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.

Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk, presented the following orders:

BATCH #6				
Property Types	Values	Escaped Taxes	Added / Abated	Refunds
Gas				
Oil	- 2,744	\$1,202.14	-\$1,607.02	\$3,301.67
Personal Property	- 6,018		-\$1,088.02	\$ 678.59
Real Estate	- 2,762		-\$ 498.38	\$ 348.62
16/20 M Trucks				
State Assessed Utilities				
Special Assessments				
Grand Totals	-11,524	\$1,202.14	-\$3,193.42	\$4,328.88

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Total Taxes	-\$1,991.28			
Total Records Selected	19			

Commissioner Straub moved to approve the Listing of Added / Abated / Escaped / Refunded Taxes as reviewed by the County Appraiser and presented by the County Clerk Donna Zimmerman and direct the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.  
Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **B. PUBLIC INFORMATION: Kansas Wetlands Education Center:**

-The Kansas Wetlands Education Center (KWEC), a branch of the Sternberg Museum of Natural History, is operated by Fort Hays State University personnel. The facility overlooks the 19,857 acre Cheyenne Bottom Wildlife Area managed by the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Park and Tourism and the 7,694 acre Cheyenne Bottoms Preserve managed by The Nature Conservancy.

Curtis Wolf, KWEC Site Manager, said this is the seventh year he has presented his report to the Commissioners and noted they had almost 24,000 total contacts for 2015 for a 3% increase over 2014. Wolf said they conducted 614 programs the past year which included on-site programs and outreach programs and said more than 400 of those programs were with schools. Wolf said there were almost 400 participants at the Butterfly Festival and 131 paid participants for the Wings and Wetlands Birding Festival from 18 states. Wolf said the KWEC hosted Governor Brownback for a Cheyenne Bottoms meeting and tour and noted maintenance is ongoing. Wolf said they are also grateful for the help of the Barton County Sheriff Trustees.

Information Only. No Action Required.

## **C. COUNTY ENGINEER: Purchase of Office Furniture:**

-As the previous County Engineer personally furnished his office, the County must now purchase an appropriate grouping. Barry McManaman, County Engineer, met with personnel from OPI to develop a grouping that includes a desk, conference table and chairs. The combined cost is \$4,794.89.

Barry McManaman, County Engineer, said Clark Rusco was back last week to pick-up his personal office furniture.

Commissioner Schremmer moved to approve the purchase of an office furniture grouping for the County Engineer from OPI. The cost, \$4,794.89, to be paid from Equipment Replacement, General line, 072-00-6380.

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

## **D. SOLID WASTE: Purchase of Mower:**

-The Barton County Landfill has over 12 acres of closed area planted to native grasses. New aerial survey techniques require that this area be mowed to obtain accurate elevations. Landfill management researched options to accomplish this task and concluded that the purchase of a mower for the skid steer operate by Landfill staff would be most cost effective. This mower would also be used to maintain Landfill road ditches and around maintenance buildings. Foley Equipment has provided a quote of \$5,700.00 for a 2015 Virnig 74" mower from their rental fleet.

Phil Hathcock, Solid Waste Director, said the grass needs to be kept short due to new aerial survey techniques and noted Kyle Van Doren, Foley Tractor, was present for any questions.

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Commissioner Kruckenberg moved to approve the purchase of a 2015 Virnig 74" mower from Foley. Price to be paid from the Solid Waste Fund, Equipment – Operating and Construction, 140-68-6190. Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

## VI. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

## VII. OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Straub asked if now would be an appropriate time have an executive session to discuss the personnel matters. Boeckman said the earlier motion had failed.

At 9:28 A.M. Commissioner Straub moved to go into Executive Session from 9:28 A.M. until 9:45 A.M. to discuss a personnel matter and I also ask that only the Commissioners be present or elected officials, if they so choose.

Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

Commissioner Schremmer said that they did not have to make any decisions today.

Commissioner Kruckenberg said he wanted the public to know that it regards a registered letter they received.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

At 9:45 A.M. Commissioner Straub moved to come out of Executive Session.

Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Davis said no action was taken.

At 9:47 A.M. Commissioner Straub moved to extend the Executive Session for a period of 10 minutes until 9:57 A.M.

Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

Commissioner Schremmer, Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Straub voted aye.

Commissioner Kruckenberg voted nay.

Motion passed 3 – 1.

At 9:57 A.M. Commissioner Schremmer moved to come out of Executive Session.

Commissioner Kruckenberg seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Davis said no action taken and there would be more discussion at a later date.

## VIII. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Straub made a motion to adjourn at 9:58 A.M.

Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:

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Donna Zimmerman  
Barton County Clerk

  
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Don Davis, Chairman