

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).

March 27, 2017

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 27th day of March 2017, 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
Alicia Straub, Commissioner, 4th District
Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District, Chairman
Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk
Carey Hipp, County Counselor

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Schartz asked for a motion and noted that an Executive Session was not needed this morning.

Commissioner Davis said so moved.

Commissioner Straub seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Kruckenberg moved to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2017 and the March 20, 2017 Regular Meetings.

Commissioner Straub seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

III. 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 tax roll adjustments:

BATCH #7				
Property Types	Values	Escaped Taxes	Added / Abated	Refunds
Gas				
Oil				
Personal Property	-19,024		-\$3,286.52	\$32.64
Real Estate				
16/20 M Trucks	- 650		-\$ 92.46	\$46.23
State Assessed Utilities				
Special Assessments				
Grand Totals	-19,674		-\$3,378.98	\$78.87
Total Taxes	-\$3,378.98			
Total Records Selected	7			

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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 Davis seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

B. COMPUTER INFORMATION CONCEPTS: Annual Peopleware Agreement:

-In 2013, the County purchased a commercial software package from Computer Information Concepts, Inc. (CIC) Highly summarized, the software includes tax administration, budgetary / fund accounting, indexing / imaging, payroll / personnel and time / attendance. The Commission will now be asked to consider approval of the Annual Peopleware Agreement that details responsibilities for the soft- and hardware, including response time. Matt Patzner, Financial Officer, will provide details.

Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk, provided details.

Support – Operating Systems	\$ 5,645
Support – Application Systems	\$34,395
Enhancements – Application Systems	\$ 8,565
Support Call Log Credit	- \$ 1,720
TOTAL	\$46,885

Commissioner Schartz and Commissioner Straub both said CIC needs to be responsive to Barton County's needs.

Commissioner Schartz said because of the expense of CIC, the IT department was reduced by 1 employee when the County went with CIC.

Commissioner Davis moved to approve the Annual Peopleware Agreement with Computer Information Concepts, Inc. The agreement cost, \$46,885.00, to be paid from the Courthouse General Account of the General Fund, CIC Maintenance Fees Line, 001-18-5476 and direct the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Straub seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

C. COUNTY ENGINEER: Request to Exchange Federal Funds:

-The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) has sent the 2017 Federal Funds Exchange Program information to the County Engineer. The County has two options.

Option One is to bank the full amount of Federal Aid Funds (\$271,571.16) with KDOT for use with a federal aid project that must be designed to federal standards.

Option Two is to accept the ninety percent exchange amount of State funds to be used on KDOT-approved County projects. Under the Exchange Program, the County will be reimbursed with State funds for costs incurred up to \$244,414.04.

Barry McManaman, County Engineer, said KDOT notified the County they are offering to exchange federal funds with the County as has been done in recent years. The County has the option of using the full share of federal funds in the amount of \$271,571.16 on a project that would be designed using all federal requirements and restrictions, or accepting 90% of that amount and having the freedom to use the money on road and bridge work at the County's discretion without following federal requirements.

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McManaman said there will be \$244,414.04 available for reimbursement to the County if we accept the offer to exchange the funds.

Commissioner Schartz asked if the State keeps the other 10%. McManaman said yes, they use it on projects.

Commissioner Straub moved to accept the ninety percent exchange amount of State funds (\$244,414.04) and in doing so, authorize the Commission Chairman to execute the KDOT, Bureau of Local Projects, Request to Exchange Federal Funds under the Federal-Aid Fund Exchange Master Agreement. Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

D. ROAD AND BRIDGE: Cold Mix Asphalt Bids 2017:

-The Road and Bridge Department accepted bids until 2:00 p.m., March 15, 2017, for the 2017 Cold Mix Asphalt Program. The bid specified approximately 25,000 tons of cold mix asphalt material, with the County furnishing all aggregate and asphalt oil. Using County specifications, the contractor will be required to mix asphalt at the County pit on South Washington, Great Bend. Venture Corporation provided the only bid at \$7.43 per ton. This is unchanged from 2016. Monies were included in the 2017 Budget for this anticipated expense. Dale Phillips, Road and Bridge Director, will provide details.

Dale Phillips, Road and Bridge Director, said they mix approximately 35,000 tons of asphalt annually and noted they mix some of it, but the bulk is mixed by a contractor. Phillips said Venture provided the only bid and bid the work \$7.43/ton. Phillips said if we have 25,000 tons mixed we would spend \$185,750.

Commissioner Straub asked Phillips if the County had always bid out some of the asphalt mixing.

Phillips said the asphalt plant was purchased in 1987 and noted over the years, they made all of their own asphalt. As the plant got older, they worked with contractors to make the plant last longer. Phillips said they will start mixing asphalt this week for their beginning needs.

Commissioner Straub said if a new plant costs a million dollars, you would pay for it in 5 years. Commissioner Schartz asked if it was time to look at a new asphalt plant. Phillips said, yes, it is in the 5 – year plan and will direct staff to look into it.

Commissioner Davis moved to approve the Cold Mix Asphalt Bids 2017 for up to 25,000 tons of cold mix asphalt material from Venture Corporation for \$7.43 per ton. Cost to be paid from the Road and Bridge Fund, Contract Construction Line, 002-92-6250.

Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

E. ROAD AND BRIDGE: Purchase of Replacement Excavator:

-The Department currently uses two excavators. The 1996 John Deere 490E excavator has 5,747 hours and is beginning to experience mechanical issues. In replacing it, the department asked for bids on a larger unit. Departmental equipment is regularly used to tear out bridges and culverts, clean ditches and remove debris. The bids also called for wider tracks, heavier counter weights and hydraulic “thumb”. If the purchase is approved, it is suggested that the 1996 unit be traded in. It is suggested that Equipment Replacement Funds be used for this purchase. Mr. Phillips will provide details.

Dale Phillips, Road and Bridge Director, said this excavator is a backup machine at this time and noted, in 2012, they used excavators a total of 784 hours. In 2016 the department logged 1,042 hours. Hours have increased 10% per year.

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The following sealed bids were received:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Trade-in</u>	<u>Net Cost</u>
Caterpillar Foley Equipment	316FL	\$175,041	\$16,350	\$158,691
John Deere Murphy Tractor & Equip	160GLC	\$184,385	\$21,500	\$162,885

Commissioner Straub said there were a few things to consider and asked what needs to be repaired on the John Deere 490E and at what cost. Phillips said he did not have estimates for the cost of repairs. At one time, to repair oil leaks and hoses as well as the cost in removing equipment from the machine and then putting it back on was approximately \$6,000.

Commissioner Kruckenberg moved to approve the purchase of a 2017 Caterpillar Model 316F Excavator from Foley in the amount of \$175,041.00. Cost to be offset by \$16,350.00 trade-in John Deere 490E with two (2) buckets. The net price of the Excavator, \$158,691.00, to be paid from the Equipment Replacement Fund, Equipment – Road and Bridge, 072-00-6485.

Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

Commissioner Schremmer, Commissioner Kruckenberg, Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Schartz voted aye.

Commissioner Straub voted nay.

Motion passed 4 - 1.

F. NOXIOUS WEED: Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report:

-Noxious weeds are one of the greatest threats to the Kansas environment. They displace native plant species, interfere with the production of agricultural crops, increase erosion, destroy wildlife habitat and decrease property values. The Kansas Department of Agriculture (KDA) is responsible for laws aiding in the control and management of noxious and invasive weeds in Kansas. The KDA requires Kansas counties to submit an Annual Noxious Weed Eradication Progress Report.

Dale Phillips, Noxious Weed Director, provided details and said the Noxious Weed Fund mill levy was 0.935, well below the 1.5 mill levy of most counties. Phillips said the budget balance for 2016 was \$874,710 and noted \$303,791.99 was appropriated from the mill levy and \$588,158.77 was generated from chemical sales for a total of \$891,950.76 which exceeded the budget. Total carryover to the 2017 budget was \$34,428.02.

Commissioner Straub said she didn't think anyone could deny the importance of the Noxious Weed Program in Barton County. Straub said we need to operate economically and efficiently and noted that with the recent purchase of the new spray truck, it makes it hard to do so.

Commissioner Kruckenberg moved to approve Dale's report.

Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Straub said she wasn't quite finished with Dale's earlier item. Straub said she wants everyone to know she fully respects Dale and his decision making, but said sometimes the Commissioners have to take certain things into consideration while being the keepers of the checkbook. Straub asked, did we really consider what it would cost to repair the piece of equipment versus replacing it, and noted it's easier to replace.

Phillips said they really keep equipment longer than they should and said it is best to trade while it still has value.

Commissioner Straub said, if it costs \$10,000 in repairs and we're able to get another year of service from the machine, money would be saved.

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Commissioner Schartz asked does it make sense to put \$10,000 into a machine that is only worth \$16,000 and suggested it would be throwing good money after bad.

Commissioner Kruckenberg said he voted against the dredge years ago because it cost so much. We have good people taking care of the equipment.

Commissioner Davis there is a 6 year warranty on the new machine.

G. COUNTY SERVICES: Informational Update:

-Jennifer Schartz, Commission Chairman, will provide the informational report of work completed during the last period. The report, which will be made available to the media, will serve as a public reminder of the services provided by the County on a regular basis.

Commissioner Straub read the report.

Information Only. No Action Required.

H. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Attorney-Client Privilege:

-The Commission will enter into Executive Session. The Commission may invite such parties as needed into said Session. It is anticipated that Carey Hipp, County Counselor, will be invited into said Session. The Commission meeting will resume in fifteen minutes.

(ITEM REMOVED)

I. ACTION FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION: Attorney-Client Privilege:

-The Commission will make any necessary announcements as a result of the Executive Session. If necessary, further discussion or a decision may be made at this time.

(ITEM REMOVED)

IV. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Dale Phillips: Announced Supervisor Mike Patton will retire this Friday with 27 ½ years of service. His experience will be missed. It was a pleasure working with Mike.

VI. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn at 9:47 A.M.

Commissioner Kruckenberg seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:

Donna Zimmerman
Barton County Clerk

Jennifer Schartz, Chairman