

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

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October 7, 2019

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 7th day of October 2019, 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

James R. Daily, Commissioner, 4th District

Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District, Chairman

Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk

Phil Hathcock, County Administrator

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Davis moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Daily seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Schremmer moved to approve the minutes of the Monday, September 30th Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. RESOLUTION 2019-13: Stepping Up to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illness in Jails:

-Counties routinely book an estimated 2 million people with serious mental illnesses, most with co-occurring substance use disorders, into jail each year. The jails spend two to three times more money on the adults with mental illnesses that require intervention than on those without. The proposed Resolution joins Barton County to the Stepping Up Initiative with a common goal of reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails.

Julie Kramp, The Center Executive Director, said she met with Tammy Hammond and several other community partners about a year ago to see what could be done to help with the number of people who are often times found in jail with no real benefit from the time they serve. Kramp said they found a helpful program through the National Council for Criminal Justice and noted they are committed to making sure that people with mental illness are not incarcerated. Kramp said they can localize the program to make it work best for their needs and will not have to start from scratch. Kramp noted there are many Kansas counties who have done this successfully including Johnson County. Kramp suggested their collaboration needs broader oversight, which is why they are requesting the Commissioners to aid in this process. Julie Kramp read the resolution.

Commissioner Schartz said we are not alone and noted the costs to run the jail are very high and suggested this could be beneficial to Barton County. Schartz said we will be able to tailor the program to

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work well for us and said she is very proud to be a part of this community where people come together to solve a problem.

Commissioner Daily moved to adopt Resolution 2019-13, Stepping Up to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illness in Jails.

Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

B. PROCLAMATION 2019-14: Domestic Violence Awareness Month, October, 2019:

-Domestic violence is a preventable public health problem. It is important that measures be taken to provide domestic violence victims services as about one-quarter of the homicides in Kansas are perpetrated by current or former intimate partners. Joanne Wondra, Executive Director, Family Crisis Center, will ask the Commission to recognize October, 2019, as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Becky Davis, Family Crisis Center, read the proclamation and asked for approval.

Commissioner Davis moved to adopt Proclamation 2019-14, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, October, 2019.

Commissioner Daily seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Becky Davis recognized Don Davis for his effort in the event last year and noted that even though the event was cancelled, he continued to collect funds.

C. PROCLAMATION 2019-15: Supporting the Fall Campaign of United Way of Central Kansas:

-The goal of United Way of Central Kansas is to lighten the load of local non-profit organizations by helping to organize the community around shared goals for health, income and education. By providing a steady stream of donations to twenty-two local community partners, the partners can focus on “boots on the ground efforts” rather than fundraising. Gaila Demel, Executive Director, United Way of Central Kansas, will ask that the Commission adopt a Proclamation recognizing the Fall 2019 United Way Campaign.

Gaila Demel, United Way of Central Kansas Executive Director, thanked the Commission for their consideration and read the proclamation.

Commissioner Daily asked what the goal is for this year. Demel said \$275,000 and explained they conduct community events, send out a direct mailer, obtain small mini grants, etc. Daily said they have always done an outstanding job and commended them for their efforts.

Commissioner Schremmer moved to adopt Proclamation 2019-15, Supporting the Fall Campaign of United Way of Central Kansas.

Commissioner Daily seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Demel introduced board members John Cross and Mark Mingenback who were present.

Mark Mingenback said he would like to emphasize the impact of the Barton County Employee payroll contributions and noted the employees have always been very supportive. Demel said the employee penny wars really add up!

IV. ENDING BUSINESS:

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1. Announcements
2. Appointments

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

Comm Scharz: Attended KLPG meeting in Colby last week. Excellent 3-day meeting. A lot of information on available Economic Development grant funding. KLPG is a group of smaller western Kansas counties.

VI. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Kruckenberg made a motion to adjourn at 9:25 A.M.

Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:

Donna Zimmerman
Barton County Clerk

Jennifer Scharz, Chairman