

Barton County Commission Agenda Meeting Minutes

Recorded audio is available on compact disk upon KORA 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

Meetings Live Streamed through **Microsoft Teams**® at the following link: <https://bit.ly/45oGuBV>

April 16, 2024

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 16th day of April 2024, at the 1500 Kansas location.

Members present:

Duane Reif, Commissioner, 1st District

Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District

Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4th District, (Chairman Pro-Tem)

Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner, 5th District

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk

Matt Patzner, Director of Operations

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

Members via phone:

Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District, Chairman

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Reif moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the minutes of the March 29, 2024, Special Meeting.

Minutes of the April 2, 2024, and April 9, 2024, Regular Meetings were not available.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

-There was no Old Business.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. PROCLAMATION 2024-09: National Crime Victims' Rights Week:

-Camila Komarek, Victim Advocate, will provide details. In recognition of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, the County Attorney's Office has requested that the Commission adopt Proclamation 2024-09. The week of April 21–27, 2024, has been selected to reaffirm the County's commitment to respect and enforce victims' rights and address their needs during Crime Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year.

Camila Komarek, Victim Advocate, said during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, we celebrate the accomplishments of the victims' rights movement and reflect on how far we have come. This year the theme was "How Would You Help? Options, services and hope for crime survivors." The 2024 theme asks all of us, friends, family members, neighbors, colleagues, community leaders, victim service providers, criminal justice practitioners and health professionals, how can we help crime victims. Are we prepared if someone confides in us about victimization. Are we familiar with services available in our community. Komarek said it was a collaborative effort among agencies within Barton County to make sure victims of crime had a voice and received necessary services to recover from the trauma.

Komarek read the proclamation.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to Adopt Proclamation 2024-09, National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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Commissioner Zimmerman said she appreciated Komarek's work, it was very valuable especially for the victims.

B. CENTRAL KANSAS COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS: Fiscal Year 2025 Comprehensive Plan Submission:

-Brooke Haulmark, CKCC Director, will provide details. The Kansas Department of Corrections changed the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) Comprehensive Plan to a case planning model. The goal for the next three years is to build upon evidence-based practices that create behavior change and promote agency quality assurance. Each entity was asked to consider the agency review feedback and analyze the outcome data to identify gaps within the agency and create a case plan to eliminate those deficient areas. With three guiding principles fully outlined, the Comprehensive Plan requests a total allocation of \$696,074.14.

Brooke Haulmark, CKCC Director, said she was here to review and ask approval of the FY2025 Comprehensive Plan. The allocation was \$669,776.65 with an additional \$26,297.50 for behavioral health programming and assistance. The majority of the allocated funds go to staffing with the remainder for overall operating expenses such as utilities, office supplies, repairs, staff training, vehicle maintenance, fuel and insurance and residential visits that were required by statute. This was for the five counties they covered. Haulmark said that KDOC challenged them statewide, part of the goal was to address the audits that were performed on the agencies, find any deficiencies or gaps and address those according to the case plan the agency followed. Haulmark's identifications were to increase getting the initial assessments done. Everyone sentenced to Community Corrections was to have assessments completed within 45 days. The goal she had set for her agency was to have 90% of the assessments done within 30 days. Her second goal was to address the high-risk offenders, 90% of them having a case plan within 45 days. The final goal was to have 90% of all high-risk offenders have service and referrals so they were placed with the appropriate programming to address their needs. The three pieces work together to ensure they were getting the best help and help them achieve goals while on supervision.

Commissioner Hutchinson said Haulmark had been handed a monumental task and had done an excellent job so far. Haulmark said she appreciated that, and her team worked very hard. They had been putting in extra hours and were committed to the positive changes.

Commissioner Reif commended Haulmark for setting the goal high and was sure she could accomplish it.

Commissioner Schlessiger asked Haulmark if they had been receiving help with the assessments. Haulmark said when she came in January, they were over 100 assessments behind. The 24th Judicial District had helped in completing assessments.

Commissioner Schlessiger wanted to publicly thank the 24th Judicial District for their assistance.

Commissioner Zimmerman asked Haulmark if a vehicle replacement was in her budget. Haulmark said there would be plenty left over this fiscal year to address the issue.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve the Community Corrections Comprehensive Plan and Behavioral Health Request for Fiscal Year 2025 and approve its submission to the Kansas Department of Corrections.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

C. USDA-DLT B 2023 Grant: Release of Funds:

-Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor; Marissa Woodmansee, Juvenile Services Director; and Dereck Hollingshead, Information Technology Director, will present details. The US Department of Agriculture has released the grant funding for the USDA-BLT B grant. Barton County has been allocated \$185,745,

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with a required match of \$28,730. This rural development investment will help to establish distance learning programs that connect vulnerable populations across rural counties to vital services not in their communities.

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor, said this was a group project. This grant partnered with The Center for Counseling to provide distance telemedicine counseling and learning services for those in Barton County as well as counties where The Center and Juvenile Services had offices. Hoffman said they were successful in getting the grant again and there was a required match. There were multiple benefits for the county with other software.

Marissa Woodmansee, Juvenile Services Director, said she was excited for the opportunity of distance learning across multiple counties not only with Juvenile Services but Community Corrections as well as other partners that they can collaborate with. For us being in the Midwest, it was an opportunity for not just behavioral health needs but also our educational needs. We have to continue to be progressive about the needs of the populations we serve. Woodmansee said with the grant, they will get a whiteboard, that was a big piece of technology that would help with the population in their day school. She was also excited about the partnership with The Center because they know that transportation was a barrier for clients.

Dereck Hollingshead, IT Director, said the USDA-DLT Grant had been very good for Barton County and the agencies we had worked with. We were able to purchase technology we probably would not normally purchase. It allowed us to bring new technology as well as upgrade existing technology. We started working on this a year ago and were now ready to go out for bids.

Hoffman said bringing in \$185,000.00 of Federal money was a great thing for Barton County. This was not in the job description for either Woodmansee or Hollingshead, but they recognized the benefits to the programs, went above and beyond to make it happen. Hoffman said it was great to work with people like them and a great reflection for Barton County.

Commissioner Hutchinson said he agreed with Hoffman.

Commissioner Schlessiger said tremendous job working together.

D. COMMUNICATIONS: AT&T – Third Amendment to Third Party Lease:

-Matt Patzner, County Administrator, will provide details. Barton County has leased a portion of a building at 1300 Stone, Great Bend, Kansas, since 1989. The space houses 911, which operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The lease, originally with Southwestern Bell Telephone, is now with AT&T and the area has expanded to allow for a director's office. Rental costs are built into the budget for 911 each year.

Matt Patzner, County Administrator, said starting November 1, 2024, there would be a 3% increase to the current rent for the first 3 years and would then remain flat for the remaining 2 years. The monthly payment, starting November 1, 2024, would be \$1,494.53; the next year \$1,539.36; the third year would be \$1,585.54 and remain flat for 2 years. There was also an option to renew for five years with the same terms. Patzner asked for approval.

Commissioner Hutchinson said he had been in the building; it was a hardened infrastructure and would be difficult to find another space like it. He felt they were treating us well. Commissioner Hutchinson asked Patzner about the expansion for a director's office. Patzner said that had occurred since 1989 and was not a new expansion.

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Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the Third Amendment to Third Party Lease, between AT&T and Barton County, for office space at 1300 Stone, Great Bend, Kansas.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

E. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

-Chairman Barb Esfeld will present. Any Commissioner may make a motion for the board to recess to executive session at this time as allowed by K.S.A. 75-4319. Any motion must contain the justification for the executive session, the subject matter to be discussed, any individuals in addition to the board who will attend the executive session and the time at which the regular session shall resume.

At 9:24 A.M., Commissioner Zimmerman moved that the Commission go into Executive Session for a period of 30 minutes. The subject to be discussed will be consultation with the County Counselor to discuss matters related to attorney client privilege. The reason this needs to be discussed in Executive Session is to provide the attorney / client privilege and the County's position on the matter on which legal advice is being sought. Jeffrey Kuhlman, the County Counselor, County Administrator and the governing body to be included in said meeting. The Open Meeting will resume at 10:00 A.M. in this room.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

At 10:00 A.M., Commissioner Zimmerman moved to enter back into Regular Session with no action taken.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

IV. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business.

VI. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to adjourn at 10:03 A.M.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk



Tricia Schlessiger, Chairman Pro-Tem