

BOARD OF BARTON COUNTY COMMISSIONER AGENDA MEETINGS

Barton County Courthouse – 1400 Main, Suite 106, Great Bend, Kansas
Tuesdays, unless otherwise announced, in Regular Meeting – 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Agenda Meeting – 9:00 a.m. Until Close

The Commission meeting will be live-streamed through Microsoft Teams. Citizens may view the meeting through their own sign in or by signing in “anonymously”. Please follow this link: <https://bit.ly/4aBhFcg>. If you wish to participate in the discussion of any item, please call (620) 793-1800 for instructions.

BOARD OF BARTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Agenda Meeting, January 27, 2026, 9:00 a.m. Until Close

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

- A. Call Meeting to Order.
- B. Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- C. Consider Approval of the Agenda.
- D. Consider the minutes of the January 20, 2026, Regular Meeting.
- E. Any citizen wishing to make statements during the discussion of any item must first be recognized by the Commission Chair. After being recognized, that person should state their name and the name of any organization represented. Statements should be limited to five minutes.
- F. Please silence all phones and electronic devices. Recording the meeting is allowed and the Commission requests that anyone using special recording equipment be seated in the back row to avoid creating a distraction during the meeting.

II. OLD BUSINESS - Items tabled, or scheduled, from previous Commission Meetings, will be heard at this time.

-There is no Old Business at this time.

III. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS: 13th Month – 2nd Batch:

-Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk, will present details. An Accounts Payable Register will be submitted to the Commission for the period ending December 31, 2025. This is considered the second "13th Month" for 2025 expenditures.

IV. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS:

-Ms. Schmeidler will present details. An Accounts Payable Register will be submitted to the Commission for the period of January 13, 2026, and ending January 27, 2026.

V. NEW BUSINESS - All new business to be considered by the Commission will be heard at this time.

ITEM A. COMMISSION: Employee Engagement Committee:

-Judith Castro, Employee Engagement Committee President, will provide details. The Employee Engagement Committee (EEC) is charged with creating short- and long-term goals and project development to improve employee retention and employee satisfaction. All terms expire December 31, 2026.

ITEM B. RESOLUTION 2026-04: Resolution for Approval of Conditional Land Use Permit for a Described Tract of Land:

-Judy Goreham, Environmental Manager, will provide details. Paul Greeley, STC Tower, LLC, has applied for a conditional land use permit to build a 410' Guyed Communications Tower on a tract owned by the Loretta Tindall Agricultural Trust in the SE/4, Section 36-T17S-R14W, located approximately two miles west of Hoisington, Kansas. A Public Hearing was held on January 8, 2026, and the Barton County Planning Commission unanimously recommended that the Barton County Commission approve this request. Due to the height of this tower, no building permit can be issued until FCC approval has been received. FAA approval has already been obtained.

ITEM C. SOLID WASTE: Purchase of a Bobcat Angle Broom Attachment:

-Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, will provide details. The Solid Waste Department utilizes a 2021 Bobcat T770 skid steer loader in its operations. The department recently sought bids for an angle broom, which is used to sweep mud and debris off onsite asphalt access roads and the highway in front of the Landfill entrance. Monies are available in the Solid Waste Fund for this purchase.

ITEM D. COMMISSION: Independent Contractor Agreement for Interim County Counselor:

-Matt Patzner, County Administrator, will provide details. Several years ago, the County entered into an agreement with Patrick Hoffman for independent contractor services as the County Counselor. Mr. Hoffman has recently accepted a position with the City of Salina. As such, it is suggested that the County enter into an Independent Contractor Agreement for Interim County Counselor until such time as the County hires a County Counselor.

ITEM E. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

-Chairman Duane Reif 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.

VI. ENDING BUSINESS – After new items are heard by the Commission, the following items, including announcements, will be heard.

A. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

-Following the close of the Agenda Meeting, the Commission will consider the authorization of personnel changes for classified positions, sign any documentation approved during the agenda meeting or sign any other documentation required for regular County business. Similar action may take place throughout the day.

-The Kansas Legislative Policy Group Winter Meeting, 2026, will be held from 12 noon – 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 27, 2026, at the Dillon House, 404 SW 9th Street, Topeka, Kansas.

-The Kansas Association of Counties will co-host the Local County Government Day with the League of Kansas Municipalities on Wednesday, January 28, 2026. Activities will take place at the Kansas Statehouse, the KAC office, and The Beacon in downtown Topeka. Officials are encouraged to spend the morning at the Statehouse meeting with legislators and attending committee hearings, followed by the formal Local Government Day program in the afternoon.

-County officials may attend the Ellinwood Chamber of Commerce Banquet beginning at 5:30 p.m., Thursday, January 29, 2026. The event will be held at the American Legion, 117 E Santa Fe, Ellinwood, Kansas.

-County officials may attend the Hoisington Chamber of Commerce Banquet beginning at 5:30 p.m., Saturday, January 31, 2026. The event will be held at the Hoisington Columbus Club, 114 N Main, Hoisington, Kansas.

B. APPOINTMENTS:

-Although subject to change, the following appointments have been scheduled:

9:45 a.m. or following the close of the Agenda Meeting – Planning Session with Media Consultant, to include select photography.

10:00 a.m. – Regular Business Discussion – Matt Patzner, County Administrator.

10:20 a.m. – Security Grant information – Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk, and Dereck Hollingshead, Information Technology Director.

10:30 a.m. – Program Update – Karen Winkelman, Public Health Director.

10:45 a.m. – Monthly Update – Josh Beckman, Kirkham Michael.

11:00 a.m. – Program Update – Chris Schartz, County Works Director.

11:30 a.m. – Update with the Golden Belt Humane Society.

THE COUNTY EDITION, KVGB-AM – Thursdays at 11:05 a.m. Members of the Health Department are scheduled for January 29, 2026.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion Items.
- B. Citizens or organizations may present requests or proposals for initial consideration.
- C. The Commissioners are available to the Public on Tuesdays during regular business hours.
- D. One or more Commissioners may be present in the Commission Chambers conducting county business throughout the day on Tuesdays.
- E. The Commissioners may, individually, schedule personal appointments related to County business at their discretion.
- F. The next Regular Meeting will be at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, February 3, 2026.

VIII. ADJOURN.