

Claflin Fire District No. 1 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@ <https://bit.ly/4IEEZm>

August 19, 2025

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 19th day of August 2025, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Duane Reif, Commissioner, 1st District, (Chairman Pro-Tem)
Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District
Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4th District, Chairman
Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner, 5th District
Chris Saenz, Deputy County Clerk
Matt Patzner, County Administrator
Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

BUDGET HEARING

At 10:23 A.M. Commissioner Reif moved to enter into the Budget Hearing.
Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

BUDGET HEARING: 2026 Operating Budget:

-Matt Patzner, Barton County Administrator, will provide details. Fire District officials were asked to submit a preliminary budget request for the 2026 Operating Year. Budget information will now be presented for public comment.

Matt Patzner, Barton County Administrator, said the Notice of Budget Hearing was published in the Great Bend Tribune on August 9, 2025, meeting the 10 day notice period required. Patzner said the assessed valuation for Fire District No. 1 was 23,232,946, up from the previous year of 22,150,062. The prepared budget was .002 mills under Revenue Neutral for a mill levy of 3.560 and levied \$82,704.00 in ad valorem tax. Patzner said budget authority was actually \$800 less than the previous year, that came off the proposed transfer into reserves, there was an uptick in neighborhood revitalization. They took it out of the revenue so we took it out of the transfer.

At 10:25 A.M. Commissioner Hutchinson moved to close the Budget Hearing.
Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

AGENDA MEETING

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

Commissioner Schlessiger called the meeting to order at 10:25 A.M.

Commissioner Reif moved to approve the agenda.
Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Reif moved to approve the minutes of the April 29, 2025, Regular Meeting.
Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

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II. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. ADOPTION OF THE 2026 FIRE DISTRICT OPERATING BUDGET:

-Matt Patzner will provide details. The Budget Hearing for the proposed 2026 Operating Budget was conducted prior to this Regular Meeting. The Governing Body is now asked to consider adoption of the proposed budget.

Matt Patzner, Barton County Administrator, asked the commissioners to consider adoption of the Fire District No. 1 2026 budget as presented in the budget hearing.

Commissioner Hutchinson said he had enormous faith and trust in Fire District No. 1. They went down this year and that was in property tax collections. That was the point.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to adopt the 2026 Operating Budget for Fire District No. 1. Commissioner Reif seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business.

V. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Hutchinson made a motion to adjourn at 10:27 A.M.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk



Tricia Schlessiger, Chairman