

# 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](mailto: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.

## **. 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!

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## IV. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

## V. OTHER BUSINESS:

Comm Schartz: 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.

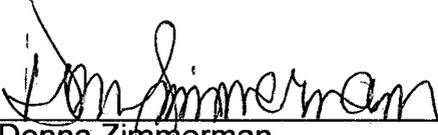
## VI. ADJOURN:

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 Schartz, Chairman  
chairman Pro-Tem

## RESOLUTION 2019-13

### STEPPING UP TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES IN JAILS

**WHEREAS**, counties routinely provide treatment services to the estimated 2 million people with serious mental illnesses booked into jail each year;

**WHEREAS**, prevalence rates of serious mental illnesses in jails are three to six times higher than for the general public;

**WHEREAS**, almost three-quarters of adults with serious mental illnesses in jails have co-occurring substance use disorders;

**WHEREAS**, adults with mental illnesses tend to stay longer in jail and, upon release, are at a higher risk of recidivism than people without these disorders;

**WHEREAS**, county jails spend two to three times more on adults with mental illnesses that require interventions compared to those without these treatment needs;

**WHEREAS**, without the appropriate treatment and services, people with mental illnesses continue to cycle through the criminal justice system, often resulting in tragic outcomes for these individuals and their families;

**WHEREAS**, Barton County and all counties take pride in their responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare, and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways;

**WHEREAS**, through Stepping Up, the National Association of Counties, The Council of State Governments Justice Center, and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation are encouraging public, private, and nonprofit partners to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails.

**NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED** that we, the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, do hereby sign on to the Call to Action to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in our county jail, commit to sharing lessons learned with other counties in our state and across the country to support a national initiative and encourage all county officials, employees, and residents to participate in Stepping Up.

We resolve to utilize the comprehensive resources available through Stepping Up to:

- Convene or draw on a diverse team of leaders and decision makers from multiple agencies committed to safely reducing the number of people with mental illnesses in jails;
- Collect and review prevalence numbers and assess individuals' needs to better identify adults entering jails with mental illnesses and their recidivism risk, and use that baseline information to guide decision making at the system, program, and case levels;
- Examine treatment and service capacity to determine which programs and services are available in the county for people with mental illnesses and co-occurring substance use disorders, and identify state and local policy and funding barriers to minimizing contact with the justice system and providing treatment and supports in the community;

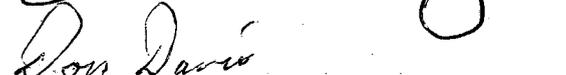
- Develop a plan with measurable outcomes that draws on the jail assessment and prevalence data and the examination of available treatment and service capacity, while considering identified barriers;
- Implement research-based approaches that advance the plan; and
- Create a process to track progress using data and information systems, and to report on successes.

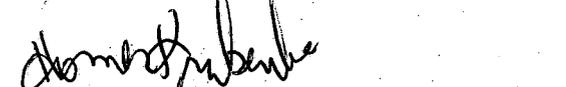
Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2019.

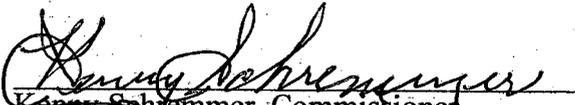
**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

  
Jennifer Schartz, Chairman

  
James R. Daily, Commissioner

  
Don-Davis, Commissioner

  
Homer Kruckenberg, Commissioner

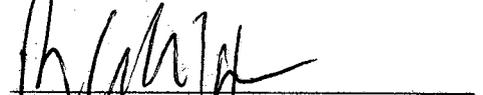
  
Kenny Schremmer, Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

PROCLAMATION 2019-14

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, domestic violence (DV) is a widespread, preventable, public health problem impacting all demographics of Barton County and surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, relationships are often counted as life's greatest treasures, and tragically, many are tarnished by one person's entitlement to power and control over the other, resulting in violence and fear; and

WHEREAS, DV abusers are violent and cause fear for their victim(s) by violating the individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity with their intentional, systematic use of financial, psychological, sexual, and physical coercive control and abuse; and

WHEREAS, in Barton County in the past year, over 369 people sought domestic violence victim services and were served by Family Crisis Center, Inc. and

WHEREAS, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation reports DV homicides were a fourth, or 25.3%, of all homicides in Kansas in 2018; and

WHEREAS, we, as the governing body of Barton County, recognize that this violence is inconsistent with Barton County values and cannot be tolerated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, that October 2019, is *Domestic Violence Awareness Month*; and

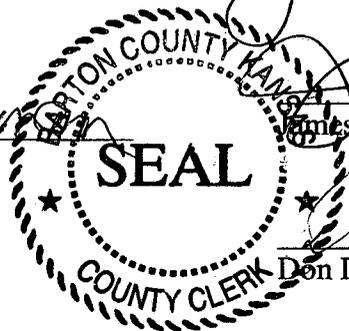
FURTHER, that the Commission calls this observance to the attention to all citizens.

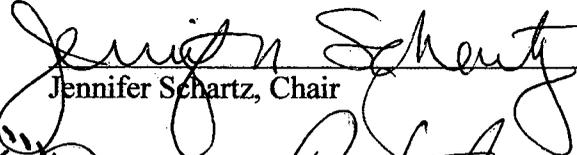
Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2019.

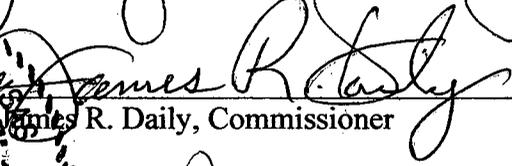
BARTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

ATTEST:

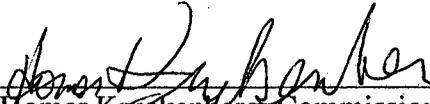
  
Donna Zimmerman  
County Clerk

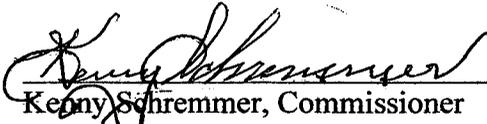


  
Jennifer Schartz, Chair

  
James R. Daily, Commissioner

  
Don Davis, Commissioner

  
Homer Kruckenberg, Commissioner

  
Kenny Schremmer, Commissioner

**PROCLAMATION 2019-15**

**SUPPORTING THE FALL CAMPAIGN OF  
UNITED WAY of CENTRAL KANSAS**

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Barton County, Kansas, and all of Central Kansas should all enjoy healthy, meaningful lives; and

**WHEREAS**, United Way advances that common goal by creating opportunities for a better life for citizens throughout Central Kansas; and

**WHEREAS**, United Way focuses on education, income and health – the building blocks for quality of life – because everyone wins when a child succeeds in school, when families are financially stable, and when people are in good health; and

**WHEREAS**, it takes every part of the community – individuals, businesses and organizations – to supply the passion, expertise and resources needed to create lasting change for the better; and

**WHEREAS**, last year Barton County citizens generously contributed their volunteer energies as well as more than \$250,000 dollars to the United Way of Central Kansas, thereby investing in programs and initiatives that improve lives, build stronger communities and provide for a greater shared future; and

**WHEREAS**, the United Way holds an annual campaign every fall in order to support those efforts.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, that the months of August through December, 2019, are declared as

***UNITED WAY of CENTRAL KANSAS MONTHS***

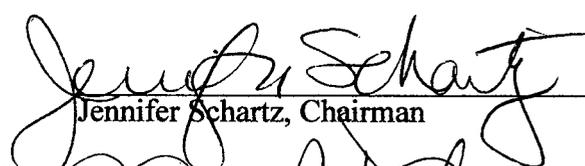
**FURTHER**, that all citizens are urged to learn more about United Way, its community partners and join in supplying the passion, expertise and resources needed in 2019 and beyond.

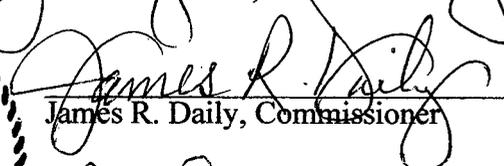
**Dated this 7<sup>th</sup>** day of October, 2019.

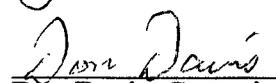
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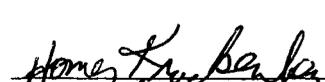
  
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County Clerk



  
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Rena Schremmer, Commissioner