

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/3e60KU7>.

October 26, 2022

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 26th day of October 2022, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Kirby Krier, Commissioner, 1st District
Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District, (Chairman Pro-Tem)
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District, Chairman
Jon Prescott, Commissioner, 4th District
Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District
Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk
Matt Patzner, Director of Operations
Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Schartz moved to approve the agenda.
Commissioner Prescott seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Schartz moved to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2022, Regular Meeting.
Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS:

-An Accounts Payable Register will be submitted to the Commission for the period of October 12, 2022 and ending October 26, 2022.

Commissioner Prescott moved to approve the appropriations for the period of October 12, 2022, to October 26, 2022. Authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.
Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. REQUEST FOR SPONSORSHIP OF THE BARTON COUNTY ELEMENTARY BASKETBALL LEAGUE:

-Coach Ethan Thomas will provide details. Coach Thomas is looking to establish an elementary league in Barton County to give community children an opportunity to play at an early age and collectively build all future County athletes. Coach Thomas is asking the Barton County Commissioners to consider sponsoring this league through funding the cost of referees and trophies.

Coach Ethan Thomas said he grew up in Ellinwood playing on a Christian basketball league from 4th grade through 8th grade. He had wanted to establish a Christian league again, but most teams had disbanded. Thomas would like to create a league in Barton County so families would not have to travel great distances. He had spoken to the principals of Central Kansas Christian Academy and Holy Family School as well as USD 428 Superintendent about forming this league. Benefits of a county league would include minimal drive times, weekend games, build relationships and increase skill levels for middle school and high school. The ages would include 3rd grade through 6th grade and there were currently 7 teams.

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Commissioner Schartz said it was an admirable project but collectively as a commission had agreed to stick to the budget.

Commissioner Prescott thanked Thomas for all the work he had put into the league.

Commissioner Esfeld said clubs such as Kiwanis, Pilot Club and others may be able to offer support and encouraged him to reach out to them.

No action taken.

B. EMERGENCY RISK MANAGEMENT: Fiscal Year 2022 Emergency Management Performance Grant Program:

-Amy Miller, Emergency Risk Manager, will provide details. The Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program provides federal funding to assist states and local governments in developing and carrying out emergency management programs. Passed through the Kansas Division of Emergency Management, these funds are used to assist Counties in enhancing and sustaining all-hazard emergency management programs for the protection of life and property. The Commission will consider the authorization of the Fiscal Year 2022 grant application.

Amy Miller, Emergency Risk Manager, presented details and asked for approval of the application. It was estimated to receive the same amount as FY2021 which was \$26,835. \$25,460 was received for FY2020.

Commissioner Krier moved to authorize the Fiscal Year 2022 Emergency Management Performance Grant application. Direct Ms. Miller to submit said application to the Kansas Division of Emergency Management.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

C. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: Barton County and Great Bend Economic Development:

-Matt Patzner, Director of Operations, will present details. In August, 2022, Chris Komarek, Ellinwood City Administrator, detailed that the City of Ellinwood is working to develop a water, sanitary sewer and storm sewer infrastructure project. Included in the project are both the new hospital and new housing area. The Commission approved \$300,000.00 in financial support and directed the County Counselor to develop a Memorandum of Understanding reference the administration of the funding. The Memorandum of Understanding, as reviewed by Great Bend Economic Development and the City of Ellinwood, will be presented for consideration.

Matt Patzner, Director of Operations, presented details.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Barton County and Great Bend Economic Development to support certain improvements in the City of Ellinwood.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

D. CUNA MUTUAL: Full Release of Mortgage:

-Mr. Patzner will provide details. In 2004, the Commission authorized a loan to CPI Qualified Plan Consultants, Inc. of approximately \$1.7 million. Terms included a five (5) year deferred principal payment with interest paid annually on a ten (10) year note at four percent (4%) interest. The loan proceeds were to be used by CPI, in conjunction with monies received from other lending sources, the City of Great Bend and local investors, to purchase the business from A. G. Edwards. In 2009, the loan was repaid following the purchase of the business by CUNA Mutual. The Commission will be asked to approve a Full Release of Mortgage as part of the sale of the building to USD 428.

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Matt Patzner, Director of Operations, said a review of commission minutes and the 2009 General Ledger corroborated that it had been paid in full.

Commissioner Krier moved to approve the Full Release of Mortgage between Barton County and CPI Qualified Plan Consultants but would also like to add that that was a huge win for all of Barton County when the commissioners did that. Jon Prescott was on the CPI board at that time, not the board but Commissioner Prescott said he was senior management. Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

E. ADOPTION OF THE 2022 / 2023 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS LISTING:

-Mr. Patzner will provide details. The Commission last adopted the 2022 / 2023 Authorized Positions Listing in August of this year. Given certain changes at the Health Department relative to grants and COVID authorizations, it is suggested that the listing be updated at this time.

Matt Patzner, Director of Operations, said the only change was the Health Department, from 21 full-time and 1 part-time in 2022 to 20 full-time and 2 part-time in 2023. Losing one grant funded position at the end of the year.

Commissioner Prescott moved to approve the 2022 / 2023 Authorized Positions Listing. Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

F KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES: Conference Overview:

Commissioner Barb Esfeld will lead the discussion. The Commission will ask those department heads that attended the KAC Annual Conference to provide a conference overview.

Commissioner Esfeld said it was a good conference. Tricia Schlessiger, Duane Reif and herself attended different sessions to gather as much information as possible. Esfeld attended Budgeting for Kansas Counties which covered SB13 and high inflation. She also attended Grant Writing.

Tricia Schlessiger attended Property Appraisals and said it gave her a broader knowledge of how things were appraised.

Esfeld said several of them attended Employee Retention and found that Barton County was already practicing some it.

Commissioner Krier said he found out that a neighboring county was only giving a 20 cent pay raise across the board.

Commissioner Prescott said the health insurance and benefit package was extremely competitive and asked what other ideas were presented.

Commissioner Esfeld said another interesting class was Constituent Communications and how once elected you continue to communicate. Esfeld added that KAC was supporting County Treasurers and asked Jim Jordan to speak to it.

Jordan said the problem was to get the legislators and senate to pass bills. Currently, the counties were subsidizing the Treasurers Offices for work being done for the state.

Commissioner Esfeld said County Commissions should write letters of support.

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Commissioner Schartz said they should write a letter of support.

Commissioner Krier asked if they should each write one individually instead of as a group, so they receive more letters.

Commissioner Esfeld said it was proposed that if RNR notices continued to be sent out, the state would pay for them instead of the counties. She asked Bev Schmeidler if the county had received reimbursement. Schmeidler said it was received within 2 weeks of submitting the bill.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked if there was any discussion about RNR being dollar amount instead of mill levy. Esfeld said that was not discussed.

Commissioner Esfeld said there was also discussions about Home Rule, medical marijuana, renewable energy and LAVTR (Local Ad Valorem Tax Reduction). If it came back, it would be by percentage and not population. There will be new commission training January 11 – 13, 2023. February 9th will be County Day at the Capitol.

V. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business.

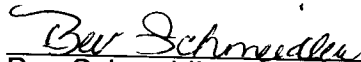
VII. ADJOURN.

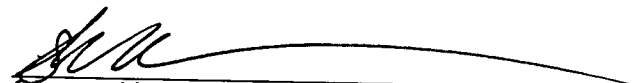
Commissioner Krier moved to adjourn at 10:01 A.M.

Commissioner Prescott seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:


Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk


Shawn Hutchinson, Chairman

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Notes from Director of Operations, County Clerk not present.

Kirby Krier makes a motion to go into executive session with all elected officials, Tricia Schlessiger, Duane Reif, Matt Patzner, Patrick Hoffman, and the Sheriff to discuss non-elected personnel until 11:25. Jon Prescott seconds
All in favor aye from all.

Kirby Krier makes motion to come out of executive session with no action taken
Jon Prescott seconds
All in favor aye from all.