

# 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](mailto:clerk@bartoncounty.org)

Meetings Live Streamed through **Microsoft Teams**® at the following link: <https://bit.ly/3MrFQv0>.

September 28, 2022

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 28th day of September 2022, at the Barton County Courthouse.

*Members present:*

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

*Members attending via Teams®:*

Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District

## **I. OPENING BUSINESS:**

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

Commissioner Krier moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Prescott seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2022, Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Krier seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

## **II. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS:**

-An Accounts Payable Register will be submitted to the Commission for the period of September 14, 2022 and ending September 28, 2022.

Commissioner Krier moved to approve appropriations for the period of September 14, 2022, to September 28, 2022. Authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Prescott seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

## ***ITEM TABLED***

## **III. OLD BUSINESS:**

### **A. RESOLUTION: A Resolution Concerning the Involvement of Sitting Barton County Commissioners on Area Boards and Committees:**

-Commissioner Kirby Krier will provide details. This item has been tabled throughout the month.

Commissioner Krier proposed Resolution guidelines for Commissioners when dealing with area boards and committees.

Commissioner Kirby Krier moved to table for one week.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed 4-0.

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## NEW BUSINESS:

### A. PROCLAMATION 2022-15: National 4-H Week:

-Michelle Beran, Cottonwood Extension District – Barton County, will be joined by area youth in presenting the proposed Proclamation. 4-H, as delivered by area Cooperative Extension agencies, has helped thousands of youth become true leaders, entrepreneurs and visionaries. By declaring October 2 – 8, 2022, as National 4-H Week, the Commission will encourage all citizens to recognize 4-H for the significant impact it makes by empowering youth with the skills they need to lead for a lifetime.

Michelle Beran, Cottonwood Extension District – Barton County, brought with her 2 4-H Ambassadors. They must apply and interview for their positions. Their job is to promote 4-H in the community above and beyond what they already do.

Ailey Williams, 4-H Ambassador, said there were 8 active clubs in Barton County. Ellinwood had 1 club, Great Bend had 4, Hoisington had 2 and Odin and Claflin had 1. Williams said they were always looking for adult volunteers and anyone interested should contact Beran.

Parker Dicks, 4-H Ambassador, said they had a great partnership with the Barton County Fair Association. There were great entries at the county fair and Beran took approximately 70 entries that qualified to the Kansas State Fair. To qualify for the State Fair, youth must receive a purple ribbon at the county level. In addition to the traditional fair entries, youth that received a purple ribbon at 4-H Club Day last February on their project talk, demonstrations, illustrated talks or dramatic readings also qualified.

Beran said besides the fair and 4-H Club Day, there are also regional and state events that 4-H youth have access to such as Horse Panorama, Insect Spectacular, Shutterbugs photography events and a variety of judging contests. Beran said she had the opportunity this last year to participate in Great Bend Reads where all K-6 students at USD 428 received a copy of Charlotte's Web and participated in a variety of activities. She was able to reach over 1,500 youth to talk about livestock, the fair, 4-H and Kansas agriculture. Beran also provides babysitting certification classes for 3 of the 4 Rec Centers in the county and partners with the Wetlands Education Center.

Tricia Schlessiger said 4-H was a wonderful program with a lot of youth and adult volunteers who make the fair a success. 4-H goes beyond livestock and cookies, a lot of lifelong skills are learned through 4-H.

Commissioner Schartz joined the meeting.

Commissioner Prescott asked Beran about adding programs such as writing code since technology was such a huge part of everything. Beran said they had a very active STEM program. They use architectural blocks (Legos) for spatial awareness and architectural concepts. They recently had a STEM focused day camp where Crop Quest came with their big drone and showed the kids the images they were able to capture. They were able to purchase 10 small drones a few years ago and the kids were able to practice with those. They also had sessions on coding and rockets.

Commissioner Esfeld said 4-H was always thought of being for country kids but that was not the case. Beran said 2 of the 4 clubs in Great Bend were not ag/livestock focused. Beran said they learn teamwork and leadership skills. Without young leaders willing to come back and step into leadership roles, not only do rural communities not thrive, but they do also not survive.

Commissioner Esfeld asked Williams and Dicks what 4-H had done for them. Dicks said it taught him responsibility, he had shown cattle for 10 years, the responsibility of caring for an animal and helping the younger members with their projects. Williams also said responsibility and keeping deadlines.

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Commissioner Krier asked Beran about the fire at her property last weekend. Beran said they had always been huge supporters of volunteer fire departments and were extremely grateful for the quick response time. Both Beaver and Claflin fire departments were on scene within 12 minutes of the first 911 call. Neighbors helped with moving vehicles and such before they were aware of the fire. They raise registered cattle and sell them to 6-7 different states so there was a huge impact with the total loss of their shed. They were working on a backup plan; their first sale was in 1987 and the first few years were in a tent on the rodeo grounds in Odin. Russell Sale Barn had reached out almost immediately.

Commissioner Hutchinson said he was a city kid, in 4-H, and was 1994 runner-up king of the carnival.

Commissioner Krier said his grandson, Brock, won the pedal pull and would be going to the State Fair for the second year in a row.

Commissioner Prescott moved to adopt Proclamation 2022-15, National 4-H Week.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **B. RESOLUTION 2022-22: Application for Zoning Amendment for a Described Tract of Land:**

-Judy Goreham, Environmental Manager, will provide details. The Barton County Planning Commission received a Zoning Amendment Application from the Alan and Kathleen Hoffman Revocable Trust for an 0.8 acre +/- tract of land to be rezoned. Being part of a larger tract located in the NE/4, Section 20, Township 17 South, Range 13 West, the ground is currently classified as Agricultural. The application calls for the tract to be rezoned to Light Manufacturing Service Commercial District so that a shop can be built for V's Workshop. If approved, the business will be relocated to this location where the family is also building a new home. The Planning Commission recommends approval.

Judy Goreham, Environmental Manager, presented details.

Commissioner Krier moved to approve Resolution 2022-22, Application for Zoning Amendment for a Described Tract of Land.

Commissioner Prescott seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **C. SOLID WASTE: Repair of the Caterpillar 615C II Scraper:**

-Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, will provide details. The Barton County Landfill operates a Caterpillar 615C II Scraper that is used to move dirt to various places on site for essential tasks such as waste cover and building roads, berms and evaporation ponds. In June, the crank shaft dampner/pulley came off. Foley Equipment made the necessary repairs. In conjunction with the crank shaft repair, the gasket on the hydraulic tank was replaced.

Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, said the initial quote was \$56,000. It was rebuilt in 2018 and that warranty expired last year. Hamby spoke with Foley and they agreed to pay a portion of the repairs. The new amount was \$30,000 including an additional repair on a hydraulic tank that needed a new seal.

Commissioner Krier moved to approve the repair of the Caterpillar 615C II Scraper. Total cost, \$30,016.33, is to be paid to Foley Equipment. Payment to be made from the Solid Waste Fund, Maintenance of Machinery & Equipment Line, 140-68-5460.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **SOLID WASTE: Hoisington Gun Club Improvement Project at Cheyenne Bottoms:**

Jennifer Hamby will provide details. The Hoisington Gun Club is developing a project at Cheyenne Bottoms. As a part of the project, the club has hired Prosser Dirt to excavate. The Barton County Landfill has

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reed to accept dirt from the excavation at the rate of \$120.00 per load. Dirt is needed at the Landfill to provide intermediate/final cover and for other construction projects.

Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, said Hoisington Gun Club discussed this project with Phil Hathcock approximately 5 years ago. Hamby said a landfill can never have too much dirt. They use it for cover, building roads and berms. Prosser Dirt was doing the excavating and would be responsible for hauling the dirt to the landfill.

Commissioner Schartz asked how many loads of dirt were anticipated to be received. Hamby said she did not have a number of loads, but they would be receiving 80,500 cubic yards and could span several years. It had taken them this long to start the project due to weather and other factors.

Commissioner Prescott moved to authorize the Landfill to accept dirt from the Hoisington Gun Club Improvement Project at Cheyenne Bottoms.

Commissioner Krier seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Esfeld asked how long the Great Bend city cleanup was going on. Dale Hogg said until Sunday.

Commissioner Esfeld inquired how the city cleanups work at the landfill. Hamby said they offer a 50% discount with tires being charged separately.

## **E. DISTRICT CORONER: Appointment of Deputy Coroner:**

-Matt Patzner, Director of Operations, will provide details. Dr. Patrick Stiles was appointed as District Coroner effective November 1, 2020. At the recommendation of Rice County, it is suggested that Dr. Logan Shetlar be appointed as a Deputy District Coroner.

Matt Patzner, Director of Operations, said under Kansas law that term would be equal to Dr. Stiles term.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to appoint Dr. Logan Shetlar as a Deputy Coroner for a term ending December 31, 2022.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **V. ENDING BUSINESS:**

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

## **VI. OTHER BUSINESS:**

Levi Morris, County Attorney, said when he came into office, he filed fewer cases than were done previously. In 2018, his office filed 584 criminal cases. In 2019, he filed 476. District Court said the County Attorney obtained 224 felony convictions in 2018. In 2021, they filed approximately 100 fewer cases with the same number of convictions. Improving the quality of convictions.

Commissioner Esfeld asked Morris about the recovery community. There were now 3 men's Oxford houses and 2 women's Oxford houses, sad to not feel like it was helping. Morris said the numbers did not reflect recovery but reflect accountability.

## **VII. ADJOURN.**

Commissioner Prescott moved to adjourn at 9:39 A.M.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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ATTEST:

  
Bev Schmeidler  
Barton County Clerk

  
Shawn Hutchinson, Chairman

## **EXECUTIVE SESSIONS:**

Notes from Director of Operations, County Clerk not present.

Kirby makes motion to go into executive session with Matt Patzner, Patrick Hoffman, Duane Reif and Tricia Schlessinger and present commissioners for the purposes of discussing real estate acquisition until 11:45

Barb seconds

All in favor aye from all.

Kirby makes motion to come out of executive session with no action taken

Barb seconds

All in favor aye from all.

Kirby makes motion to go into executive session with Matt Patzner, Patrick Hoffman, Duane Reif and Tricia Schlessinger. and present commissioners for the purposes of discussing real estate acquisition until 12:00

Barb seconds

All in favor aye from all.

Kirby makes motion to come out of executive session with no action taken

Jon seconds

All in favor aye from all

Kirby makes motion to go into executive session for the purposes of discussing non-elected personnel until 12:15 with everyone in the room except for the man with the camera.

Jon seconds

All in favor aye from all.

Barb makes motion to come out of executive session with no action taken.

Kirby seconds

All in favor aye from all.