

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/3Gz0EzD>.

June 14, 2023

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 14th day of June 2023, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

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

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Schlessiger moved to amend the agenda to add Item G, a request for the public fireworks display from the First Assembly of God.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve minutes of the June 7, 2023, Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

-There was no Old Business.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. CITY OF GREAT BEND CITY COUNCIL AND BARTON COUNTY COMMISSION JOINT MEETING:

Meeting Report:

-Commissioner Shawn Hutchinson will provide details. On the evening of Thursday, June 8, 2023, the Barton County Commission held a supper meeting with City of Great Bend officials in the Courthouse Conference Room. Topics included partnership opportunities, economic and budget development, Operation Clean sweep and landscaping upgrades. The Commission members will be asked to join the presentation.

Commissioner Shawn Hutchinson, said it was a great meeting, it was light and fun. Best joint meeting so far.

Commissioner Reif said somebody mentioned we all needed to work together, and he felt that meant the entire county. Everyone had the same goals. The commissioners' Façade Improvement Grants were an example of that, making improvements in all the communities.

Commissioner Zimmerman said she appreciated meeting with the city, having dialogue and banter with them.

Commissioner Schlessiger said it was a great way to open communication and allow everyone to get to know each other.

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/3Gz0EzD..>

Commissioner Esfeld said she always enjoyed working with the city, seeing where they could partner to make a better community.

Commissioner Hutchinson said joint meetings were being planned for Hoisington, Ellinwood and potentially Claflin.

B. CITY OF GREAT BEND CITY COUNCIL AND BARTON COUNTY COMMISSION JOINT MEETING: Courthouse Landscaping Upgrades:

-Jolene Biggs, Council Member, City of Great Bend, will present details. The City of Great Bend has joined with Master Gardeners to request \$5,000.00 for a beautification project on the west side of the Courthouse. Included will be trees, bushes and flowers anchored by the Jack Kilby statue.

Jolene Biggs, Council Member, City of Great, said redoing the landscaping was discussed at the joint meeting. Biggs introduced those involved and heading the project: Jan Keeley, Mark Rondeau and Michelle Rondeau.

Commissioner Hutchinson said they had implemented the Façade Improvement Program and it would be silly to not take care of the area around the courthouse.

Biggs said with the HVAC renovation, they may have to work around construction workers. With it being late in the season, what may be planted could be affected by the heat.

Commissioner Zimmerman said this would be the initial landscaping that the Master Gardeners would maintain. Biggs said that was correct.

Commissioner Schlessiger said she appreciated the Master Gardeners taking the role of maintaining the landscaping.

Jan Keeley said the Master Gardener Program had to provide an educational component. There would be a very small plaque and identification by each different plant that could be scanned to learn about the plant and how to care for it.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve a \$5,000.00 match to the City of Great Bend for Courthouse Landscaping Upgrades. Cost to be paid from the Capital Improvement Fund, Improvement Not Buildings – General Line, 071-00-6310.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

C. CITY OF GREAT BEND CITY COUNCIL AND BARTON COUNTY COMMISSION JOINT MEETING: Operation Clean Sweep:

-Chief Steve Haulmark, City of Great Bend, will present details. This discussion was a topic at Thursday night's meeting. Essentially the County will consider financial assistance for the City's Operation Clean Sweep. This is essentially a community service program that was developed to alleviate trash, refuse and blight from the community.

Chief Steve Haulmark, City of Great Bend, said prior to coming to Great Bend, he worked 25 years at Kansas City, Kansas Police Department. In his duties in Community Policing, they had a project like Operation Clean Sweep where they used community service workers to address issues within the community. He wanted to bring that philosophy to Great Bend. Haulmark and a couple of his command staff went to some properties that came up during code abatement. They were able to abate six properties in three hours. When people see trash or blight, it can translate to a feeling that an area was bad or unsafe. Evidenced based policing offers practical solutions that balance public safety, community service needs, available funds and taxpayer expectations. Trying to control crime while removing the

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/3Gz0EzD>.

light as well as helping citizens. They work with Code Enforcement in identifying the properties. They want to help the elderly and those unable to care for the property themselves. They are utilizing criminal justice individuals who asked to be a part of the program in lieu of paying fines. They work on Saturday from 9:00 to 1:00 and receive \$10.00 an hour credit to go towards the fines owed. If the individual works extra hard, they receive more credit. This also allows the officers to interact with the individuals on a different level and build a rapport. Over 10 ½ tons of trash had been cleaned up at the river with more work to be done.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked if Project Clean Sweep stopped at the city limits.

Haulmark said it does not, we are all the same community. Haulmark added that right now they were using Municipal Court community service workers, but they would welcome more individuals. People do have to apply for the program, understand the expectations and be accepted. The workers are tracked, signed in and signed out each time.

Commissioner Schlessiger asked if Central Kansas Community Corrections clients could be involved. Haulmark said they could. The requirements were that they be at the Police Department by 9:00 A.M., willing to work and sober.

Commissioner Esfeld said it was a great program and allowed individuals to give back to the community.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve a \$5,000.00 match to the City of Great Bend for Operation Clean Sweep contingent upon an equal or greater match by the City of Great Bend. Cost to be paid from the Capital Improvement Fund, Improvement Not Buildings – General Line, 071-00-6310.

Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

D. BARTON COUNTY FAIR BOARD: Upgrades to Expo III:

-Matt Patzner, County Administrator, will provide details. In their 2023 budget request, the Barton County Fair Association detailed a need to improve emergency exits and lighting as well as accessibility. With the upgrades made, the Fair Association requests that the County contribute \$5,000.00 to the \$7,969.33 project. In addition, the Commission will consider providing \$500.00 to the Fair Association to increase radio advertising.

Matt Patzner, County Administrator, presented details.

Kate Wary, Fair Board, said to clarify, the improvements had not yet been made but they did have to write the check. The improvements must be made prior to the fair opening because it was not up to code.

Commissioner Hutchinson said he and Patzner had talked about the amount the board needed versus what they had asked for and had been trying to figure out the numbers.

Patzner said the initial request was \$5,000.00, that was the estimate at the time.

Wary said she would amend the request if the commission were willing to do more. They were appreciative of anything offered.

Patzner said this was separate from their budget request. The 2023 budget request was for what the county statutorily had to cover.

Commissioner Schlessiger moved to approve a \$7,969.33 disbursement to the Barton County Fair Association to assist with the Expo III upgrades and current, oh, and current radio advertising. Commissioner Hutchinson said an additional \$500.00.

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/3Gz0EzD..>

Commissioner Schlessiger continued her motion, so I need to add an additional \$500.00 to that. The disbursement to be made from the Finance General Account of the General Fund, Barton County Fair Association Line, 001-26-6850. Is that clear.

Commissioner Hutchinson said let's go for a second.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

Commissioner Schlessiger said they wanted to do the additional funding for advertising because this would be the only carnival in Barton County this year.

Commissioner Zimmerman asked Commissioner Schlessiger if her motion included radio and/or print advertising.

Commissioner Schlessiger said it did.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

E. CABB ELEVATOR: Elevator Remodel Contract:

-Mr. Patzner will provide details. For some time, the Courthouse has experienced service interruptions in relation to the elevator. It has been suggested that part of the problem is due to the mechanics being housed on the roof. The County has received an Elevator Remodel Contract to modernize the unit. Included in the \$122,300.00 cost is electrical components, power unit, wiring, hydraulic oil, piston and cylinder. It is suggested that Capital Improvement funds be used for the upgrade.

Matt Patzner, County Administrator, said they also solicited a quote from KONE. That quote was \$110,300.00 and did not include replacement of the jack. They estimated that to be an additional \$70,000.00 - \$100,000.00 on top of their quote.

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor, said it had been approved for tax credits. Patzner said it would be for 30%.

Commissioner Zimmerman said that included a year of maintenance. Patzner said yes, it did.

Commissioner Schlessiger asked how much a month maintenance cost. Patzner said currently around \$50.00 per month.

Commissioner Reif said the elevator project was not initially planned but would be a good time to do it while the building was empty. It would add around 50 years to the life of the elevator.

Commissioner Reif moved to approve the Elevator Remodel Contract with CABB Elevator. Direct the County Administrator to encumber \$122,300.00 from the Capital Improvement Fund, Buildings and Fixed Equipment – General Line, 071-00-6305.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

No Executive Session Held

F. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

-Chairman Hutchinson 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.

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/3Gz0EzD>..

3. FIREWORKS DISPLAY: First Assembly of God:

-Jake Newman, Associate Pastor, Encounter Church, said they have fireworks display annually on the southwest corner of the property. The family who owns the field adjacent gives permission to use the area. They disk the ground and have a water truck onsite. Addison Baxter, a member of the church, puts on the display. They also have games, inflatables, food and ice cream. It is a great family event to celebrate our country and a great family event. They will hold it July 2nd this year and would appreciate approval.

Commissioner Zimmerman asked if this would be the third year. Newman said yes and they have been in contact with the Fire Department.

Commissioner Reif asked when the activities would start. Newman said around 7:00 P.M. and the fireworks after dark. They estimated 500-600 attended last year.

Commissioner Schlessiger moved to authorize a public fireworks display of the First Assembly of God, 601 South Patton Road, Great Bend, Kansas, on the evening of July 2, 2023, provided the provisions of Resolution 2004-06, Establishing a Policy on Fireworks for Barton County and rescinding Resolution 1982-19, untitled, dated October 9, 1982, reference the same are met and that the said display is approved by the Interim Fire Chief Brent Smith and the Great Bend Fire Department on that date. Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

V. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

Matt Patzner – update on HVAC project

Commissioner Esfeld – Flag Day. She along with fellow Kiwanis members placed flags on Broadway and McKinley streets.

VII. ADJOURN.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to adjourn at 9:41 A.M.

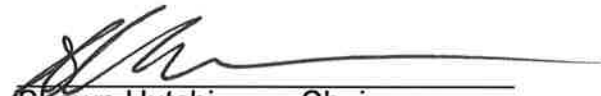
Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk



Shawn Hutchinson, Chairman