

# 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/3nZpjaF>.

September 26, 2023

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 26th day of September 2023, at the 1500 Kansas location.

*Members present:*

Duane Reif, Commissioner, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Chairman  
Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk  
Matt Patzner, County Administrator  
Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

*Members via phone:*

Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2<sup>nd</sup> District, (Chairman Pro-Tem)

## **I. OPENING BUSINESS:**

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

Commissioner Schlessiger moved to approve the agenda.  
Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Reif moved to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2023, Regular Meeting.  
Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

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

-Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk, will present details. An Accounts Payable Register will be submitted to the Commission for the period of September 12, 2023, and ending September 26, 2023.

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk, presented details.

Commissioner Schlessiger moved to approve appropriations for the period of September 12, 2023, to September 26, 2023. Authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.  
Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **III. OLD BUSINESS:**

-There was no Old Business.

## **IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE: Request for Approval – Added / Abated / Escaped / Refunded Taxes:**

-Ms. Schmeidler will present a listing of Added / Abated / Escaped / Refunded Taxes. Orders for these actions are kept on file in the County Clerk's Office. These are used to correct assessments and are requested by the County Appraiser's Office or the County Clerk's Office.

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk, presented details.

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BATCH #12	VALUES	ESCAPED TAXES	ADDED / ABATED	REFUNDS
Gas				
Oil	(18,799)	\$ 10.72	(\$4,489.30)	\$4,478.58
Personal Property	8,655			
Real Estate	(128)			
16/20 M Trucks	16,604			
State Assessed Utilities				
Special Assessments				
Grand Totals	6,332	\$10.72	(\$4,489.30)	\$4,478.58
Total Taxes	(\$4,478.58)			
Total Records Selected	45			

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve the Listing of Added / Abated / Escaped / Refunded Taxes as reviewed by the County Appraiser and presented by the County Clerk's Office. Direct the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## B. PROCLAMATION 2023-13: 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 1 – 7, 2023, as National 4-H Week, the Commission recognizes the importance of using the Head, Heart, Hands and Health, the four core values of the 4-H mission, to make the best better.

Michelle Beran, Cottonwood Extension District – Barton County, introduced Ailey Williams, 4-H Ambassador. Beran said they just finished the Kansas State Fair which meant the 4-H year was ending and the new year begins October 1<sup>st</sup>. In Barton County, there are 8 community clubs with nearly 150 4-H members. Kansas 4-H offered over 40 projects and within each of those projects were included communication, leadership, citizenship and career options. A new area of Kansas 4-H included a micro credential program which allows 4-H members to select a compatible project area and receive course credit at Kansas State University on their actual transcript. This past summer, Ailey Williams was one of five 4-H members who attended Discovery Days. The event occurred on KSU campus and provided older 4-H members with a little bit of college experience. They stayed in and ate at the dorms, attended classes and learned to navigate campus.

Ailey Williams, 4-H Ambassador, said that she took business and marketing classes at Discovery Days. Some of her favorite project areas were food and arts. Williams said she learned through 4-H that she wants to pursue baking as a career. The arts were a favorite because it allowed her to be creative.

Beran said that 4-H was missing a superintendent for visual arts for the Barton County Fair. It was an enormous project with approximately 300 entries. Williams and another high schooler stepped up to serve as co-superintendents. That showed great leadership. At the Kansas State Fair, the Beef Council needed a volunteer in Agri land, Williams stepped up. Beran said they could not do without volunteers, Marissa Woodmansee sits on the Youth Development PDC.

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor, said he was in 4-H and recognizes 4-Hers in public meetings because they understand parliamentary procedure, how to pass motions and run business meetings.

Commissioner Hutchinson said he was also in 4-H in Salina.

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Commissioner Schlessiger moved to adopt Proclamation 2023-13, National 4-H Week.  
Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **C. COMMISSION: Employee Engagement Committee:**

-Commissioner Donna Zimmerman will provide details. It is the intent of the Commission to establish and annually fund an Employee Engagement Committee (EEC). In an effort to move forward with the EEC, the Commission solicited members. At this time, membership will be considered. Appointment period to end December 31, 2024, with the initial EEC members charged with the development of bylaws, short- and long-term goals, project development and to create and host a holiday event for all employees.

Donna Zimmerman, County Commissioner, presented details and said that 7 employees were reached out to or volunteered to serve, 5 of those were to be appointed.

Commissioner Reif said it would be interesting to see what the committee decided to do.

Commissioner Hutchinson said they had some money to work with.

Commissioner Zimmerman said approximately \$12,250 was in the account.

Commissioner Schlessiger moved to appoint the following members to the Employee Engagement Committee, terms to end December 31, 2024:

Judith Castro, Administrator's Office  
Charlotte Konrade, Appraiser's Office  
Ryan Lichter, Juvenile Services  
Chris Schartz, Road and Bridge  
Gina Werth, Solid Waste

Said members to develop bylaws, short- and long-term goals, develop projects and to create and host a holiday event for all employees. Direct the Administrator's Office to assist the EEC as needed.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

Commissioner Hutchinson hoped they set up the bylaws similar to the commissioners.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **D. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: 2023 Server Upgrade Project:**

-Dereck Hollingshead, Information Technology Director, will present details. On August 31, 2023, the Information Technology Department released the 2023 Server Upgrade Project Request for Proposal (RFP). The department sought pricing for hardware and software to upgrade two (2) servers. The hardware and software to upgrade these two (2) servers will allow Barton County Information Technology to replace a minimum of seven (7) servers. Two vendors submitted bids. It is noted that the Ellinwood and Great Bend Police Departments will reimburse the County for a portion of the cost and that there will be additional software costs.

Dereck Hollingshead, Information Technology Director, presented details. Three have older operating systems that needed updating and the rest were running out of space. Two bids were submitted, however the bid from SHI was the only complete bid. SHI bid would be for the hardware with some costs for software from CIC and Enterpol. Total cost not to exceed \$45,000.00.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked Hollingshead which servers were being upgraded. Hollingshead said the following servers were included:

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BTSRV6  
 BTSO-NETMOTION  
 BTSO-ENTERPOL  
 BTSO-DC01  
 BTSO-DC02  
 BCCA-SERVER01

CIC  
 LEO-VPN  
 LEO-SOFTWARE  
 LEO-FILE/PRINT  
 LEO-FILE/PRINT  
 CA-FILE/PRINT

Commissioner Hutchinson asked where they were located. Hollingshead said they were located at Communications because that was where internet comes in and they have a backup generator. That made the move easier since servers were not moved.

Commissioner Zimmerman said she understood that the software would not be able to be upgraded after October 1<sup>st</sup> on some of the servers. Hollingshead said that was correct.

Commissioner Reif said the servers were utilized as much as possible. Hollingshead said the CIC server was the original one from when the county went on to CIC.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to award the 2023 Server Upgrade Bid to SHI. Move to approve the total 2023 Server Upgrade Project at a cost not to exceed \$45,000.00. Anticipated vendors may include SHI, Entropol and CIC. Monies from the police departments will be returned to Equipment Replacement. Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

**E. JUVENILE SERVICES: Request for Proposal – Juvenile Services Fleet Insurance:**

-Marissa Woodmansee, Juvenile Services Director, will present details. Juvenile Services released a request for Proposal (RFP) for fleet insurance with a September 15, 2023, deadline. The RFP called for coverage for four (4) vehicles and 21 staff members, traveling in a five-County area transporting youth and families, as well as other business travel. Two bids were received.

Marissa Woodmansee, Juvenile Services Director, said last year they paid \$3,800.00. Talking to the current insurance broker, the cost was estimated from \$6,000.00 to \$8,200.00. The current broker submitted a bid for \$6,003.00 through Progressive. She heard from the broker just prior to the meeting, there would be an additional cost for an MVR report would have to be run for each employee at Juvenile Services. The new bid amount with the MVR report fees would be \$6,116.00.

Commissioner Reif moved to approve the \$6,116.00 bid from Conrade Insurance Group. Payment to be made as follows: refer to the chart, total of \$6,116.00.

FUND NAME	LINE NAME	LINE	AMOUNT
Juvenile Services - JIAS Grant	Vehicle Maintenance and Insurance	100-72-5505	\$1,000.50
JISP – JISP Grant		105-76-5505	\$1,000.50
Case Management – Case Management Grant		120-82-5505	\$1,000.50
JCAB – Reinvestment Grant		121-88-5505	\$1,000.50
JCAB – JCAB Grant		126-88-5505	\$1,000.50
IIP – IIP Grant		128-87-5505	\$1,000.50
<b>TOTAL</b>			

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Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Note: Chart does not reflect change in dollar amounts with the addition of charges for MVR reports.

## **F. DISTRICT CORONER: Appointment of Special Deputy Coroners:**

-Matt Patzner, County Administrator, will provide details. Dr. Patrick Stiles was re-appointed as District Coroner effective January 1, 2023. At the recommendation of Ellsworth County, Dr. Stiles requests that Nathaniel Florian be appointed as a Special Deputy Coroner.

Matt Patzner, County Administrator, said the term would end December 31, 2023.

Commissioner Esfeld said Florian's mother was a health nurse in Russell, he comes from a long line of medical backgrounds.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to appoint Nathaniel Florian as a Special Deputy Coroner to a term ending December 31, 2023.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## ***No Executive Session Held***

## **G. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

-Chairman Shawn Hutchinson will present. Any Commissioner may make a motion for the board to recess 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.

## **V. ENDING BUSINESS:**

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

## **VI. OTHER BUSINESS:**

Commissioner Esfeld – would be attending the Kansas Legislative Policy Group meeting Thursday and Friday.

Commissioner Hutchinson – noted that school districts have a set mill levy of 20 mills, a portion of one of their funds.

Patrick Hoffman – to do additional mills, it would be capital outlay, etc.

Commissioner Zimmerman – the money generated from that goes to the state and the state then distributes those funds among school districts. That was changed years ago because western Kansas counties struggled to support their districts.

Commissioner Hutchinson – in supporting EMS in Barton County for example, it used to be a formula divided by 1 mill. They changed it to a dollar amount.

Commissioner Esfeld – in the 1990's, the state began deducting \$46 from residential tax bills which had now been increased to \$92. This goes back into school general.

Commissioner Schlessiger – Pawnee Rock held a ribbon cutting last Saturday. The gazebo was completed as well as the playground and mural. They still have some funds remaining and are planning a chili cookoff in November.

Commissioner Hutchinson – Happy Birthday to his son, Eli, who was 9 years old today. He said he and Commissioner Reif visited Road & Bridge and the Boogardts building. They saw the storm damage to the shed at Road & Bridge.

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Commissioner Reif – it was beneficial to see it in person, there was quite a bit of wind damage to the structure. The shed was not serving its purpose right now and needed to be replaced.

Commissioner Hutchinson – that building was probably built in the 1950's or 1960's and was not up to par with the other buildings. It was nice to have the insurance money to help with the building.

Commissioner Zimmerman – that building was on the five-year plan.

Commissioner Hutchinson – the Boogardts building did not have heat or air in one conference room.

Commissioner Schlessiger – maybe some grant funds could be used to install a mini-split.

Woodmansee – had inquired about using those funds for heat and air, she would revisit and get more information.

Commissioner Reif – have a contractor come in and look, get some idea of costs. Commissioner Zimmerman was trying to contact Mrs. Kopke about the area between the theater and the Nuss building.

## **VII. ADJOURN:**

Commissioner Zimmerman made a motion to adjourn at 9:40 A.M.

Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Bev Schmeidler  
Barton County Clerk



Shawn Hutchinson, Chairman