

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/4nYJaAB>

October 7, 2025

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 7th day of October, 2025, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Duane Reif, Commissioner, 1st District, (Chairman Pro-Tem)

Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District

Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District

Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner, 5th District

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk

Matt Patzner, County Administrator

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

Members absent:

Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4th District, Chairman

PUBLIC HEARING – SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

At 9:00 A.M. Commissioner Reif called the Public Hearing for the Solid Waste Management Plan to order.

PUBLIC HEARING: Solid Waste Management Plan:

-Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, will present details. This Public Hearing is held for the purpose of evaluating the Solid Waste Management Plan for Barton County, Kansas.

Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, said the Barton County Solid Waste Management Planning Committee reviewed the plan every five years and recommended updates. Hamby said the plan had been reviewed and updated per KDHE regulations and was published on September 13th. Hamby said they updated the economy and major employer section, the waste tonnage, the landfill equipment section and recycling, which was where the biggest changes were made.

Commissioner Zimmerman said she was unaware until the discussion in study session that Superior Essex had zero waste. She thought that was incredible for a local employer and that was not often seen.

Commissioner Reif said it had been that way for a number of years. Hamby said they started that initiative in 2014.

At 9:03 A.M. Commissioner Hutchinson moved to close the Public Hearing – Solid Waste Management Plan.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

Commissioner Schlessiger called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve the minutes of the September 30, 2025, Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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II. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

III. 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 23, 2025, and ending October 7, 2025.

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk, presented details and asked for approval.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve appropriations for the period of September 23, 2025, to October 7, 2025. Authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. RESOLUTION 2025-16: A Resolution Adopting the Solid Waste Management Plan for Barton County, Kansas, and Rescinding Resolution 2021-25, Same, Adopted November 30, 2021:

-Ms. Hamby will provide details. As noted during the Public Hearing, the Barton County Solid Waste Management Plan must be reviewed and updated every five years. Should this proposed Resolution be adopted, the updated Solid Waste Management Plan would become effective in Barton County.

Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, said the Solid Waste Management Plan had been updated with the focus on recycling.

Commissioner Reif said he often was asked how long the current landfill would be used. Hamby said there was still about 90 years left for this landfill. She said that was why recycling was so important, to extend the life of the landfill. It also helped because it reduced the need to extract new materials. Hamby said that since Stutzman's had offered curbside recycling in Ellinwood as they did in Hoisington, recycling has increased significantly and continued to increase.

Commissioner Reif said he noticed that his recycling dumpster was filled quicker than his trash dumpster.

Hamby said a new company had just come to Great Bend and offered curbside recycling, so she hoped to see the increase in Great Bend as well.

Commissioner Hutchinson said he had not thought about recycling in the past as extending the life of the landfill.

Commissioner Reif said some of the easiest things to recycle were paper and cardboard. Hamby said the number one waste was food waste that a lot of it could be composted. Plastics were next and then paper and cardboard.

Commissioner Zimmerman said they did a great job on the plan, and she appreciated the updates.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to adopt Resolution 2025-16, A Resolution Adopting the Solid Waste Management Plan for Barton County, Kansas, and Rescinding Resolution 2021-25, Same, Adopted November 30, 2021.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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B. LEASE AGREEMENT: Linsner Property – Road and Bridge Storage:

-Chris Schartz, County Works Director, will provide details. Barton County wishes to extend the lease of approximately five acres in the NE/4, Section 16-T17S-R14S for the storage of materials and equipment used for the construction and maintenance of roadways. Leased from Kirby and Linda Linsner, it is suggested that the updated lease be extended to October 1, 2030, with an annual payment of \$850.00.

Chris Schartz, County Works Director, said the location was on NE 150 Rd, 1 and a quarter mile west of U.S. Highway 281. Schartz said they used the site for storage of materials and to park equipment.

Commissioner Reif said the agreement worked well for both parties. Schartz said the area was on a hill which was more difficult for the Linsners' to farm, the County had fenced the area and put a gate up to keep people out.

Commissioner Zimmerman said with these two leases, the pit and our location, there was a location in each of the four quadrants. Schartz said that was correct. The pit in Ellinwood was used for the southeast quadrant, the pit in Odin covered the northeast quadrant, the northwest quadrant used the Linsner lease, and the southwest quadrant used the Dyer lease.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve the Lease Agreement with Kirby and Linda Linsner for approximately five acres in the NE/4, Section 16-T17S-R14S. Annual cost to be paid from the Road and Bridge Fund, Right of Way Line, 002-92-6270.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

No Executive Session Held

C. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

-Chairman 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.

V. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Zimmerman – encouraged people to attend the League of Women Voters Candidate Forum tonight.

VII. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to adjourn at 9:24 A.M.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:

Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk

Tricia Schlessiger, Chairman