

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/3LjGxLb>

November 4, 2025

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 4th day of November, 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

Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4th District, Chairman

Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner, 5th District

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk

Matt Patzner, County Administrator

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve the agenda with the amendment adding Item A and moving all other items down, Honoring the Ellinwood High School Girls Volleyball Team.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Minutes of the October 21, 2025, and the October 28, 2025, Regular Meetings were not available.

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 October 21, 2025, and ending November 4, 2025.

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

Commissioner Reif moved to approve the appropriations for the period of October 21, 2025, to November 4, 2025. Authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. PROCLAMATION 2025-18: HONORING THE ELLINWOOD HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VOLLEYBALL TEAM

-Chairman Tricia Schlessiger will present details. The Ellinwood High School Girls Volleyball Team is hereby honored as the Kansas 2A Volleyball State Champions. The Lady Eagles have a perfect 47-0 record for the 2025 season, with Max Prep Sports calculating 1,297 average kills, 339 ace serves, 1,608 serve points, 47 solo and 215 assisted for a total of 155 blocks, 1,456 digs, 1,204 assists and the reception of 1,013 serves. The Commission, in recognition of the student athletes, their families and the USD 355 School District, declares Tuesday, November 4, 2025, as ELLINWOOD HIGH SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL DAY in Barton County, Kansas. Coach Maxwell and the Lady Eagles are hereby honored collectively and individually for their team achievements and for the pride that they have brought to Central Kansas.

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Chairman Tricia Schlessiger congratulated the team. She said they had worked together since 2nd grade for this achievement and she was very proud of all of them.

Commissioner Zimmerman said she admired the work and dedication it took to go 47-0, tremendous accomplishment.

Commissioner Hutchinson said congratulations and well done.

Commissioner Esfeld congratulated them as well.

Commissioner Schlessiger read the proclamation.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to adopt Proclamation 2025-18, Honoring the Ellinwood High School Girls Volleyball Team.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

B. 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. As the Treasurer needed the report completed, the Commission will be asked to ratify the order.

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

BATCH #13	VALUES	ESCAPED TAXES	ADDED / ABATED	REFUNDS
Gas				
Oil	15,497		\$0.00	\$0.00
Personal Property	14,438		\$0.00	\$0.00
Real Estate	0		\$0.00	\$0.00
16/20 M Trucks	4,492		\$0.00	\$0.00
State Assessed Utilities				
Special Assessments				
Grand Totals	34,427	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Taxes	\$0.00			
Total Records Selected	29			

Commissioner Esfeld moved to ratify 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 Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

C. WHEATLAND TOWNSHIP: Board Appointments:

-Ms. Schmeidler will provide details. Garry Batt, Wheatland Township Treasurer, passed away in October, 2025. The remaining Wheatland Township Board members recommend that the Commission accept Tim Maier's resignation as Township Clerk and the appointment of Mr. Maier as Township

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Treasurer and Rhonda Templing as Township Clerk. It is the Commissioners' responsibility to make the appointments per KSA 25-1606.

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk, said Garry Batt had served on the Board for Wheatland Township for around 35 years and recently passed away. Tim Maier was resigning as Wheatland Township Clerk and asked to be appointed as Wheatland Township Treasurer. Rhonda Templing would be the Wheatland Township Clerk.

Commissioner Zimmerman said she had the pleasure of working with Garry Batt for a number of years. He was a tremendous board member and she was saddened by the loss.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to accept the resignation of Tim Maier as the Wheatland Township Clerk. Further, move to approve the appointment of Mr. Maier as the Wheatland Township Treasurer, effective November 3, with the position terming January 8, 2029.

AND

Moved to approve the appointment of Rhonda Templing as the Wheatland Township Clerk, effective November 3, 2025, with the position terming January 11, 2027.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

D. REVISION OF THE 2025 / 2026 AUTHORIZED POSITIONS LISTING:

-Matt Patzner, County Administrator, will provide details. It is suggested that the Commission approve the 2025 / 2026 Authorized Positions Listing. The Road and Bridge Department has need to shift a seasonal position to a part-time position. This will not impact the over-all number of County employees nor significantly impact the hours worked in the Road and Bridge Department.

Matt Patzner, County Administrator, presented details and asked for approval.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve the revised 2025 / 2026 Authorized Positions Listing.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

No Executive Session Held

E. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

-Chairman Tricia Schlessiger 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 Reif – encouraged citizens to get out and vote today.

Commissioner Schlessiger – Barton County Community College Wrestling Team assisted with landscaping at St. Joseph's CDC and would be returning for more community service this coming weekend.

Patrick Hoffman – Barton County Tax Sale would be held, Wednesday, November 19th, at the Knights of Columbus in Great Bend. Owners could redeem properties up until the day prior.

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VII. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Reif moved to adjourn at 9:26 A.M.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:

Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk

Tricia Schlessiger, Chairman