

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/43B8Ta3>

November 17, 2025

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 17th 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.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the minutes of the October 21, 2025, the October 28, 2025, and the November 4, 2025, Regular Meetings.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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 November 4, 2025, and ending November 17, 2025.

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

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve appropriations for the period of November 4, 2025, to November 17, 2025. Authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES: Voting Delegates:

-Matt Patzner, County Administrator, will provide details. The Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) will hold its Annual Conference from December 9 – 11, 2025, in Wichita. Each year, the Commission designates a voting delegate and first and second voting alternates for the meeting.

Matt Patzner, County Administrator, asked the commissioners to consider naming a voting delegate and alternates.

Commissioner Schlessiger said she would not be able to attend the overview and felt that someone else would be named voting delegate.

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Commissioner Zimmerman moved to designate Commissioner Reif as the Kansas Association of Counties Voting Delegate with Commissioner Schlessiger named as First Alternate and Commissioner Hutchinson named as Second Alternate. Direct the County Clerk to provide KAC with voting delegate information via the KAC website.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

B. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Replacement of Certain Computers:

-Mr. Patzner will provide details. On October 28, 2025, the Commission authorized the purchase of certain computer equipment from Bauer Computer at a cost of \$25,225.00. The cost was divided by department. Since purchase, CKCC has declined the equipment and 911 has requested that the laptop be assigned to that office.

Matt Patzner, County Administrator, said the computer purchases were approved at a previous meeting. One computer was switched to a different department, and the purchase line had been corrected.

Commissioner Reif moved to cancel the \$2,214.00 Bauer Computer encumbrance from October, 28, 2025, and instead assess that cost to the 911 / Communications Account of the General Fund, Office Furniture and Equipment Line, 001-36-6175.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

C. MEMORIAL PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Board Appointments:

-Chris Schartz, County Works Director, will present details. Persons on the Memorial Parks Advisory Committee advise and assist the Commission with the care and management of the Golden Belt and Crest Memorial Parks. Public announcements were made via the newspaper and social media of open positions on the Committee. There is one unexpired and one full term position open at this time.

Chris Schartz, County Works Director, presented details and asked for the appointments.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to appoint Brooke Haulmark to an uncompensated position ending July 1, 2027, and Nikki Seybert to an uncompensated position ending July 1, 2029, on the Memorial Parks Advisory Committee.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

D. 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.

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor, asked that the commissioners go into Executive Session for a legal matter. Hoffman said probably for a period of 20 minutes. The subject to be discussed will be consultation with the County Counselor to discuss matters related to attorney client privilege as this matter is protected by attorney / client privilege. Hoffman said to include the commissioners, County Administrator Matt Patzner, Karen Winkelman and himself.

At 9:08 A.M., Commissioner Zimmerman said to resume at 9:30 A.M., in this room, so moved.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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9:30 A.M., Commissioner Hutchinson moved to come out of Executive Session with no action taken. Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

At 9:31 A.M., Commissioner Zimmerman moved that the Commission enter into Executive Session for a period of 10 minutes. The subject to be discussed will be consultation with the County Counselor to discuss legal matters related to attorney client privilege. The reason this needs to be discussed in Executive Session is to discuss the County's position on the matter on which legal advice is being sought. The Governing body, the County Administrator, the County Counselor and Karen Winkelman, Health Director are to be included in said meeting. The Open Meeting will resume in this room. Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

At 9:41 A.M., Commissioner Esfeld moved to come out of the Executive Session with no action taken. Commissioner Reif seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

At 9:41 A.M., Commissioner Zimmerman moved that the Commission enter into Executive Session again for a period of 20 minutes. The subject to be discussed will be consultation with the County Counselor to discuss legal matters related to attorney client privilege. The reason this needs to be discussed in Executive Session is to discuss the County's position on the matter on which legal advice is being sought. The Governing body, the County Administrator, the County Counselor and Karen Winkelman, Health Director are to be included in said meeting. The Open Meeting will resume in this room at 10:00 A.M.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

At 10:00 A.M., Commissioner Hutchinson moved that we come out of Executive Session and back into Regular Session with no action taken. Commissioner Reif seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

V. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments


VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business.

VII. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Reif moved to adjourn at 10:03 A.M. Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion. All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:


Bev Schneidler
Barton County Clerk


Tricia Schlessiger, Chairman