

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/3RPd5Qz>

August 4, 2026

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 4th day of August, 2026, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Duane Reif, Commissioner, 1st District, Chairman

Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District

Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4th District

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk

Matt Patzner, County Administrator

Casey Hubbard, Assistant County Administrator

Members via phone:

Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner, 5th District, (Chairman Pro-Tem)

Members absent:

Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Schlessiger moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Schlessiger moved to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2026, Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. SOLID WASTE: Revision of Operating Rates:

-Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, will provide details. From time to time, Landfill management reviews rates to determine if the cost of disposal is adequate to cover operational and closing costs. In April, 2026, the Commission approved an increase to certain fees effective July, 2026. At this time, the Commission will consider an update to the fees.

Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, presented details.

Commissioner Schlessiger said when we discussed increasing the rates, we felt we had given adequate time, but we received feedback that trash haulers needed additional time to plan for a rate increase. She said they did not feel it was a huge increase but must have impacted some of them negatively.

Commissioner Reif said we will step back and reconsider.

Commissioner Schlessiger said due to inflation, something would have to be done to cover the costs of the landfill. Maybe we need to push the change out a little farther to accommodate people.

Commissioner Esfeld said they had not thought about haulers or different places that had contracts and were locked into certain rates. She said we do have to look at increasing rates because of the expense to rate.

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Commissioner Zimmerman said she agreed it needed further study and give more advanced notice.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to amend the Solid Waste Rates, effective August 1, 2026. Direct Ms. Hamby to notify local contractors of the rate change.

Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

No Executive Session Held

B. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

-Chairman Duane Reif 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.

IV. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Schlessiger – reminded everyone to get out and vote today.

VI. ADJOURN:

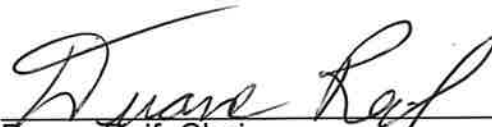
Commissioner Schlessiger moved to adjourn at 9:09 A.M.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:


Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk


Duane Reif, Chairman