

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/3VAN4pM>

October 6, 2026

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 6th day of October, 2026, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Duane Reif, Commissioner, 1st District, Chairman

Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District

Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District

Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4th District

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

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk

Matt Patzner, County Administrator

Casey Hubbard, Assistant County Administrator

Todd Powell, County Counselor

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve the minutes of the September 29, 2026, Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Schlessiger 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 September 22, 2026, and ending October 6, 2026.

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

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve appropriations for the period of September 22, 2026, to October 6, 2026. Authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. SHERIFF'S OFFICE: Service Update:

-Sheriff Brian Bellendir will provide details. The Commission adopted a Resolution transferring the provision of 911 Services to the Sheriff's Office in early September. Sheriff Bellendir will provide an update at this time.

Sheriff Brian Bellendir said Resolution 2024-16, 911 Advisory Board, would need to be revised to include all stakeholders. He said Fire Departments and EMS were separate entities in most of the county. Bellendir said it should allow every entity to have a voice. Bellendir had Lieutenant Hales with him and said they had two or three people currently in training. There were three openings, but they were no longer at the dangerous staffing levels that they were at several weeks ago.

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Commissioner Zimmerman said she had heard from a couple of Fire Chiefs that the board needed to be updated. Bellendir said yes, it was something that evolved and he wanted to make sure everyone was included.

Commissioner Reif said he appreciated the transparency and it was a good idea to get EMS Directors involved.

Commissioner Zimmerman asked how often the board met. Bellendir said quarterly but the last one had been delayed. The next one was coming up soon, the first one since being under the Sheriff's Office.

Commissioner Hutchinson said he had been through a few transitions and had found that having meetings more often at first may work out better. He thanked Bellendir and Hales for taking it on.

B. HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Flu Season Vaccination Clinics:

-Lindsey Ensley, Nurse Supervisor, will provide details. Each fall, the Barton County Health Department provides influenza vaccination clinics at local events and through on-site community outreaches. All three preparations of the influenza vaccine are available. The public may also walk-in to the Health Department during regular business hours for vaccine, no appointment necessary.

Lindsey Ensley, Nurse Supervisor, said they typically go to schools, private businesses and public locations in the communities. Ensley said they have 27 outreaches planned and had already started their circuit. On September 22nd, they went to Galatia, Olmitz, Albert and Pawnee Rock. They went to Susank, Beaver, Odin and Claflin on the 23rd. Ensley said they do the same routes every year so everyone knows they will be there. They take the mobile unit, good for visibility and allows space for the public to sit and fill out paperwork. She said they also attended the Women's Expo and gave several flu shots. Ensley said they would be at the Fire Department Pancake Feed in Claflin on October 17th and the Senior Center on October 15th. They have several school outreaches planned, nursing homes and adult special services. Ensley added that they do go to individual homes if someone reaches out for those that were homebound.

Ensley said they would be partnering with the Sheriff's Office for Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, October 24th from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. on the east side of the courthouse. They will accept any unused drugs as well as sharps. She said they had the quarterly BAM (Becoming a Mom) classes begin today at the Barton County Health Department.

Commissioner Zimmerman asked Ensley if people could come to the Health Department for vaccines. Ensley said yes, they have walk-in services available.

Commissioner Reif appreciated the awareness taken to the smaller communities.

No Executive Session Held

C. 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.

V. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

OTHER BUSINESS:

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Commissioner Esfeld – talked about the softball tournament last weekend between Guns & Hoses and the Sober Mafia.

Commissioner Reif – he attended the ribbon cutting ceremony for the solar array in Hoisington.

VII. ADJOURN:

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

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Bev Schneidler
Barton County Clerk



Duane Reif, Chairman