

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®**

July 6, 2020

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 6th day of July 2020, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Kenny Schremmer, Commissioner, 1st District, Chairman
Homer Kruckenberg, Commissioner, 2nd District
James R. Daily, Commissioner, 4th District
Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District *(Chairman Pro-Tem)*
Bev Schmeidler, Assistant Deputy County Clerk
Phil Hathcock, County Administrator
Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

Members attending via phone / Teams:

Don Davis, Commissioner, 3rd District

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Kruckenberg moved to approve the agenda.
Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Daily moved to approve the minutes of the June 29, 2020, Regular Meeting.
Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

III. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS:

-An Accounts Payable Register will be submitted to the Commission for the period of June 22, 2020, and ending July 6, 2020.

Commissioner Schartz moved to approve appropriations for the period of June 22, 2020, to July 6, 2020 and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.
Commissioner Daily seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. GRANT PROGRAM: Kansas Federal Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding:

-Barton County was awarded a \$102,356.00 Federal Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) grant from the Kansas Governor's Grant Program. This program provides funding to prevent, prepare for and respond to the Coronavirus. The scope of the Barton County project includes phones and video surveillance equipment for law enforcement agencies that will be integrated into a larger and more robust system. A new phone system will provide a complete interactive setup and will assist in the immediate need for social distancing and telework related efforts. The upgraded video surveillance system will allow the County to retain storage longer than 14 days for COVID-19 investigation reasons. Virtual location journaling is also paramount to presumptive and active coronavirus investigations. Clarity will also be enhanced so that employees can remotely view security cameras to ensure safety at the Sheriff's Office, Detention Facility and the Annex at 1806 – 12th, Great Bend, Kansas, where Juvenile Services and Community Corrections are housed. Barton County is grateful for this award as it will improve efficiency in the COVID-19 pandemic response. Sue Cooper, Grant Coordinator, will be joined

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by Dereck Hollingshead, Network Administrator / IT Service Technician, in providing details on the grant award.

Sue Cooper, Grant Coordinator, said the funding would be used for response to COVID. Cooper explained that the funding goes quickly so she acted swiftly and applied. Part of it is to ensure the application coincides with Barton County's Continuity of Operations Plan. Funding in the amount of \$102,356.00 was awarded to be used to assist with response for Coronavirus in the Sheriff's Office, Juvenile Services and CKCC. Cooper said the surveillance equipment will be used to monitor social distancing compliance. The current analog system is not very clear, and the storage capacity is only 14 days. There is a need for longer storage times, especially for tracking purposes and more visibility because of escalated tensions and social distancing in the inmate population. There was also funding for telephone systems that would allow Juvenile Services and CKCC to work remotely.

Commissioner Daily asked if the phone system would allow staff to work remotely but still be available to clients. Cooper said yes.

Commissioner Schartz asked if the county had to front the money for this grant funding. Cooper said this was a reimbursement grant with no match.

Commissioner Schartz said it was good that the county has reserves so they can fund this and get reimbursed.

Cooper added there was a piece of this application for a broader infrastructure in regard to telemedicine and social distancing. Cooper said she is seeking additional funds to build a bigger, more robust system to ensure the safety of the public, inmates, and the people we serve through Juvenile Services and CKCC.

Information Only. No Action Required.

B. RESOLUTION 2020-12: Barton County Coronavirus Relief Fund Resolution:

-The State of Kansas Finance Council approved the Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas (SPARK) Taskforce's proposal to distribute \$5,268,052.00 to Barton County to help address the health and economic challenges inflicted by COVID-19. The funding level was determined by Barton County's population and impact from COVID-19. Funds are to be used as reimbursement of COVID-19 related costs and as direct aid unless otherwise approved by the SPARK Taskforce. With the adoption of the proposed Resolution, Barton County can begin the process of safely, strategically, and proactively providing communities within the County the resources needed to both mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and invest in long-term economic recovery.

Phil Hathcock, County Administrator, said the task force will distribute approximately \$5.2 million to Barton County which was calculated by population at about \$194 per person. Hathcock said the county is tasked with distributing the money to the cities, school districts and others within the county. Hathcock explained that a resolution must be adopted and submitted to the state in order to receive the funding which they expect around July 13th – 15th. There are a lot of fast timelines to meet with a lot of paperwork.

Commissioner Schartz clarified the funds come to the county and the county allocates the funding to the other entities.

Commissioner Daily moved to adopt Resolution 2020-12, Barton County Coronavirus Relief Fund Resolution.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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C. PUBLIC HEALTH: Purchase of a Mobile Unit for Community Testing and Emergency Response:

-The purchase of a mobile unit for community testing, mobile outreaches and emergency response for Public Health has been a long-term goal of the County. With more demands on the Health Department staff to provide community COVID testing, administrative staff researched purchase options. It is suggested that a used 2018 Forest River Vengeance be purchased from Harper Camperland for \$25,540.00. If approved, this expenditure would provide a resource to both mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and invest in long-term economic recovery.

Phil Hathcock, County Administrator, said Karen Winkelman and he had been working for some time on getting a mobile unit for community testing by the Health Department. Since COVID-19 started, there have been numerous requests for the Health Department to go to locations for vaccinations and testing. With the Health Department being by appointment only, the needs have risen. The unit they found has vinyl flooring and a separate bedroom with a door for private counseling.

Commissioner Daily asked about ADA accessibility. Hathcock said the back opens and has a ramp for accessibility.

Commissioner Schartz moved to approve the purchase of a used 2018 Forest River Vengeance from Harper Camperland for \$25,540.00. The purchase is to be paid through the Equipment Replacement Fund, Health Line, 072-00-6475.

Commissioner Daily 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 Schartz made a motion to adjourn at 9:24 A.M.
Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:


Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Assistant Deputy Clerk


Kenny Schremmer, Chairman

RESOLUTION 2020-12

Barton County Coronavirus Relief Fund Resolution

WHEREAS, securing the health, safety, and economic well-being of our residents is the top priority of the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas;

WHEREAS, Barton County is facing both a public health and economic crisis – the pandemic and public health emergency of COVID-19 – which has resulted in illness, quarantines, school closures, and temporary closure of businesses resulting in lost wages and financial hardship to Kansas citizens;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization declared a pandemic on March 11, 2020;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States pursuant to Sections 201 and 301 of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. § 1601, et seq. and consistent with Section 1135 of the Social Security Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 1320b-5), declared a national emergency that the COVID-19 outbreak in the United States constitutes a national emergency beginning March 1, 2020;

WHEREAS, as of this date, in Barton County, Kansas, there have been 57 reported positive cases of COVID-19, including two deaths with a likely second wave of COVID-19 cases expected in the Fall;

WHEREAS, Barton County must remain flexible to account for the evolving nature and scope of the unprecedented public health emergency posed by COVID-19, while also simultaneously beginning the process of safely, strategically, and incrementally reopening business and facilitating economic recovery and revitalization;

WHEREAS, for the aforementioned and other reasons, and in recognition and furtherance of the responsibility to provide for and ensure the health, safety, security, and welfare of the people of Barton County, the Commission has determined that the evolving public health and economic threats posed by COVID-19 require a proactive approach to provide immediate financial relief and long-term economic investment to communities within Barton County;

WHEREAS, in these challenging times, the Commission will do whatever it can to avoid immediate dangers to the health, safety, and welfare of constituents and prepare for future waves of COVID-19, including providing guidance and support for local municipal and educational entities who are making difficult and important decisions to protect the health and safety of their populations and facing significant economic challenges;

WHEREAS, on June 16, 2020, the State Finance Council approved the Strengthening People and Revitalizing Kansas (SPARK) Taskforce's proposal to distribute \$5,268,052.00 to Barton County to help address the health and economic challenges inflicted by COVID-19 based on Barton County's population and impact from COVID-19 with funds provided for reimbursement of COVID-19 related costs and as direct aid unless otherwise approved by the SPARK Taskforce.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that pursuant to the authority vested in the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, including the authority granted to this body by K.S.A. 48-904, et seq., in order to begin the process, in order to begin the process of safely, strategically, and proactively providing communities within Barton County the resources they need to both mitigating the spread of COVID-19 and invest in long-term economic recovery, the Barton County Commission accepts any funds appropriated to Barton County by the State of Kansas through the State's Coronavirus Relief Fund pursuant to the following terms designed to ensure the lawful use of funds and transparency, equity, and accountability:

1. Section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security ("CARES") Act, as codified in 42 U.S.C. § 801, provides the eligible purposes for which Coronavirus Relief Fund ("CRF") payments may be used. Under 42 U.S.C. § 801(d) funds may be used for:
 - a. necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);
 - b. not accounted for in the budget most recently approved for the county as of March 27, 2020; and
 - c. incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020 and ends on December 30, 2020.
2. The following are examples of public health expenditures allowed pursuant to paragraph 1.a. above and 42 U.S.C. § 801(d):
 - COVID-19 related expenses of public hospitals or clinics
 - COVID-19 testing and quarantine costs

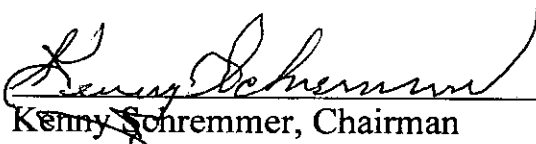
- Payroll of employees substantially dedicated to COVID-19 mitigation or response
 - Expenses for establishing and operating public telemedicine capabilities
 - Technological improvements to facilitate distance learning
 - Improving telework capabilities
 - Grants to small businesses to reimburse the costs of business interruption caused by required closures
 - Government payroll support program
 - Unemployment insurance costs related to COVID-19
3. The following are examples of public health expenditures NOT allowed pursuant to paragraph 1.a. above and 42 U.S.C. § 801(d):
- Damages covered by insurance
 - Payroll or benefits for employees not substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to COVID-19
 - Expenses that will be reimbursed under any federal program
 - Reimbursement to donors for donating items or services
 - Workforce bonuses other than hazard pay or overtime
 - Severance pay
 - Legal settlements
4. Additionally, as outlined in guidance issued by the Congressional Research Service on April 14, 2020, “Coronavirus Relief Fund payments may not be used to directly account for revenue shortfalls related to the COVID-19 outbreak. Such funds, however, may indirectly assist with revenue shortfalls in cases where expenses paid for by the Coronavirus Relief Fund would otherwise widen the gap between government outlays and receipts.”
5. To ensure the effective and timely oversight of local and state spending, and pursuant to a motion passed by the SPARK Taskforce on June 2, 2020, Barton County will comply with the following reporting and recoupment structure:
- a. On August 15, 2020, counties will provide a first reconciliation of CRF funds. This reconciliation will constitute any additional receipts to be reimbursed through the CRF and a plan for spending the flexible direct aid and any unused funds provided to the county pursuant to the allowable expenditures outlined in 42 U.S.C. § 801(d). The SPARK Taskforce will approve the submitted direct aid spending plan in a timely manner upon receipt.

- i. Additionally, any funds held by a county that have not been appropriated through the county's direct aid plan by August 15, 2020, for expenditures to occur prior to December 30, 2020, must be returned to the State for recoupment by September 15, 2020.
 - b. On September 15, 2020, counties will provide a second reconciliation of CRF funds. This reconciliation will constitute any additional receipts to be reimbursed through the CRF and an accounting of all additional spending as approved through their respective direct aid plan.
 - c. On November 1, 2020, counties will provide a third reconciliation of CRF funds. This reconciliation will constitute any additional receipts to be reimbursed through the CRF and an accounting of all additional spending as approved through their respective direct aid plan.
 - d. On December 1, 2020, counties will provide a fourth reconciliation of CRF funds. This reconciliation will constitute any additional receipts to be reimbursed through the CRF and an accounting of all additional spending as approved through their respective direct aid plan.
 - e. On February 1, 2021, counties will provide a fifth and final reconciliation of CRF funds. This date may be subject to change based on updated federal guidance for final federal reconciliation and recoupment deadlines. This reconciliation will constitute any additional receipts to be reimbursed through the CRF and an accounting of all additional spending as approved through their respective direct aid plan.
 - f. Any unspent funds not accounted for in the county's direct aid plan or otherwise unspent by December 30, 2020 must be returned to the State for recoupment. All reconciliation documents submitted to the SPARK Taskforce will be made publicly available by the Governor's Office of Recovery.
6. To ensure transparency and accountability in the deliberation, expenditure, and oversight processes associated with CRF funds, Barton County, in conjunction with the SPARK Taskforce and the Office of Recovery, will:
 - a. Make publicly accessible all meetings or hearings in which CRF expenditures are considered.
 - b. Make publicly accessible any meeting materials associated with the expenditure of CRF funds, including but not limited to agendas, presentations, and minutes.
 - c. Make publicly accessible a detailed and timely accounting of CRF spending, including any financial reconciliation materials.
 - d. Create, publicize, and manage a process for non-governmental organizations, businesses, and Barton County residents to provide comments on spending decisions, submit requests for new programs, and ask questions regarding CRF spending or administration.

- e. Create, publicize, and manage a process for any local entities receiving CRF funds to report spending and outcomes.
7. To ensure that all educational and municipal entities within counties receive CRF funds to meet their respective health and economic challenges, the SPARK Taskforce Executive Committee passed a motion on June 2, 2020, to direct counties to allocate and share CRF funding to public educational and municipal entities within their counties. Pursuant to this motion, Barton County will develop and implement a process to share, allocate, account for, and recoup funds appropriated to public educational and municipal entities within their counties for reimbursement of COVID-19 related expenses and provide reasonable consideration of flexible direct aid spending requests made to the county by public educational and municipal entities pursuant to the provisions of 42 U.S.C. § 801.
 - a. If a public educational or municipal entity has locations in more than one county, the entity should be treated as located in the county in which the entity's principal office or headquarters is located.
8. The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately impacted racial minorities within the State of Kansas, illustrating long-standing health disparities for African-American, Latino, and other racial minority populations in the United States. Accordingly, Barton County will consider and incorporate efforts to address such disproportionate impacts on racial minorities in its direct aid plan.
9. As provided in 42 U.S.C. § 801(f), the Inspector General of the Department of the Treasury determines whether CRF payments have been used for eligible purposes. Fund payments that are deemed to have been used for ineligible purposes are treated as a debt owed by the implementing government to Treasury. This resolution signifies that, upon approval, Barton County agrees to cooperate with any audits or inquiries by the Department of the Treasury concerning CRF funds and agrees to pay any debt incurred to the Department of the Treasury due to ineligible expenditures of appropriated CRF funds.
10. Barton County understands that the United States Department of the Treasury or the Governor's Office of Recovery may issue guidance regarding the transfer, expenditure, reimbursement, or other use of CRF funds

This document shall be filed with the Barton County Clerk. It shall become effective as of July 6, 2020.

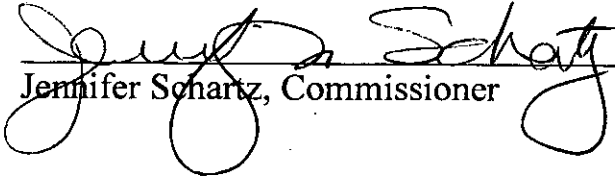
BARTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Kenny Schremmer, Chairman

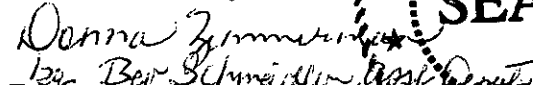

James R. Daily, Commissioner

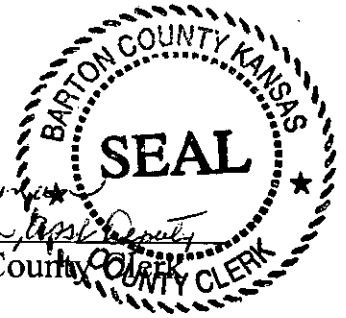
APPROVED VIA TEAMS
Don Davis, Commissioner, Via Teams


Homer Kruckenberg, Commissioner



Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk
By: Bev Schmeidler, Asst. Deputy



APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor