

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/3s8KzrR>

October 12, 2021

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 12th day of October 2021, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Kirby Krier, Commissioner, 1st District
Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District (*Chairman Pro-Tem*)
James R. Daily, Commissioner, 4th District, Chairman
Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District
Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk
Barry McManaman, Interim County Administrator
Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

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

Commissioner Krier moved to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2021, Regular Meeting.
Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Minutes of October 5, 2021, Regular Meeting were not available.

II. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS:

-An Accounts Payable Register will be submitted to the Commission for the period of September 28, 2021 and ending October 12, 2021.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve appropriations for the period of September 28, 2021, to October 12, 2021 and authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.
Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

A. BOARD APPOINTMENT: SouthWest Kansas Area Agency on Aging:

-Barton County accepted applications for two positions on the SouthWest Kansas Area Agency on Aging (SWKAAA) Sub-Regional Council. On October 5, 2021, Kathleen McGinnis was reappointed to the Council. At this time, the Commission will continue discussions reference the remaining open position. It is noted that SWKAAA helps determine long term needs and programs for all senior citizens in Southwest Kansas. The uncompensated term expires September, 2024.

Commissioner Esfeld said she visited with Madonna Oborny and said she has a lot of experience.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to appoint Madonna Oborny to the SouthWest Kansas Area Agency on Aging Sub-Regional Council for an uncompensated position that would end in September, 2024.
Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Schartz said several people applied for this position, which is why they tabled the item for more discussion.

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COMMISSION: Façade Improvement Grant: Review Applications:

-The Façade Improvement Grant program has available funding. The Commissioners will review multiple applications to determine award amounts up to 75% of eligible project costs, with a maximum award of \$20,000.

Awards will be given based on the project's size and visual impact. The program prioritizes retailers and restaurants and project applications that commit more than the minimum required match amount.

Sue Cooper, Grant Coordinator, said this property is commonly known as the Mule Barn. Total project cost is \$23,070 and are requesting \$17,302.50 which is a 25% match. Project includes paint for front of building and windows.

Commissioner Krier moved to approve the Façade Improvement Grant for **Hoisington Community Development Company, Inc.**, at **157 S Main St, Hoisington**, for an award of \$17,302.50 and direct the Finance Officer to encumber this award amount from the Capital Improvement Fund, Building and Fixed Equipment - General Line, 071-00-6305.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. PROCLAMATION 2021-17: Domestic Violence Awareness Month, October, 2021:

-Domestic violence is a preventable public health problem. It is important that measures be taken to provide domestic violence victims services as about one-quarter of the homicides in Kansas are perpetrated by current or former intimate partners. Joanne Wondra, Executive Director, Family Crisis Center, will ask the Commission to recognize October, 2021, as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Jamie Fager, Family Crisis Center, introduced Heather McLemore, Kasey Dalke, Summer Bates, Liz Handy and Maria Gamez from the Crisis Center.

Fager read the proclamation.

Commissioner Krier asked if 2020 was an anomaly because of COVID and if there was an uptick in cases. Fager said she heard their numbers were rising and noted they are still displaced from their building, so their walk-in numbers are lower. They are seeing lower local numbers and are hoping to reach those people. Fager said they do not think there is less need, but thinks it is due to the building situation.

Dave Paden said close encounters, especially during COVID, elevates everything and said there has been an increase.

Commissioner Esfeld said her cousin's daughter was tragically killed by her boyfriend in Manhattan a few years ago.

Commissioner Daily said Matt Patzner's grandmother started the Family Crisis Center, and his mother took over when Patty Hansen left.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked what the plan is for getting back in their building. Fager said they are waiting on HVAC.

Commissioner Krier moved to adopt Proclamation 2021-17, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, October, 2021.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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J. COMMISSION: Façade Improvement Grant: Review Applications

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Awards will be given based on the project's size and visual impact. The program prioritizes retailers and restaurants and project applications that commit more than the minimum required match amount.

Sue Cooper, Grant Coordinator, said there was \$443,719.25 remaining. The next application is from Dry Lake Brewing. Project includes a wooden façade background, lighting, and a sign. Total project cost is \$25,972.96 and requesting \$19,479.72 for a 25% match.

Commissioner Hutchinson said he was at Dry Lake recently and had someone say while there that he did not feel like he was in Great Bend anymore. Hutchinson said that is exactly what they were looking to accomplish.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the Façade Improvement Grant for **Dry Lake Brewing, LLC, at 1305 Main St, Great Bend**, for an award amount of \$19,479.72 and direct the Finance Officer to encumber this award amount from the Capital Improvement Fund, Building and Fixed Equipment - General Line, 071-00-6305.

Commissioner Krier seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Sue Cooper, Grant Coordinator, said the second project is for Gerald & Kayleen Kern at 2020 11th Street. The project includes windows and paint. Total project cost is \$13,803.00 and requesting \$10,352.25 for a 5% match.

Commissioner Schartz said paint and new windows seems to just be regular maintenance and said she would like to see more updates to it in order to improve the look of the façade.

Commissioner Schartz moved to deny the application to **Gerald M. & Kayleen A. Kern**, for the Façade Improvement.

Commissioner Krier seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Sue Cooper said there is now \$136,801.00 remaining.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked for the total amount of project costs. Cooper said the total projects approved to date is \$966,631.20.

Commissioner Hutchinson said we are going to invest \$600,000 and the community is going to invest close to \$1.2 million.

C. KANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT: Solid Waste Grant Program:

-Barton County was awarded \$16,759.11 from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment Kansas Competitive Solid Waste Grant Program for Local Government. This project creates a cost-free college campus recycling program at Barton Community College in Great Bend, Kansas. Barton Community College will be collaborating with Sunflower Diversified Services for household recycling and Rosewood Services for electronic recycling. This campus recycling grant program is relevant to Barton County's solid waste management plan, as recycling is the primary source of waste diversion extending the landfill's useful life. An RFP was released for purchasing two four-bin trailers for household recycling and two metal up-right bins for electronic recycling products to fulfill the objectives of the grant.

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Phil Hathcock, Solid Waste Director, said they only received two bids, one for the trailers and one for the recycling bins. Hathcock said this includes a 25% match paid through the Solid Waste budget. Hathcock said after this purchase, there will be \$300 remaining in the grant and said this was set aside for signage. The recycling business supports challenged and underdeveloped people in the community.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked if the grant included public education in order to keep lithium batteries out of the landfill which are causing multiple fires at the landfill. Rechargeable batteries used in DeWalt equipment is an example. Hathcock said no, that is a separate grant that has not yet been awarded.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the purchase of two (2) RSWT-1000 4-bin AlleyCat Recycling Trailers from Plymouth Industries for \$18,174.00 and two (2) collection bins with powder coating from Scott's Welding for \$3,871.48. Total project cost, \$22,045.48, is to be paid from the Solid Waste Fund, Recycling Grant Line, 140-68-5905. Grant monies remitted to Barton County to reimburse 75% of the expenditures are to be deposited in the Solid Waste Fund, State Funds Received Line, 140-00-4325.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

D. COMMISSION DISCUSSION: Cancelling the Tuesday, November 23, 2021, Commission Agenda Meeting:

-Thanksgiving will be Thursday, November 25, 2021. County business offices are closed both that Thursday and Friday, November 26, 2021. In light of the shortened work week, it is suggested that the Tuesday, November 23, 2021, agenda meeting be cancelled.

Commissioner Shawn Hutchinson said at least one, maybe two commissioners and the Interim Administrator will be on vacation the week of Thanksgiving. It will be tough to get the agenda out that week. Fair to say we have been putting in the hours to make things happen for the county.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to cancel the Tuesday, November 23, 2021, Barton County Commission agenda meeting.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

E. LEGISLATIVE ISSUES: KAC Legislative Policy Statement:

-On October 18 – 20, 2021, County officials will meet at the Kansas Association of Counties (KAC) Annual Conference. An important item that will be discussed is the KAC Legislative Policy Statement. Member Counties will be called to review the issues and determine the platform's final form. It will then be utilized during the upcoming Legislative Session to promote issues related to County Government. Each year, Barton County reviews and considers the KAC Platform and other initiatives that may have local interest.

Barry McManaman, Interim County Administrator, said it is typical to discuss the KAC platform and said it is very important to go and support the KAC.

Commissioner Krier moved to approve the 2022 KAC Legislative Policy Statement and support for the document at the KAC Annual Conference.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

F. CANCELLATION: Contract, Kansas Department of Revenue and Barton County, Kansas:

In 2004, Barton County entered into an agreement with the Kansas Department of Revenue to provide for the issuance of driver's licenses and other related services at the Courthouse. That contract was updated in 2017. At this time, the Commissioners will consider cancelling the contract.

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Paul Fernkopf and Jessica Tyson, on behalf of David Harper of the Kansas Department of Revenue, attended via Teams®.

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor, said the Department of Revenue has occupied space in the courthouse since 2004. The contract allows the termination of the agreement with 180-days' notice which allows the department time to find alternate space. This would be a 'without cause' contract termination.

Commissioner Daily said it is not like we are throwing them to the curb. We have offered them another space in a county owned building. The courthouse space is needed for other functions. The intention is to utilize that space and get that process started so we can make the changes we need to make. This allows them time to decide if they want to use the space we offered.

Commissioner Esfeld invited KDOR to view the alternate space and said it has no stairs and better parking.

Commissioner Hutchinson said the space is where they take their motorcycle driving tests.

Paul Fernkopf asked if the space is similar in size. Commissioner Krier said it a little bigger with bathrooms and separate entrance.

Fernkopf said he would look at the space.

Commissioner Krier said Road and Bridge could move them.

Fernkopf asked if they had to terminate the contract or could they just amend the contract. Patrick Hoffman said it is better to terminate and work with an actual deadline.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to cancel the Contract, Kansas Department of Revenue and Barton County. Direct the Commission Chairman to sign on a Letter of Termination to be submitted to the Kansas Department of Revenue activating the 180-day notice period.

Commissioner Krier seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

G. GOVERNMENT EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT CONSULTANT:

-Barton County invited proposals from experienced government recruitment consultants to search for a new County Administrator for Barton County, Kansas. The consulting firm must demonstrate experience hiring executive administration for governing bodies in Kansas. In addition, the consulting firm must work with the governing board to search and identify qualified candidates for the open County Administrator position. The proposal deadline was 1:00 pm, October 6, 2021.

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor, said the county sent out an RFP, but there were no responses. Hoffman said he contacted Don Osenbaugh of Osenbaugh Consulting. Hoffman said Osenbaugh Consulting is very concerned about confidentiality and will use the non-employee executive session for discussion which is allowed for under KOMA. They will not release the names of applicants.

Commissioner Schartz asked if they will need to have those discussions in Executive Session then. Hoffman said yes, they will most likely receive more applications as most of the applicants are employed in County Government and do not want their application to be publicized.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the Personnel Services Agreement for County Administrator Search with Osenbaugh & Deardoff Consulting. Contract Cost, \$11,000.00, and related expenses to be paid from the General Fund, Other Contractual Services Line, 001-18-5465.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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I. JUVENILE SERVICES: Ratification of Insurance Purchase:

-In the normal course of business, the 2022 vehicular insurance policy for that department was approved through Juvenile Services. It was later determined that this purchase was outside of scope of the procurement policy. Corrective action was determined to be more costly than ratification of the existing policy. Marissa Woodmansee, Juvenile Services Director, will ask that the Commission ratify the \$3,514.00 purchase with Conrade Insurance Group Inc.

Marissa Woodmansee, Juvenile Services Director, said they learned this purchase was outside the procurement policy, so they looked at short term gap insurance which also exceeded the procurement policy. Woodmansee asked the expense to be ratified.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to ratify the \$3,514.00 purchase of vehicular insurance through Conrade Insurance Group Inc for Juvenile Services.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

V. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Comm Schartz: Will meet as the Board of Health after this meeting.
- Comm Daily: We will also meet as the Fire District.
- Don Paden: Wife Beth is the strongest woman he knows. If not for her, he would be a mess. Have five children: Kathy in Michigan, Sherry and family at home with COVID, and Edy, Bill and David were present this morning. Has a tremendous family. You all have tremendous families, but you do not compete with mine. The boys picked him up for the commission meeting, so he knew something was up.
- The Commissioners thanked Don Paden for his service and all he does for everyone.


VII. ADJOURN.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to adjourn at 10:05 A.M.

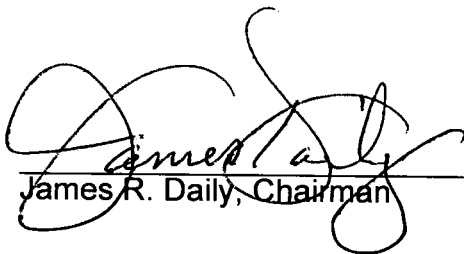
Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Donna Zimmerman
Barton County Clerk



James R. Daily, Chairman

PROCLAMATION 2021-17

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, family and relationships are often counted among life's greatest blessings, and tragically, many Kansans' relationships are tarnished by violence and fear; and

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity, due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, economic and coercive control or abuse; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner, which translates into 12 million people nationally and approximately 557,275 Kansas or 20% of the Kansas population; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Justice reports that intimate partner homicides comprise 14% percent of all homicides in the United States and women are twice as likely as men to be killed by an intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, the Kansas Bureau of Investigations reports that 25.4% of all homicides in Kansas in 2019 were related to domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, in Kansas in 2019, one domestic violence murder occurred every 11 days, 1 hour and 27 minutes; and

WHEREAS, in Kansas in 2019, one domestic violence incident was reported to law enforcement every 23 minutes, 25 seconds; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the Family Crisis Center, Inc.'s Domestic and Sexual Violence Center answered 1,678 crisis calls, sheltered 33 women, men and children and worked with 365 domestic violence survivors; and

WHEREAS, as this violence is inconsistent with the values of our community, it will not be excused or tolerated and we, as a community, must learn about domestic violence and the impact on survivors, families and the community as a whole; and

WHEREAS, in declaring this month of October as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month" we encourage all citizens to speak out against domestic violence, to provide support for survivors of these crimes, to encourage community leaders to hold perpetrators accountable, and to make domestic violence prevention efforts a priority by hosting events, by creating policies at school and work, and by working with Family Crisis Center, Inc.'s Domestic and Sexual Violence Center.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, that the month of October 2021 is "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH".

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

James R. Daily
James R. Daily, Chairman

Barb Esfeld
Barb Esfeld, Commissioner

Shawn Hutchinson
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner

Kirby Krier
Kirby Krier, Commissioner

Jennifer Schartz
Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Donna Zimmerman
Donna Zimmerman
County Clerk

