

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/3QXLdEd>.

November 16, 2022

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 16th day of November 2022, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Kirby Krier, Commissioner, 1st District
Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District, *(Chairman Pro-Tem)*
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District, Chairman
Jon Prescott, Commissioner, 4th District
Jennifer Scharz, Commissioner, 5th District
Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk
Matt Patzner, Director of Operations
Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Krier moved to amend the agenda and add Item F, Memorandum of Understanding: Between Comanche Township and Barton County Kansas, Regarding SE 40 Road, Being a Township Road in Comanche Township, Barton County, Kansas.

Commissioner Esfeld asked would that be Item G.

Commissioner Hutchinson said all I have got is going through E here.

Commissioner Prescott seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Minutes of the October 26, 2022, November 2, 2022, and November 9, 2022, Regular Meetings were not available.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. ROSEWOOD SERVICES ROOTS AND WINGS FOUNDATION: Letter of Support:

-Howard Partington, Rosewood Services, will provide details. The Rosewood Services Roots and Wings Foundation requests the Commission provide a Letter of Support for a Kansas Department of Transportation grant application. Under the application, the Foundation will apply for the replacement of two older mini vans and \$10,000.00 in operating funds. Both the vans and operational monies will be used to advance transportation services for persons with disabilities and senior citizens.

Howard Partington, Rosewood Services, said it had been a couple of years since they applied for a vehicle. With COVID-19, they decided to just make it through with the vehicles they had as they struggled with having drivers. They have 4 KDOT vehicles in the fleet with the remainder being privately owned by Rosewood Services. Here today to ask for support for one additional vehicle. They applied for one box van at approximately \$110,000.00. KDOT would cover 80% of the cost with Rosewood paying the other 20% or about \$22,000.00. There was a separate application for funds for operating approximately \$10,000.00. They operate only on the 5310 program and that is not general transportation, only for the elderly and disabled.

Commissioner Prescott said it was a great service that the county needed and asked Partington if they go outside the county. Partington said not too far outside the county normally but there were exceptions for ants.

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Commissioner Prescott asked if they charged a fee. Partington said \$2.00 fee and vouchers available.

Commissioner Prescott moved to approve the Letter of Support for the Rosewood Services Roots and Wings Foundation Kansas Department of Transportation Grant Application.

Commissioner Krier seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

B. COUNTY ENGINEER: 2023 Biennial Bridge Inspections:

-Barry McManaman, County Engineer, will provide details. The County Engineer posted a Request for Proposals on Vendor Registry seeking an engineering firm to perform the 2023 Biennial Bridge Inspections. Work includes routine bridge inspections following the Kansas Department of Transportation's "Local Routine Bridge and Element Level Inspection Scope of Services and Forms" guidelines. Barton County is required to have all 372 bridge length structures inspected every two years. Three proposals were received. The County Commission will be asked to consider the proposals received and select a firm to do the inspections in the spring of 2023.

Barry McManaman, County Engineer, said they received 3 bids:

Cook, Flatt & Strobel Engineers, Topeka	\$80/bridge	total \$29,760.00
Kirkham Michael & Associates, Ellsworth	\$90/bridge	total \$33,480.00
Kaw Valley Engineering, Junction City	\$95/bridge	total \$35,340.00

McManaman said Kirkham Michael had done the bridge inspections for Barton County since 2003 and had always provided great service. All are reputable companies but he recommended Kirkham Michael.

Commissioner Krier moved to select Kirkham Michael and Associates to provide the 2023 Biennial Bridge Inspections for Barton County. Cost of service, estimated at \$33,480.00, to be paid from the Special Bridge Fund, Professional Service Fees Line, 003-92-5475-92.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

Commissioner Schartz said she was all about safety but wondered if every two years was necessary, could it be done every three years. McManaman said the bridge collapse in Minneapolis spurred the federal government to have bridges inspected regularly. He recently attended a meeting where it was discussed about relaxing the frequency.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

C. SOLID WASTE: Solid Waste Planning Committee:

-Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, will provide details. Per KSA 65-3405, Barton County is required to form and maintain a Solid Waste Planning Committee to develop and perform an annual review of the Solid Waste Management Plan, which is then approved by the Commission. This committee is comprised of representatives of Cities, Counties and the private industry as served by the Barton County Landfill.

Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, said several members had retired or were no longer with their represented organizations. She had received five new member applications from Scott Turner, Pawnee County; Brad Helfrich, City of Ellinwood; Shawn Bates, Sunflower Diversified; Troy Daubert, Superior Essex and Jon Prescott, Ellinwood.

Commissioner Schartz asked Hamby how many members could be on the committee. Hamby said no more than 35.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to appoint Scott Turner, Brad Helfrich, Shawn Bates, Troy Daubert and Jon Prescott to the Solid Waste Planning Committee.

Commissioner Krier seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Acceptance of the CDC Closing the Gap with Social Determinates of Health Accelerator Plans Grant:

-Karen Winkelman, Health Director, will present details. The Health Department has been notified that it has received \$29,000.00 through the Center of Disease Control (CDC) Gap with Social Determinates of Health Accelerator Plans program. The primary focus of this grant is to reach the underserved population. It is anticipated, should the funding be accepted, it would be used to offset the salary of the Health Educator and for program supplies.

Karen Winkelman, Health Director, said she was contacted by KDHE in June 2022 to see if they would be interested in working on the project and Winkelman submitted a letter of support. She received notification in September that Barton County and Montgomery County were chosen as recipients of the \$29,000.00. With that funding, they will work with LHEAT (Local Health Equity Action Team) to come up with solutions to help the underserved population. Katelyn Sigler will be involved with the Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Grant. Part of her salary could be supplemented with this grant due to the work she would be doing.

Commissioner Krier asked Winkelman if she was talking about a financial gap. Winkelman said it was access to healthcare and healthy food access.

Sigler said they had two goals, access to clinical linkages and access to healthy foods.

Commissioner Schartz said she was glad that Barton County gets noticed by the state and when monies become available, they look to us. Barton County has always been progressive. Winkelman said she felt Sigler's work she had done was why KDHE reached out.

Commissioner Schartz moved to accept the \$29,000.00 CDC Closing the Gap with Social Determinates of Health Accelerator Plans Grant. Direct the Commission Chairman to sign any forms required to accept the funding.

Commissioner Prescott seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

E. HEALTH DEPARTMENT: Remodel of Bathrooms and Doorways:

-Ms. Winkelman will present details. The Health Department accepted proposals for the remodel of certain areas of the Health Department to provide for a decontamination and washer / dryer area and to provide a meeting room better suited to larger meetings when dealing with HIPPA-related topics. Brentwood Builders submitted the only proposal at a bid of \$70,928.00. Ms. Winkelman has received authorization to reallocate certain grant funding to cover the majority of the project cost.

Karen Winkelman, Health Director, said she submitted a letter to KDHE for an ELC grant and to use \$50,000.00 of that grant for remodeling at the Health Department. They would combine 2 of the restrooms to make 1 to be a decontamination area with a shower as well as washer and dryer. Also converting the library into a more private area for discussion of HIPPA related meetings. Winkelman received approval for the \$50,000.00 and received one bid from Brentwood Builders. Winkelman requested an additional \$10,000.00 for use in the project and KDHE approved it.

Commissioner Hutchinson had looked at the areas to be remodeled and thought it made sense. He added that Winkelman must have some pull with KDHE to get the extra \$10,000.00 that quickly.

Commissioner Prescott moved to accept the \$70,928.00 proposal from Brentwood Builders for the Remodel of Bathrooms and Doorways. Move to encumber the project cost as follows:

\$50,000.00 – ELC Grant, Other Contractual Services Line, 006-73-5465
\$10,928.00 – Health Fund, Other Contractual Services Line, 006-52-5465

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Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Schartz asked when the work would begin. Winkelman said Brentwood Builders thought work could be initiated before the end of the year.

ADDED ITEM

F. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING: Between Comanche Township and Barton County Kansas, Regarding SE 40 Road, Being a Township Road in Comanche Township, Barton County, Kansas:

-Commissioner Kirby Krier will present details. For several years, the Commission has sought a collaborative effort that would allow for the improvement of 1.5 miles of roadway in Comanche Township. It is proposed that the County enter into a Memorandum of Understanding that will allow the Road and Bridge Department to improve a prescribed section of SE 40 Road for an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00. The Township would be responsible for maintenance after completion.

Commissioner Krier presented details. Comanche Township would provide labor and equipment for the project as well.

Commissioner Krier moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding, Between Comanche Township and Barton County Kansas, Regarding SE 40 Road, Being a Township Road in Comanche Township, Barton County, Kansas.

Commissioner Prescott seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

IV. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

- Commissioner Esfeld – statutes were revised and if a county fell out of compliance on commercial property, the state would be required to hire a Fee Appraiser to appraise 1% of commercial properties. Barton County was out of compliance and has 1,267 commercial properties so the Fee Appraiser will have to appraise 12.67 commercial properties. Nothing must be done with the new information, there are no consequences. The estimated cost for Barton County would be \$26,000.00 and right now would be paid for by the state.
- Wendy Prosser, County Appraiser – it was part of the “Dark Store” and the legislation was passed in 2018 but just came to fruition this year. We turn in our data to PVD and they audit it. Sales that come through each year are sent to the state and they look at those to see what the county had them appraised at, they only utilize what they consider valid open market transactions. The appraiser can appeal the sales used for the ratio studies. There was one sale that was a multimillion-dollar sale that Prosser deemed invalid. However, the state ratio department did not throw that sale out. That one sale made her out of compliance.
- Commissioner Esfeld – David Harper is going to work on getting changes made.
- Commissioner Krier – The State runs the Appraiser's Office. When people complain about taxes going up, he tells them that is because of the State. The commissioners hire the Appraiser, but the State controls the office.
- Commissioner Krier – asked Jim Jordan when tax statements would be mailed.
- Jim Jordan, County Treasurer – he was waiting on the mill levy sheet.
- Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk – would have that finished today.

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VI. ADJOURN.

Commissioner Prescott moved to adjourn at 9:59 A.M.

Commissioner Krier seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk



Shawn Hutchinson, Chairman