

Barton County Commission Agenda Meeting Minutes

Recorded audio is available on compact disk upon 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
Requests to be made pursuant to the Kansas Open Records Act and County Policy. Estimated cost of disk – Five Dollars (\$5.00).

June 22, 2015

BOARD OF BARTON COUNTY CANVASSERS

The County Commission met as the Board of County Canvassers at 8:30 am in the Office of the County Clerk to canvass ballots from the June 16, 2015 Unified School District No. 431 Mail Ballot Bond Election.

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 22nd day of June 2015, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Kenny Schremmer, Commissioner, 1st District, Chairman
Homer Kruckenberg, Commissioner, 2nd District
Don Davis, Commissioner, 3rd District
Alicia Straub, 4th District
Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District (Chairman Pro-Tem)
Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk
Richard Boeckman, County Counselor/Administrator

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Schartz moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Davis moved to approve the minutes of the June 15, 2015 Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Straub seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. RESOLUTION 2015-17: Extending the Discharge Period of Fireworks to July 3 and 4, 2015, under a Supplement to Resolution 2004-06, Establishing a Policy on Fireworks for Barton County and Rescinding Resolution 1982-19, Untitled, Dated October 9, 1982, Reference the Same, Adopted January 26, 2004:

-Chairman Kenny Schremmer asked that this Resolution allowing for the discharge of fireworks on July 3 and July 4, 2015 be placed on the agenda. Chairman Schremmer notes that Barton County has been blessed with wet weather this year. In years past, the use of fireworks has been cancelled due to the extreme dry conditions. This, in some small way, is an expression of appreciation to those businesses that suffered by the ban on fireworks.

Commissioner Schremmer said vendors were hurt by the ban on fireworks a couple of years ago and said this would be a nice gesture. Schremmer said this resolution is for Friday and Saturday of this year only.

Commissioner Davis said the 4th of July is a celebration of this great country and it would be a good thing if the public could celebrate an extra day because law enforcement would not have to respond to as many complaints.

Barton County Commission Agenda Meeting Minutes

Recorded audio is available on compact disk upon 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

Requests to be made pursuant to the Kansas Open Records Act and County Policy. Estimated cost of disk – Five Dollars (\$5.00).

Commissioner Schartz said she received a lot of negative calls regarding the extra day. Schartz said the wheat harvest may not be completed and noted it could be very dry by then. If the cities do not allow fireworks on the extra day, citizens may go outside of city limits to discharge fireworks. The additional day could put stress on budgets with overtime for firefighters and extra call time for the volunteer departments.

Commissioner Straub clarified fireworks can only be discharged on private property, not public property.

Sheriff Bellendir said allowing fireworks on the 3rd, when a lot of people are already off in observance of the Saturday holiday, would reduce the call rate for his officers. Bellendir said, from a law enforcement perspective, officers have better things to do than tell kids to quit shooting fireworks. Bellendir said he had no objection to the additional day.

Chris Komarek, Ellinwood Fire Chief, said when fireworks were banned a couple of years ago it was a matter of public safety. Komarek said Ellinwood and Claflin allowed fireworks that year. Komarek said he is opposed to the extra day as it creates a burden on their manpower and equipment and noted the vendors already ordered their supply months ago.

Doug Hubbard, Claflin Fire Chief, said he echoed Komarek's statements and said the fire department's main goal is prevention and is opposed to an additional day. Hubbard said Mayor Urban is not interested in a special meeting in Claflin to expand days.

Mike Napolitano, Great Bend Fire Chief, said he agrees with the other fire chiefs and is not in favor of an additional day and said he is concerned about wheat fields and multiple fires occurring at the same time.

Ly Miller, Emergency Manager, said Steve Wilhelm, Galatia Fire Chief, expressed his opposition to the resolution and noted Galatia Fire is a volunteer department.

Commissioner Schartz said people are often confused between County and City government and said the Commissioners have a responsibility to educate the public if the resolution passes.

Commissioner Schremmer said Kenton Doze, Hoisington Police Chief, is also opposed.

Linda Barnes, T & L Fireworks, said the holiday falling on the weekend will bring people to town and said they order extra supplies when the holiday lands on a weekend. Barnes said they are in favor of the resolution since they were shorted a few years back. Barnes said Larned allows the discharge of fireworks from July 1 – 4 and Dodge City allows from July 3 – 5.

Karla Richards, T & L Fireworks, said there are a lot of split families and permitting an extra day would allow people to celebrate with multiple families.

Lana Kephart, T & L Fireworks, said a lot of families have multiple events to attend and said the extra day would be beneficial. Kephart said the vendors do a good job of educating the public at their stands. They are going to the Hoisington City Council meeting tonight in hopes they will also approve the extra day.

Dena Popp, Barton County Communications, said it will increase the call load and would need extra staff if fireworks are allowed on the 3rd.

Tom Macy, Menges Fireworks, said allowing fireworks on the 3rd would not double sales, but would increase sales and said Menges is in favor.

Barton County Commission Agenda Meeting Minutes

Recorded audio is available on compact disk upon 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

Requests to be made pursuant to the Kansas Open Records Act and County Policy. Estimated cost of disk – Five Dollars (\$5.00).

Commissioner Schremmer said the Beaver Fire Chief said he would go along with the other fire chiefs, but was personally alright with it.

Commissioner Davis moved to adopt Resolution 2015-17, Extending the Discharge Period of Fireworks to July 3 and 4, 2015, under a Supplement to Resolution 2004-06, Establishing a Policy of Fireworks for Barton County and Rescinding Resolution 1982-19, Untitled, Dated October 9, 1982, Reference the Same, Adopted January 26, 2004.

Commissioner Straub seconded the motion, adding to please exercise caution and celebrate responsibly. Commissioner Schremmer, Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Straub voted aye.

Commissioner Schartz and Commissioner Kruckenberg voted nay.

Motion passed 3 - 2.

B. COMMUNICATIONS / 911: Use of the 911 System:

-Since 911 was introduced in Barton County in the 1980s as a universal number for reaching emergency assistance, efforts have been made to raise public awareness about its use. Because most people face emergency situations only rarely, they lack firsthand experience with 911. Generally speaking, people are aware that they should call 911 in an emergency, but they are less aware of the circumstances in which they should not call 911. Dena Popp, 911 Supervisor, will provide details on the appropriate use of the 911 system.

Dena Popp, 911 Supervisor, said they have 14 employees and operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and noted there are typically 3 employees on duty at a time. Communications is equipped with 8 emergency 911 phone lines as well as 8 non-emergency administrative phone lines. Popp said, over the years, the number of non-emergency calls on the 911 lines has increased dramatically. They believe public education is necessary so the general public knows which number to call in any situation. The administrative number is not published at this time and they hope to get the word out to the public. The administrative number is 620-793-1920. Cellular phones make up 97% of the calls they receive. Popp said old cell phones can still dial 911, as long as they have a battery, and urged parents to not give old phone to children to play with. When calls are received, it has to be checked out.

Information Only. No Action Required.

C. EMERGENCY RISK MANAGEMENT: Fiscal Year 2015 Emergency Management Performance Grant Program:

-The Kansas Division of Emergency Management is accepting applications for the FY 2015 Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) Program. The EMPG Program provides funding to assist states and local governments in developing and carrying out emergency management programs. Amy Miller, Emergency Management Director, will provide details on the grant application.

Amy Miller, Emergency Management Director, said Barton County has applied for this grant for the past 20 years or more and noted we receive \$24,000 annually from this grant.

Funds shall be used for emergency management programs to accomplish:

- Update of Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessments (THIRA);
- Planning activities, County Emergency Operations Plans (CEOPs), Continuity of Operations (COOP), strategic planning, mitigation planning, debris removal plans, etc.;
- Sustain critical core capabilities;
- Develop and maintain multi-year training and exercise plan;
- Target training and verify capability of personnel.

Signed grant applications are due to KDEM by June 30, 2015. For FY 2014 Barton County was awarded \$24,005.

Barton County Commission Agenda Meeting Minutes

Recorded audio is available on compact disk upon 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

Requests to be made pursuant to the Kansas Open Records Act and County Policy. Estimated cost of disk – Five Dollars (\$5.00).

Commissioner Straub moved to authorize submitting the application for the FY 2015 Emergency Management Performance Grant Program to the Kansas Division of Emergency Management and direct the Commission Chairman to sign the application for the EMPG funds.

Commissioner Schartz seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

D. COUNTY SERVICES: Informational Update:

-Richard Boeckman, County Counselor / Administrator / Interim 911 Director, will provide the informational report of work completed during the last period. The report, which will be made available to the media, will serve as a public reminder of the services provided by the County on a regular basis.

- Amy Miller: Several townships and FEMA Representatives attended the damage assessment meeting held June 18th. FEMA representatives, county personnel and township officials toured the county last Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Information Only. No Action Required.

IV. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

Comm Schremmer: Thanked Sheriff Bellendir for his efforts. Hopes we all have a safe holiday weekend on July 3rd & 4th.

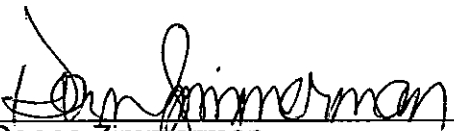
ADJOURN:


Commissioner Davis made a motion to adjourn at 9:50 A.M.

Commissioner Straub seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:


Donna Zimmerman
Barton County Clerk


Kenny Schremmer, Chairman

RESOLUTION 2015-17

Extending the Discharge Period of Fireworks to July 3 and 4, 2015, under a Supplement to Resolution 2004-06, Establishing a Policy on Fireworks for Barton County and Rescinding Resolution 1982-19, Untitled, Dated October 9, 1982, Reference the Same, Adopted January 26, 2004

WHEREAS, in 2015, Barton County received ample rainfall resulting in wet conditions; and

WHEREAS, in past years, drought conditions caused the Commission to ban the use of fireworks in the unincorporated areas of Barton County; and

WHEREAS, the Independence Day holiday falls on Saturday in 2015.

BE IT NOW RESOLVED, by the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, that the provisions of Resolution 2004-06, which describe the use of fireworks in Barton County, Kansas, shall be extended to July 3 and July 4, 2015; and

FURTHER, for 2015, it shall only be lawful for persons to fire or discharge allowed fireworks in the unincorporated areas of Barton County on July 3 and 4, 2015; and

FURTHER, said fireworks shall only be fired between the hours of 8:00 am and 12:00 midnight on the July 3 and 4, 2015, provided, that no fireworks shall be discharged in any park; and


FURTHER, that this Resolution shall become effective upon publication in the official County newspaper.

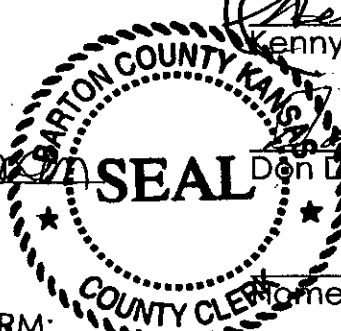
Dated this 22nd day of June, 2015.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF BARTON COUNTY, KANSAS**


Kenny Schremmer, Chair

ATTEST:



Donna Zimmerman
County Clerk




Don Davis, Commissioner

VOTED NAY
Normer Kruckenberg, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Richard A. Boeckman,
County Counselor

VOTED NAY
Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner


Alicia Straub, Commissioner