

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
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March 30, 2015

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 30th day of March 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 Kruckenberg moved we adopt the minutes, but would like to note that the safety of Barton County Road workers was preeminent after Dale Phillips made the plea for consideration of the workers and for that reason, I was for that and local traffic only signage. There seemed to be some public misinterpretation to that. The safety of the workers was the main thing that I had in mind when I voted for that, so I'd like to have that noted. I move adoption of the minutes of the March 23, 2015 Regular Meetings.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

A. GPS KIDS CLUB: Program Update:

-In March, 2014, the Commission transferred what was known as the Hoisington Annex to GPS Kids Club. The goal of the program is to provide a safe, nurturing environment for kids, kindergarten through 6th grade, after school hours and evening hours while parents work. Debbie Stephens, Program Administrator, will provide a program update. This item was tabled on February 23, 2015.

Debbie Stephens, GPS Kids Club Program Administrator, expressed appreciation for the County giving the organization the building. They are currently licensed for a capacity of 49 children and have over 50 enrolled with a daily average attendance of 20 – 27 kids. They provide homework help, scheduled activities and crafts. They provide an after school meal and snacks for those still there at 6:00 p.m. Their summer hours are 6:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Stephens said the State will visit their facility today and she anticipates they will increase the license capacity to 120 children. The GPS Board consists of a teacher from each of the schools, a daycare provider, a person from the Recreation Commission and a couple of individuals from the area. The teachers have assisted in picking out the programs for the summer. Northview Nursery is going to be planting trees and there will be a garden for the kids to tend. GPS Kids Club is DCF (Department of Children & Families) approved.

Commissioner Schremmer said they are doing amazing work.

Commissioner Schartz said they are using the building to its fullest extent and noted it is a great asset for the community.

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Karen Van Brimmer said there is building maintenance needed and invited civic groups to volunteer their time to help paint, etc.

Information Only. No Action Required.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. GREAT PLAINS DEVELOPMENT: Continuation of Membership:

-Great Plains Development assists the County, and its Cities, with Small Business Administration loan applications, Community Development Block Grant writing, economic development revolving loans and community strategic planning. The Commission will be updated on recent programs, new CDBG information on the County and Cities, discussion about CDBG-Revolving Loan fund and possible future changes and new planning services (Strategic Doing) available from GPDI. The Commission will be asked to approve the County's 2015 membership.

Bob Wetmore, Co-Director, Great Plains Development, said they serve 28 counties and help with CDBG Grant assistance applications, monitoring and administration. Wetmore said they also do a lot of work with loan fund programs. Wetmore introduced Paul Olsen, retired board member, who works with Great Plains Development.

BENEFITS TO BARTON COUNTY

- Keep the county and appointed members aware of GPDI's services.
- Serve as an ex-officio member of the county or local economic development corp. board.
- Answer questions about limited federal and state legislative matters.
- Provide letters of support for projects within the county.
- Research potential project funding sources.
- Keep the county informed of current regional economic development information.
- Provide CDBG/RLF, E-Community and StartUp Kansas administration when applicable.
- Include county/local plans in our 28-county Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.
- Link the county's web site to the updated GPDI web site.
- Give priority assistance to local businesses as GPDI prepares loan applications for federal, state, local and GPDI programs. Preparation fees are paid by the business applicant. GPDI provides workshops and training when available.
- Prepare grant applications for federal, state and local funding sources, such as:
 - Kansas Department of Commerce
 - Kansas Department of Health & Environment
 - Kansas Department of Transportation
 - USDA Rural Development
 - US Economic Development Administration

Commissioner Schartz asked if they are able to help Prairie Enterprise entrepreneurs. Wetmore said they work with the Kansas Small Business Center and that Barton County is covered out of Hays.

Commissioner Kruckenberg asked about help for Otis, Galatia and Seward. Wetmore said 51% or more of their population must be low to moderate income and noted Galatia qualifies under that criteria.

Commissioner Schartz asked if the total is \$54 million in projects. Wetmore said, yes, that is the total of all funds rallied together.

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Commissioner Schartz moved to approve the 2015 Services Agreement with Great Plains Development. Contract price, \$6,877.25, to be paid from the Finance General Account of the General Fund, Great Plains Development line, 001-26-6890.

Commissioner Kruckenberg seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

B. COMMUNICATIONS: Active911 System:

-Active911 is a digital messaging system that delivers alarms, maps, and other critical information instantly to first responders. Active911 also allows response efforts to be monitored in real time. In late 2014, the Communications Department began a 120 day trial period for the Active911 system. After using the system, Doug Hubbard, 911 Director, is confident that the system will provide notifications for County departments and will act as a secondary form of notification for responders throughout Barton County. Mr. Hubbard will ask for authorization to purchase the system for up to 190 responders. Monies are available in the Barton County 911 Fund for this proposed purchase.

Doug Hubbard, 911 Director, said the contract with Total Notify, their previous system, was discontinued in 2012 when they were sold to another company and increased their contract from a couple thousand dollars to \$16,000 per year. They looked at a couple of other providers and found Active911. The cost of the Active 911 system is based on the number of users at \$10.25 per "device" per year. There are currently 169 users and approximately 190 responders in Barton County that would use the system.

Commissioner Schartz asked Hubbard if the Active911 system is redundant. Hubbard said it's a secondary system.

Commissioner Schartz asked if cell phones will eventually become the primary system. Hubbard said, in his opinion, smart phones will eventually replace pagers, but does not look for pagers and radio transmissions to go away entirely. Active911 uses the internet, and acknowledged that sometimes the internet is down.

Commissioner Straub moved to authorize the purchase of the Active911 System for up to 190 responders and the proposed cost, no more than \$2,000, to be paid from the Barton County 911 Fund, line, 080-86-6165.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

- Hubbard introduced Donna Williams, 911 dispatcher, and said in January 2015, she fielded a call regarding a possible kidnapping in Barton County. There was information indicating the suspect was headed to Norton. Williams was familiar with that area and continued to monitor the situation. She made calls and was able to give information to help in the apprehension of the suspect. Within approximately 35 minutes, the suspect was located and apprehended. The relationship between the suspect and victim was known to be violent and could have escalated quickly. Hubbard and the Commissioners commended Williams for her work and dedication.

Donna Williams said she was simply doing her job and noted she has 21 years of experience as a 911 dispatcher.

C. PROCLAMATION 2015-05: Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, Celebrating 47 Years of Fair Housing:

-Fair Housing laws provide Kansans the basic right to live in the homes of their choice and to raise their families without fear of discrimination based solely on their race, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, religious belief, familial status or disability. Proclamation 2015-05, Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, Celebrating 47 Years of Fair Housing, not only names April, 2015, as Fair Housing Month,

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but also names the County as a partner in this endeavor. For more information about Title VIII (Fair Housing) or the State's Fair Housing Task Force, the public is encouraged to visit www.kshousingcorp.org.

Richard Boeckman, County Counselor/Administrator, read the proclamation and noted the Fair Housing Act was passed in 1968.

Commissioner Schartz moved to adopt Proclamation 2015-05, Kansas Housing Resources Corporation, Celebrating 47 Years of Fair Housing.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

D. COUNTY SERVICES: Informational Update:

-Mr. Boeckman 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.

Information Only. No Action Required.

IV. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

• Richard Boeckman: Commissioners invited to Congressman Tim Huelskamp's Town Hall mtg today at the Front Door, 1615 10th Street, from 3:45 – 4:45pm.

VI. ADJOURN:


Commissioner Kruckenberg made a motion to adjourn at 9:54 A.M.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:


Donna Zimmerman
Barton County Clerk


Kenny Schremmer, Chairman

PROCLAMATION 2015-05

**KANSAS HOUSING RESOURCES CORPORATION
CELEBRATING 47 YEARS OF FAIR HOUSING**

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States passed the Civil Rights Act of 1968, of which Title VIII declared that the law of the land would now guarantee the rights of equal housing opportunity; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, is committed to the mission and intent of Congress to provide fair and equal housing opportunities for all, and today, many realty companies and associations support fair housing laws; and

WHEREAS, the Fair Housing groups and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development have, over the years, received thousands of complaints of alleged illegal housing discrimination and found too many that have proved upon investigation to be violations of the fair housing laws; and


WHEREAS, equal housing opportunity is a condition of life in Barton County that can and should be achieved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, on behalf of its citizens, do hereby proclaim the month of April as


FAIR HOUSING MONTH

AND express the hope that this year's observance will promote fair housing practices throughout the County.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Kenny Schremmer, Chair

ATTEST:



Donna Zimmerman
County Clerk




Don Davis, Commissioner


Homer Kruckenberg, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Richard A. Boeckman,
County Counselor


Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner


Alicia Straub, Commissioner