

# 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](mailto: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).

January 30, 2017

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 30th day of January 2017, at the Barton County Courthouse.

## *Members present:*

Kenny Schremmer, Commissioner, 1st District (Chairman Pro-Tem)

Homer Kruckenberg, Commissioner, 2nd District

Don Davis, Commissioner, 3rd District

Alicia Straub, Commissioner, 4th District

Jennifer Schartz, Commissioner, 5th District, Chairman

Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk

Carey Hipp, County Counselor

## **I. OPENING BUSINESS:**

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

Commissioner Kruckenberg moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Straub seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Davis moved to consider the minutes of the January 9, 2017, the January 17, 2017, and the January 23, 2017 Regular Meetings.

Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

## **III. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION: Service Awards:**

-Barton County employees are recognized for continuous service for five, ten, fifteen and twenty years.

The County Commission, with the assistance of Wendy Birzer, Employee Relations Committee President, will recognize employees for their service.

Wendy Birzer, Employee Relations Committee President, presented the following service awards:

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EMPLOYEE	OFFICE
FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE	
Gary Bruner	Facilities Management
Dalton Cass	Solid Waste
Darin DeWitt	County Clerk's Office
Jennifer Hamby	Solid Waste
Ryan Hammeke	Community Corrections
Tyler Lehmkuhl	Community Corrections
Cyril Pafford	Sheriff's Office
Karen Smith	Sheriff's Office
Cody Vinsonhater	Solid Waste
TEN YEARS OF SERVICE	
Kim Clark	Health
Doug Parks	Sheriff's Office
FIFTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE	
Jame Allen	Appraiser's Office
Alan Baxter	Road and Bridge
Sheriff Brian Bellendir	Sheriff's Office
Robert Conrad	Road and Bridge
George Coulson	Road and Bridge
Camila Komarek	County Attorney's Office
Rhonda Shelton	Sheriff's Office
TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE	
Charlene Engleman	Noxious Weed
Mick Lang	Road and Bridge
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE	
Bev Frizell	Health
Janel Rose	Health
THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE	
Amy Miller	Emergency Risk Management
Diana Watson	Comm / HR / Finance
FORTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE	
Gary Demel	Road and Bridge

Commissioner Straub moved to recognize all of the employees that we just listed with 5, 10, 15, 20 and other years of service.  
 Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.  
 All voted aye. Motion passed.

## B. APPRAISER'S OFFICE: Bulk Mailing – Valuation Notices:

-After reviewing options, the Appraiser's Office has determined that using Komtek to create valuation notices, mailing labels and envelopes is the most effective method for creating and mailing the Valuation Notices.

Barbara Esfeld, County Appraiser, said her office is required by statute to mail valuation notices by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Esfeld said Komtek provided a quote to print and mail Certified Valuation Notices at a cost of \$8,761.50 which includes set-up and handling and noted the past few years the County contracted with Postalocity who quoted \$8,343.12. Esfeld said if notices were mailed in-house, she estimates the cost at \$10,000 plus staff time. Postalocity requires the county to send an estimated invoice for postage and then sends another statement to cover the rest of the cost after mailing is complete. Last years' service cost \$9,157.81 which is \$396 more than the Komtek quote. Postalocity also requires the county to have files uploaded two weeks prior to mailing. Komtek will set-up and upload the file themselves, therefore the county will have another week to finalize valuations. Komtek will not require postage up

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front and will not charge more if they go over the amount billed, but will adjust next year's billing if needed. If the service costs less than billed the overage will be refunded to the county. Esfeld said Riley and McPherson Counties use Komtek currently and noted mail out services saves the County over \$2,000 in supplies and postage, not including manpower.

Commissioner Straub moved to hire Komtek at an estimated amount of \$8,761.50 for bulk mailing Certificates of the Valuation Notices for 2017. That cost is to be paid from the Appraiser's account of the General Fund, Professional Service Fee's Line - 001-14-5475.

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

Casey Hubbard was not present yet, Item D was heard first.

## **D. COUNTY ENGINEER: Project Options - Bridge on East Barton County Road:**

-The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) opened bids on January 18, 2017, for a bridge replacement project. The bridge is located approximately one mile east of Great Bend on East Barton County Road. KDOT advised that the low bid was substantially over their estimate and is asking the County to make a determination on awarding the contract.

Barry McManaman, County Engineer, said the low bid from L & M Contractors was a little over \$929,000 with the other two bids over \$1 million each. McManaman said KDOT advised the low bid was substantially over their estimate and asked the County for a decision on awarding the contract. The County's share of the project would be \$185,883.40. If we reject the bid we will need to have our design firm develop a design for an alternate style of bridge and ask KDOT to advertise for bids later this year. Kirkham Michael provided an estimate on the design and construction costs if we change to a haunched or a concrete beam bridge supported on steel pilings. Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil supports with concrete beams were specified in the project for which bids were taken. Their estimates show the County should save a substantial amount of money by changing the type of bridge, and a large amount of federal money should also be saved. The cost of the GRS supports was much higher than hoped for when the project was initially developed. KDOT will pay 80% of the new conventional bridge design if approved. Barton County will pay the design cost plus soil. McManaman said KDOT said the bridge needs to be let within the next 6 months or before the October deadline, but hopefully sooner. Unfamiliarity with the project and depth of the excavation are factors for the higher estimates.

Commissioner Straub asked what has already been spent on design costs. McManaman said somewhere around \$20,000. When it was redesigned, Kirkham Michael charged another \$30,000. McManaman said he anticipates another \$22,000 to redesign.

Commissioner Schremmer moved to reject the bids and go through with a new design, this would be the general bridge with pilings. Kirkham Michael to redesign the project.

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

## **C. COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE: Request for Proposal - Painting and Carpeting:**

-The County Attorney's Office accepted bids for painting and carpeting the Third Floor Office suite until January 13, 2017. A pre-bid conference was held in December where vendors received information on the work. Expected services include moving furniture, removing carpeting, installing carpet and painting the suite within a three day period. The only bid was provided by Parr Construction, LLC. It is suggested that Diversion funds be used to finance the \$20,980.00 project.

Casey Hubbard, Office Investigator/Manager, was unavailable and requested the item be tabled.

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Commissioner Straub moved to table this item until Casey Hubbard is available to provide more detail. Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

After further discussion, Commissioners Straub and Schremmer withdrew their motions.

Commissioner Davis moved to award the bid for painting and carpeting in the third floor office suite of the County Attorney to Parr Construction, LLC. Project cost, \$20,980.00, to be paid from the Diversion Account of the County Attorney's Office, Buildings and Fixed Equipment Line, 001-08-6325-06.

Commissioner Schremmer seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **E. COUNTY SERVICES: Informational Update:**

-Jennifer Schartz, Commission Chairman, 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:**

• Comm Straub: attended the Kansas Legislative Policy group meeting in Topeka, a KAC seminar and a legislative reception. Some of the topics addressed included:

- Tax Lid
- Repeal oil & gas severance tax
- County jail time
- Motor vehicle tax phase out – oppose
- Rail service – remain neutral
- Noxious Weed law
- Land use value
- EPA wants to overregulate water rights, double taxation of irrigated land
- Opportunity to visit with other Commissioners

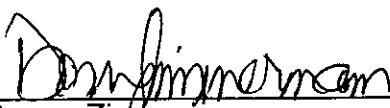
## **VI. ADJOURN:**

Commissioner Straub made a motion to adjourn at 9:43 A.M.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:

  
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Donna Zimmerman  
Barton County Clerk

  
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Jennifer Schartz, Chairman