

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/3LWkrg>

January 23, 2024

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 23rd day of January 2024, at the 1500 Kansas location.

Members present:

Duane Reif, Commissioner, 1st District
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District
Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4th District, (Chairman Pro-Tem)
Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner, 5th District
Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk
Matt Patzner, Director of Operations
Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

Members Absent:

Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District, Chairman

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Reif moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2024, Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

-There was no Old Business.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE: Request for Approval – Added / Abated / Escaped / Refunded Taxes:

-Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk, will present a listing of Added / Abated / Escaped / Refunded Taxes.

Orders for these actions are kept on file in the County Clerk's Office. These are used to correct assessments and are requested by the County Appraiser's Office or the County Clerk's Office.

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk, presented details and asked for approval.

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/3LfWkrq>

TCH #2	VALUES	ESCAPED TAXES	ADDED / ABATED	REFUNDS
Gas				
Oil	(64,880)		(\$10,029.90)	\$9,362.60
Personal Property	(15,423)		(\$2,585.90)	\$1,307.26
Real Estate	(51,010)		(\$7,556.16)	\$3,685.80
16/20 M Trucks	(6,898)		(\$1,058.92)	\$310.60
State Assessed Utilities				
Special Assessments				
Grand Totals	(138,211)		(\$21,230.88)	\$14,666.26
Total Taxes	(\$21,230.88)			
Total Records Selected	47			

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the Listing of Added / Abated / Escaped / Refunded Taxes as reviewed by the County Appraiser and presented by the County Clerk's Office. Direct the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

B. RISE UP CENTRAL KANSAS: Program Update:

-Amy Ferguson, Rise Up Central Kansas Program Coordinator, Health Equity Action Recovery Team (H.E.A.R.T.), has asked for time to provide an update on community services. Included will be information on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) All Hands on DECK project.

Amy Ferguson, Rise Up Central Kansas Program Coordinator, Health Equity Action Recovery Team (H.E.A.R.T.), said she wanted to provide an update about what Rise Up had done in the community. The last grant, Increase the Reach, aimed to ensure the underserved populations, especially those with substance abuse disorders, in rural areas received the COVID 19 information and fair access to lifetime vaccines. They use peer navigators who were people in recovery from substance use, to provide support including transportation to 318 various recovery related meetings. Those included Twelve Step, inpatient and outpatient, mental health and doctor's appointments. Using the recovery community to connect individuals and families to resources was crucial. It may be the first intercept that provided the earliest access to recovery. Peer navigators know how to access recovery resources and understand the built-in struggles that delayed asking for help and help eliminate those barriers. Peer navigators were either planting a seed or watering a seed for recovery. Rise Up also provided Adverse Childhood Experience Training to over 200 parents and caregivers last year. According to DCF, our region had the highest percentage of substance affected infants in Kansas and the third highest in caregivers affected by substance use compared to the rest of the state. As a task force of Central Kansas Partnership, Rise Up would collaborate with professionals and community partners to improve identification and raise awareness of drug endangered children. Rise Up would continue to leverage those recovering from substance abuse disorders and a network of partners to connect youth and their families to earlier access of resources. Ferguson thanked Karen Winkelman for allowing them to write this grant. She could not think of a better way to help our community than by using the people who had lived it and the people that supported them.

C. COUNTY WORKS: Winter Weather Update:

-Darren Williams, County Works Director, will provide an update on the measures taken to date this winter in reference to area roads.

Darren Williams, County Works Director, said the previous Road & Bridge Director, Dale Phillips, used to give his predictions on the weather. Williams said he had not done that but was going to today and said

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/3LWkrg>

Barton County would receive another ten inches this season. Williams said the previous storm started January 5th and ended for them January 19th. The storm started as rain, then 5-6 inches of snow fell on top of the wet surface for slick conditions. Temperatures then dropped below freezing, getting to negative degrees and the ice started building up. Then the winds came in for a few days with gusts over 40 mph causing drifts. His department fought the drifts until last Friday. As you know, the County maintains 389 miles of paved roads as well as taking care of the JC Penney's parking lot, the old Sears parking lot, County Attorney, Health Department, Sheriff's Office, Community Corrections and 911. The last snowstorm cost the County \$50,200.00 in labor, equipment and materials. They used 520 tons of 50/50 salt/sand mix and had ordered another 200 tons, over \$10,000.00, to replenish what had been used.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked Williams how much it took to treat 389 miles. Williams said it depended on the different situations. Sometimes they did not have to treat the entire roadway. They typically plow the roads, treat them and when they come back later in the day, they can knock the slush off the roads.

Commissioner Reif asked how many miles were put on the trucks in the last storm. Williams said each route was done two or three times.

Commissioner Zimmerman said she appreciated the extra work they do and maintaining the extra buildings. Williams thought the department handled it well even being short staffed.

Commissioner Schlessiger said they did an excellent job; she was able to get around well to their livestock in various locations in the county.

Commissioner Reif said they did a great job. He also wanted to recognize 911 staff, EMS, Sheriff's Office and all first responders.

Williams said they do not help motorists who were stuck. They check on them and make sure they were alright but do not tow the vehicles out.

Commissioner Hutchinson noted that 389 miles of blacktops was almost enough to go from Missouri to Colorado. Williams said they will cover that area in one day.

No Executive Session Held

D. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

-Chairman Pro Tem Tricia Schlessiger will present. Any Commissioner may make a motion for the board to recess to executive session at this time as allowed by K.S.A. 75-4319. Any motion must contain the justification for the executive session, the subject matter to be discussed, any individuals in addition to the board who will attend the executive session and the time at which the regular session shall resume.

IV. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business.

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/3LfWkrg>


ADJOURN.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to adjourn at 9:16 A.M.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:


Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk


Tricia Schlessiger, Chairman Pro-Tem