

# 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)  
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July 6, 2015

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 6th day of July 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 Straub seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Schartz moved to approve the minutes of the June 29, 2015 Regular Meeting.  
Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **II. OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

## **III. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. 2013 AUDIT: Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) for the Family Crisis Center's Domestic and Sexual Violence Center (DSVC):**

-In 2013, the Commission approved the Family Crisis Center (FCC) partnering with the County on a grant application for the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG). The approved grant, which passed through Barton County, is used for both FCC personnel and shelter costs, to include repair and operation. In June, 2015, Laura Patzner, FCC Executive Director, notified the County Administrator's Office that the FCC faced losing the grant as a result of issues with the County's 2013 audit as related to the Treasurer's Office.

Laura Patzner, FCC Executive Director, said the Family Crisis Center was a sub-grantee of Barton County and explained the grant provided funds for utilities, food, supplies and minor repairs for the shelter. Patzner said the grant also funded a full-time staff person which allowed them to provide more comprehensive services to victims of domestic violence who are then homeless as a result of that violence. Patzner was recently notified they would not receive grant funds for FY2016 beginning July 1 and noted the loss is due to issues with the 2013 audit related to the Treasurer's Office. Patzner and Richard Boeckman contacted Al Dorsey, KHRC, to potentially appeal the decision. Dorsey suggested they move the grant to the City of Great Bend. Patzner will request the city council partner with them at their Monday night council meeting. Patzner expressed appreciation for the County's support.

Boeckman read issues detailed in the management letter from KHRC and noted the county auditors have already said there will likely be issues with the 2014 audit as well.

Ken Wondra, County Treasurer, said the bank statements are reconciled and said they are working on the issues.

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Boeckman said issues with the 2014 audit are that the tax roll was not reconciled and distributions have not been made properly.

Commissioner Schartz said this is very distressing. The commission has asked Wondra for his resignation in the past. Schartz asked what the impact will be should the City of Great Bend not take this on. Patzner said the impact will be very significant and noted it would result in the loss of an employee and the loss of services.

Commissioner Schartz asked if other grants were impacted. Boeckman said he had not received any correspondence indicating so yet.

Commissioner Straub asked what exactly was cited. Boeckman said bank reconciliations were not completed timely and accurately, as well as other issues.

Commissioner Straub said 2013 being off will also make 2014 off. Wondra said that is not true.

Commissioner Davis said the citizens of Barton County elected Wondra to do a job. The integrity of Wondra and his office has been damaged.

Jim Johnson, Sunflower Diversified, asked if the FCC can still get the grant. Patzner said the funds have not been awarded to anyone else yet and hoped to get the grant following the appeal process.

Commissioner Schartz said it comes as no surprise that the federal government has no faith in the treasurer's office, because the Board of County Commissioners has lost faith as well.

Information Only. No Action Required.

## **B. SOLID WASTE: Local Recycling Grant Award:**

-In the 2015 budget, the Commission allocated \$15,000.00 under Solid Waste for recycling with an understanding that applications would be accepted locally for the monies. Those eligible to apply include any department, agency, organization, recycling center, city, school district or community college located in Barton County. An application was received from Sunflower Diversified.

Phil Hathcock, Solid Waste Director, said Sunflower Diversified submitted the only application and noted Sunflower Diversified said they will match \$2,400 if awarded the grant.

Commissioner Schartz asked how the glass crusher project was going. Johnson said Clark Rusco wants tons of it and the federal government seems to be pleased with it.

Commissioner Kruckenberg asked if any of the debris from the CKMC towers were going to the landfill. Hathcock said some of it is and some of it is being recycled.

Commissioner Davis moved to award \$15,000.00 to Sunflower Diversified under the Local Recycling Grant Award. The award amount should be funded from the Solid Waste Budget, Recycling Grant, line, 140-68-5905.

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

## **C. COUNTY ENGINEER: High Risk Rural Road Sign Replacement Project #5C-4671-01:**

-Barton County has been approved by the Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) for the High Risk Rural Roads (HRRR) Sign Replacement Project #5C-4671-01. KDOT will provide 100% of the total annual costs of construction, which includes the costs of all construction contingency items and

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Construction engineering for the project. KDOT also agrees to be responsible for 100% of the total actual costs of preliminary engineering.

Clark Rusco, County Engineer, said the first phase was funded 100% and Kirkham Michael will be the consultant for that phase. Commissioner Schartz and Commissioner Straub were on the selection committee that chose Kirkham Michael. There are three phases: plans, construction and construction engineering. All phases are funded 100%. The first and second phases are reimbursing grants. The third phase will go directly to KDOT.

Commissioner Schartz said 6 RFP's were sent out and 4 proposals were received. Schartz said they chose Kirkham Michael because they are located closer to Barton County and because Barton County has had good experience with them in the past.

Commissioner Straub moved to authorize Barton County to enter into an agreement with the Kansas Department of Transportation for the High Risk Rural Roads Sign Replacement Project #5C-4671-01 and direct the Commission Chair to sign requested forms.

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.

Information Only. No Action Required.

- Boeckman said the 2014 audit will be delayed again this year and asked Donna Zimmerman, County Clerk, to provide details. Zimmerman said the tax roll reconciliation was not completed at this time and will push back the audit. Commissioner Straub asked if there are still problems with the software. Zimmerman said she didn't believe it was a software issue this time and noted the reconciliation could have been started earlier. Zimmerman said the tax roll reconciliation is a big job and explained the Treasurer's office processed over 70,000 payments.

## **IV. ENDING BUSINESS:**

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

## **V. OTHER BUSINESS:**

- Comm Schremmer: Asked Sheriff Bellendir if there were problems over the holiday weekend. Bellendir said no more than anticipated. Fireworks related calls were very light. They were several arrests on warrants, domestic, fights, etc. which is typical for a holiday weekend. Officers helped search for a Pawnee County escaped felon Friday night.

## **VI. ADJOURN:**

Commissioner Kruckenberg made a motion to adjourn at 9:55 A.M.

Commissioner Davis seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:

  
Donna Zimmerman  
Barton County Clerk

  
Kenny Schremmer, Chairman