

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/44IMQMh>.

February 20, 2024

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 20th day of February 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 via phone:

Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District, Chairman

Members absent:

Shawn Hutchinson

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

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

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Reif moved to approve the minutes of the February 13, 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 / ELECTION OFFICER: Presidential Preference Primary Election – March 19, 2024:

-Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk / Election Officer, will provide details. The State of Kansas will hold a Presidential Preference Primary Election on March 19, 2024. An act by the Kansas legislature is required for this election as it takes the responsibility from the Republican and Democratic parties in Kansas from conducting a caucus, and instead, has the state conduct a primary election. It is a "preference" primary because it is an election where the vote totals are given to a political party to allocate delegates to candidates at the national convention. This is not a primary where the voters selected the party candidate.

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk, presented details and said today was the deadline to register to vote or to change voter registration if moved or changed name. Today was also the last day to request a mail ballot. The rules for this Presidential Preference Primary were a little different from other elections with the closing of registration and applying for a mail ballot. Schmeidler said they had been trying to get the word out since this was at a different time of the year for elections. It was historical in that this was only the third time to have such an election in the state of Kansas. The previous ones were in 1980 and 1992. In those years, there were already spring elections held for cities and schools and the Presidential Primary Election was added on to those. Since municipal elections were moved to the fall several years ago, voters were not accustomed to having an election in the spring.

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Commissioner Zimmerman asked Schmeidler if they were using all the same voting locations. Schmeidler said, yes, all the same locations and staff at the locations since they were unsure of what kind of voter turnout to expect.

Commissioner Reif said some things he had heard that were confusing to voters was that this was not taking place of the primary election, this was a Presidential Preference Primary. Schmeidler said this election was for voters to inform the parties of their preferred candidate.

Commissioner Schlessiger asked Schmeidler who pays for this election. Schmeidler said they would be reimbursed by the state for direct expenses. Schmeidler said for voters to call the office with any questions.

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

-Ms. Schmeidler 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.

BATCH #4	VALUES	ESCAPED TAXES	ADDED / ABATED	REFUNDS
Gas				
Oil	(431,621)		(\$64,343.58)	\$49,516.29
Personal Property	(7,545)		(\$1,184.76)	\$416.93
Real Estate	(520,233)		(\$83,087.32)	\$16,494.62
16/20 M Trucks	(52)		(\$8.00)	
State Assessed Utilities				
Special Assessments				
Grand Totals	(959,451)	\$0.00	(\$148,623.66)	\$66,427.84
Total Taxes	(\$148,623.66)			
Total Records Selected	95			

Commissioner Zimmerman 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.

No Executive Session Held

C. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

-Chairman Barb Esfeld 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.

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IV. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Schlessiger – attended GMD5 meeting last week and will give an update next week.

VI. ADJOURN.

Commissioner Reif moved to adjourn at 9:10 A.M.

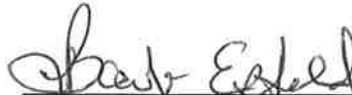
Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk



Tricia Schlessiger, Chairman Pro-Tem

Barb Esfeld, chairman