

# 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](mailto:clerk@bartoncounty.org)

Meetings Live Streamed through **Microsoft Teams**® at the following link: <https://bit.ly/3GPbEZf>

May 28, 2024

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 28th day of May 2024, at the Barton County Courthouse

*Members present:*

Duane Reif, Commissioner, 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2<sup>nd</sup> District, Chairman  
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4<sup>th</sup> District, (Chairman Pro-Tem)  
Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk  
Matt Patzner, County Administrator

*Members absent:*

Patrick Hoffman, County Counselor

## **I. OPENING BUSINESS:**

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

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the agenda.  
Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Reif moved to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2024, Regular Meeting. Minutes of the May 14, 2024, and the May 21, 2024, Regular Meetings were not available.  
Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion.  
All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **II. OLD BUSINESS:**

-There was no Old Business.

## **III. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. RESOLUTION 2024-15: Barton County Courthouse Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning Improvement Project:**

-Chairman Barb Esfeld will provide details. After several decades of discussion, the Heating, Ventilation, Air Condition (HVAC) system at the Courthouse has been updated. The Commission directed administrative staff to begin investigating options relative to replacement in 2017. Following a feasibility study and project development phase, the County has worked with Orazem & Scalora Engineering, P.A., DMA Architects, P.A., Kruse Corporation, Brentwood Builders and several sub-contractors for the last year in making improvements. Included therein was moving the Treasurer's Office to the First Floor of the Courthouse to better serve citizens.

Commissioner Esfeld presented details and said when the project got underway, plumbing issues were discovered. They were aware that the corners of the building leaked and were concerned about any structural problems. Commissioner Esfeld said COVID funds helped pay for the project and thanked the previous commissioners for saving money for the courthouse. Those commissioners were very good stewards for the courthouse. Commissioner Esfeld said everything was painted inside and new carpet installed. A big change was moving the Treasurer's Office to the first floor because it was the highest traffic department.

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Commissioner Schlessiger moved to adopt Resolution 2024-15, Barton County Courthouse Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Improvement Project.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Commissioner Esfeld said they were happily surprised to finish on time and on budget. The commissioners recognized County Administrator Matt Patzner and Dereck Hollingshead, IT Director for going above and beyond throughout the project. Having the IT Department saved a lot of money.

Patzner said the reason he could be calm was because of the great team behind him. This would not have been possible without the high caliber staff in the IT Department and employees stepping up. Patzner said he was blessed to be in the position he was and had the support.

Commissioner Esfeld said all of the employees helped and no offices were closed during the transitions.

Commissioner Reif said he appreciated this building and everyone doing the work. He commended the previous commissioners for their foresight.

Commissioner Schlessiger echoed Commissioner Esfeld sentiments and said the county employees were a great team.

Commissioner Hutchinson said the temporary buildings were not perfect but there were very few complaints. He continued that it would have been easy to not do anything and let the building decline but they saw the need. It belonged to the taxpayers of Barton County. The building now had fresh air being pumped in and it had made a huge difference.

Commissioner Zimmerman said everything had already been said but she added that she was proud. Commissioner Zimmerman said she was proud of Barton County, the employees, Patzner and Hollingshead for all their work. She loved the building, having worked in it for a number of years and was glad to be part of the project.

Commissioner Esfeld invited everyone to the ribbon cutting on Friday at 1:30 and said tours would be given until 6:00 P.M.

Commissioner Hutchinson said the first one hundred people would be given drink tickets courtesy of Brentwood Builders.

## **B. CITY OF GREAT BEND: Great Bend Airport Airfest Sponsorship:**

-Christina Hayes, Community Coordinator, and Martin Miller, Airport Manager, City of Great Bend, will provide details. The Great Bend Airport Airfest will be held at the Great Bend Municipal Airport September 20 – 22, 2024. This sponsor-driven event generally includes rides and tours of historic warbirds, airshow, veteran recognition and displays. At this time, the Commission will consider event sponsorship.

Christina Hayes, Community Coordinator, said she was proposing a partnership with Great Bend Airfest, an event that happens only every three years. Three years ago, they had the huge support of the commissioners in the form of a sponsorship and ticket giveaway for citizens of Barton County. Hayes said they wanted to sweeten the deal by proposing a sponsorship that would create countywide recognition by scheduling a flyover for each Barton County community on behalf of the commissioners. Hayes said ticket prices would be higher than in the past. She invited the commissioners to be recognized at the Veteran's Ceremony on September 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

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Martin Miller, Airport Manager, City of Great Bend, presented a slideshow about Airfest and history of the airport.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked how much the City of Great Bend was contributing. Hayes said \$25,000.00.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked Miller how much the county donated last time. Miller said \$8,000.00. Commissioner Esfeld asked Miller if the amount would affect the price of the tickets, to keep it affordable for families. Miller said perhaps a deal could be made.

Commissioner Hutchinson asked what planes would be used for the community flyovers. Miller said the B-17, B-25 and Doc.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to provide \$20,000.00 in sponsorship funding for the Great Bend Airport Airfest. Sponsorship to be paid through the Finance General Account of the General Fund, Economic Development Line, 001-26-6880.

Commissioner Esfeld asked Commissioner Hutchinson if he wanted to match Great Bend, they are \$25,000.00.

Commissioner Hutchinson said I said \$25,000.00, did I, Bev. Schmeidler said she heard \$20,000.00.

Commissioner Esfeld asked Commissioner Hutchinson if he wanted to amend his motion.

Commissioner Hutchinson said he amended his motion to \$25,000.00.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **C. APPRAISER'S OFFICE: Out of State Travel – Internation Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) Annual Conference:**

-Wendy Prosser, County Appraiser, will provide details. The Internation Association of Assessing Officers (IAAO) Annual Conference is the premier platform to share successes, discover best practices, and learn about the latest research in the field of property appraisal. The Annual Conference is being held in Colorado in August. It is suggested that Jame Allen, Christina Doyle and Ms. Prosser attend as each hold the Kansas Registered Mass Appraiser designation.

Wendy Prosser, County Appraiser, presented details and said the conference would be August 25th-28<sup>th</sup>. NFL Hall of Famer, Terrell Davis, would be the keynote speaker. Attending an international conference offered an opportunity to participate in unique specialized educational sessions and workshops. Continuing education was required for them and was a large part of their annual budget. It had been anticipated that they would lose some long-term employees in 2024 requiring new hires be sent to required classes. Fortunately, plans had changed, and they would not be losing those employees. Because of that, the budget would allow travel. This year would be the closest as the next three years would be in Florida, Canada and North Carolina. Prosser asked approval for Christina Doyle, Jame Allen and herself to attend the conference.

Commissioner Esfeld said this was as close as it gets to home and the training would be amazing.

Prosser said if approved, another county may have someone travel with them and share costs.

Commissioner Schlessiger said she appreciated that this conference was close.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve out-of-state travel for Wendy Prosser, Christina Doyle and Jame Allen, to attend training in Denver, Colorado. Associated costs to be paid through the Appraiser's Office account of the General Fund. Direct the Commission Chair to sign said Travel Requests. Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

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All voted aye. Motion passed.

## *No Executive Session Held*

### **D. 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.

### **IV. ENDING BUSINESS:**

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

### **V. OTHER BUSINESS:**

Sandra Cruz and Sondra Robinson spoke to the commissioners about being terminated from the County Attorney Office last week.

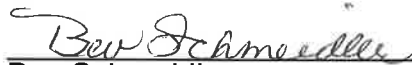
### **VI. ADJOURN:**

Commissioner Schlessiger moved to adjourn at 9:49 A.M.

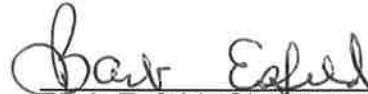
Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Bev Schmeidler  
Barton County Clerk

  
Barb Esfeld, Chairman