

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/4d8o6kR>

October 1, 2024

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 1st day of October, 2024, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Duane Reif, Commissioner, 1st District

Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District, Chairman

Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District

Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4th District, *(Chairman Pro-Tem)*

Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner, 5th District

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk

Matt Patzner, County Administrator

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 Zimmerman moved to approve the minutes of the September 24, 2024, Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

-There was no Old Business.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES: County Works:

-Matt Patzner, County Administrator, will provide details. After accepting applications for the position of County Works Director, the Barton County Commission is pleased to announce the promotion of Chris Schartz. The Claflin native has been employed with Road and Bridge since March 2019.

Matt Patzner, County Administrator, said interviews were conducted the week before last. There were a few good applicants, but Schartz really stood out. The interview board was impressed with his ideas and the direction he wanted to take the Road & Bridge and Noxious Weed Departments. Excited to see what he was going to do in the future.

Chris Schartz, County Works Director, thanked the commissioners for the opportunity, said he will do his best to help the departments run as efficiently as possible.

Commissioner Zimmerman said she was on the interview panel and there were good applicants that Schartz was up against. She said Schartz outshone the other applicants, and his communication was appreciated. Schartz thanked her.

Commissioner Hutchinson said Barton County had the best roads in the state, Schartz had big shoes to fill.

Commissioner Esfeld said Schartz was not chosen simply because he was already there, but because he did outshine the other applicants. He was respected in the departments.

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Commissioner Reif said he was also part of the interviews and felt that Schartz had shown great leadership so far, he was interested in seeing what he could do. The Road & Bridge employees were behind him.

Commissioner Schlessiger congratulated Schartz and said she had appreciated his communication with them while he had been Interim Director.

B. 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.

BATCH #14	VALUES	ESCAPED TAXES	ADDED / ABATED	REFUNDS
Gas				
Oil				
Personal Property	5,985			
Real Estate	(16,064)		(\$4,369.28)	\$4,369.28
16/20 M Trucks	9,296			
State Assessed Utilities				
Special Assessments				
Grand Totals	(783)	\$0.00	(\$4,369.28)	\$4,369.28
Total Taxes	(\$4,369.28)			
Total Records Selected	17			

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.

C. PROCLAMATION 2024-17: National 4-H Week:

-Michelle Beran, Cottonwood Extension District – Barton County, will be joined by area youth in presenting the proposed Proclamation. 4-H, as delivered by area Cooperative Extension agencies, has helped thousands of youth become true leaders, entrepreneurs and visionaries. By declaring October 6 – 12, 2024, as National 4-H Week, the Commission recognizes the importance of using the Head, Heart, Hands and Health, the four core values of the 4-H mission, to become beyond ready.

Michelle Beran, Cottonwood Extension District – Barton County, said she would introduce two 4-H girls and appreciated the support of Wendy Prosser and Renee Ohnmacht. Beran said they currently had about 130, 7–18-year-old, 4-H members this last year and that did not include the 5–6-year-old Cloverbuds. Beran said the number was down a little bit statewide, so they were looking at different ways to recruit. A member from Ellinwood was named the State Wildlife Project Award Winner. Beran said that took about a year to put the project together and was a lot of work. Beran said they also had a group of 4-H2O Ambassadors, water ambassadors across the district. They had to interview for the positions and go through training, learning how to present to other groups. They were able to go on a field trip and toured a

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feed lot in Scott City as well as a golf course in Garden City. Beran said one of the young ladies with her today was a part of the district-wide FCS Judging Team at the Kansas State Fair and they placed very well. Beran said they had 42 4-Hers qualify to take entries to the State Fair so she drove almost 80 entries to the fair. Beran introduced Melody Braddy and Ailey Williams. Beran said a couple of years ago, their Visual Arts Superintendent bailed out at the last minute. These two young ladies stepped up and said they could take over. They had done exceptionally well. Like most 4-H kids, they were not just involved in 4-H but were also very active in school and extracurricular activities. Beran had each of the girls tell a highlight of 4-H.

Ailey Williams said one of the best things about 4-H for her were the opportunities presented to her. She said the FCS Judging Team allowed her to work with others she had never worked with before. She also liked the time working as superintendent with Melody Braddy at the county fair.

Melody Braddy said one of her favorite things was learning something new and then teaching it to younger kids.

Beran said October 1st started enrollment for the new 4-H year. There were seven active clubs in Barton County.

Commissioner Hutchinson said he was active in 4-H growing up in Salina. They had a Sasnak (Kansas spelled backwards) Club and had chickens and rabbits. Things he learned and still used today such as parliamentary procedure and decorum. Beran said also public speaking.

Commissioner Esfeld said 4-H was amazing. Her sons also were in 4-H and learned lifelong skills.

Commissioner Schlessiger said one of the key takeaways from 4-H was that you could get out of it what you put into it. She had six former 4-Hers at her house who had all excelled in one area or another.

Commissioner Zimmerman said she was also in 4-H and said you can tell a 4-Her when they speak, they have great public speaking skills.

Commissioner Reif said he regretted not being in 4-H but now has a grandchild who is, he gets to experience it through them.

Commissioner Schlessiger moved to adopt Proclamation 2024-17, National 4-H Week.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Renee Ohnmacht said there was a horseless project available through 4-H for those without horses. Ohnmacht said her girls also competed in Panorama, a quiz bowl about horses and so many opportunities.

Wendy Prosser said there also were areas regarding clothing other than sewing, such as buying, the fit and fabrics. There was also cooking, photography and gardening. Prosser said it was a family organization.

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

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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:

Commissioner Esfeld – attended the SDSI Meeting in Garden City last week. There has been legislation proposed for a number of changes in how disabled people would be ranked in the system.

VI. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Reif moved to adjourn at 9:24 A.M.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk


Barb Esfeld, Chairman

PROCLAMATION 2024-17
NATIONAL 4-H WEEK

WHEREAS, 4-H is America's largest youth development organization, supporting in excess of six million youth across the country in over 90,000 club; and

WHEREAS, 4-H is delivered by the Cooperative Extension – a community of more than 100 public universities across the nation that provides experiences where young people take on critical societal issues, such as addressing community health inequities, engaging in civil discourse and advocating for equity and inclusion for all; and

WHEREAS, 4-H is a youth development program that encourages family participation and involvement through family programming and by parental volunteerism; and

WHEREAS, National 4-H Week showcases the incredible experiences that 4-H offers young people, and highlights the remarkable 4-H youth in Kansas and throughout America who work each day to make a positive impact on those around them; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, that October 6 - 12, 2024, is hereby known as NATIONAL 4-H WEEK throughout Barton County; and

FURTHER, that the Commission recognizes the importance of using the Head, Heart, Hands and Health, the four core values of the 4-H mission, to become beyond ready; and

FURTHER, that the Commission encourages all citizens to recognize 4-H for the significant impact it continues to make by empowering youth to learn by doing.

ADOPTED this 1st day of October, 2024.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Barb Esfeld, Chairman


Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner


Duane Reif, Commissioner


Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner


Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Bev Schmeidler
County Clerk

