

# 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/49m5MGw>

October 28, 2025

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 28th day of October, 2025, at the Barton County Courthouse.

## *Members present:*

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

## **I. OPENING BUSINESS:**

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

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

Minutes of the October 21, 2025, Regular Meeting were not available.

## **II. OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business.

## **III. NEW BUSINESS:**

### **A. PROCLAMATION 2025-17: White Cane Awareness Day:**

-Scharna Doll, Central Kansas Association for the Visually Impaired, will provide details. As the white cane keeps blind people safe and improves navigation in the environment, we recognize that the emphasis of White Cane Day, as established by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964, has shifted over time away from safety and toward independence and equality. At this time, the Commission will be asked to recognize White Cane Awareness Day on October 28, 2025.

Scharna Doll, Central Kansas Association for the Visually Impaired, said she had been a member of the association for approximately seven years. Doll said the group was trying to raise more awareness. They recently were recognized by the City of Great Bend. Doll said she was going to go to the City of Wichita and other cities, they wanted to meet with the Governor. She said it was recognized as a holiday in some states.

Commissioner Esfeld asked Doll what their group does besides raising awareness. Doll said they were an organized group with a treasurer and took minutes. They were a support group for the visually impaired and frequently had speakers at their meetings. The Center for Counseling had spoken to the group because a lot of people get depressed when losing sight.

Commissioner Zimmerman read the proclamation.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to adopt Proclamation 2025-17, White Cane Awareness Day.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

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## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Replacement of Certain Computers:**

-Matt Patzner, County Administrator, will provide details. The County has developed a plan for the annual replacement of a certain number of computers. This practice improves the County's technological capabilities and allows for more consistent budgeting. The low bid was submitted by Bauer Computers of Great Bend.

Matt Patzner, County Administrator, presented details and asked for approval.

Commissioner Reif moved to purchase certain computers from Bauer Computers for a total of \$25,225.00. Direct payment to be made as indicated in the included chart:

Department	Fund Name	Line Name	Line Number	Cost
Clerk's Office	Clerk's Tech Fund	Office Furniture and Equipment Over \$50	046-04-6175-15	\$ 2,124.00
Treasurer	Equipment Replacement, General	General	072-00-6380	\$ 2,124.00
County Attorney	General Fund	Office Furniture and Equipment Over \$50	001-08-6175	\$ 6,357.00
Sheriff's Office - ADMIN	General Fund, Sheriff's Office	Printing and Office Supplies	001-12-5170	\$ 2,000.00
	VIN Inspections	Program Supplies	200-00-5210	\$ 4,034.00
Appraiser's Office	General Fund, Appraiser's Office	Office Furniture and Equipment Over \$50	001-14-6175	\$ 1,062.00
Communications	General Fund, Communications	Office Furniture and Equipment Over \$50	001-36-6175	\$ 2,124.00
Road and Bridge	Road and Bridge	Office Furniture and Equipment Over \$50	002-92-6175	\$ 3,186.00
CKCC	CKCC Fund	Office Furniture and Equipment Over \$50	095-70-6175	\$ 2,214.00
TOTAL				\$25,225.00

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

## **No Executive Session Held**

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

-Chairman 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:**

Commissioner Reif – said early voting was taking place and asked Chris Saenz about mail ballots. Saenz said today was the last day to request a mail ballot.

Commissioner Schlessiger – local high school teams were successful in volleyball, cross country and football.

Commissioner Schlessiger – attended the Community Corrections Advisory Board meeting.

## **VI. ADJOURN:**

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to adjourn at 9:19 A.M.

Commissioner Reif seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:

  
Chris Saenz  
Barton County Deputy Clerk

  
Tricia Schlessiger, Chairman

**PROCLAMATION 2025-17**  
White Cane Awareness Day

**WHEREAS**, visually impaired people use their senses of hearing and touch to explore and understand the world. The white cane, introduced in the 1930s, expands that effort – allowing for a longer reach so that visually impaired people can more easily assess situations, and move quickly and confidently; and

**WHEREAS**, as the white cane keeps blind people safe and improves navigation in the environment, we recognize that the emphasis of White Cane Day, as established by President Lyndon B. Johnson in 1964, has shifted over time away from safety and toward independence and equality; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to celebrate this history and recognize the white cane as an important tool that allows blind and visually impaired people to become independent, an important goal for all.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Barton County, Kansas, that Tuesday, October 28, 2025, is recognized as White Cane Awareness Day; and

**FURTHER**, that County citizens are urged to recognize the independence of the blind and visually impaired and to be cognizant of the symbolism of the white cane; and

**FURTHER**, that members of the Central Kansas Association for the Visually Impaired are recognized for their contribution to the Barton County community.

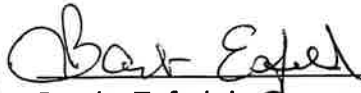
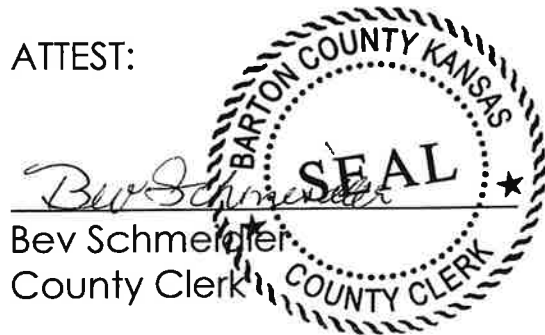
Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Tricia Schlessiger, Chairman

ATTEST:



Barb Esfeld, Commissioner



Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner



Duane Reif, Commissioner



Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner