

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/4apRpRs>

June 30, 2026

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 30th day of June, 2026, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Duane Reif, Commissioner, 1st District, Chairman

Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District

Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District

Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4th District

Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner, 5th District, *(Chairman Pro-Tem)*

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk

Matt Patzner, County Administrator

Casey Hubbard, Assistant County Administrator

I. OPENING BUSINESS:

Commissioner Reif 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 Schlessiger moved to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2026, and the June 23, 2026, Regular Meetings.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business.

III. APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS:

-Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk, will present details. An Accounts Payable Register will be submitted to the Commission for the period of June 16, 2026, and ending June 30, 2026.

Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk, presented details and asked for approval.

Commissioner Esfeld moved to approve appropriations for the period of June 16, 2026, to June 30, 2026.

Authorize the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Commission.

Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A. CITY OF ELLINWOOD: Cooperative Effort to Seal a City Street:

-Chris Schartz, County Works Director, will provide details. The City of Ellinwood has requested assistance with sealing of a certain road, specifically Park Street from US 56 to 7th Street. As an independent contractor, the County would receive no more than an estimated \$12,500.00 for labor and equipment.

Chris Schartz, County Works Director, presented details and said depending on when they could actually seal the road, they should be under \$12,500.00. Schartz said they had done this for the City of Claflin in the past as well. Schartz said they were working in the southeast quadrant this year and would be going through Ellinwood so it would be easy to do. They would be sealing part of 7th Street as one of the County blacktops.

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Commissioner Reif said they had a good working relationship with the cities. Scharzt said they did have good relationships with the cities and things like this helped keep that going.

Commissioner Schlessiger said she appreciated that they could help the City of Ellinwood.

Commissioner Reif said you charge FEMA rates, correct. Scharzt said that was correct, they always charge FEMA rates when doing work for the cities.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to authorize the Road and Bridge Department to assist the City of Ellinwood in sealing Park Street from US 56 to 7th Street under a signed agreement estimated at \$12,500.00 for labor and equipment. Direct the Commission Chairman to sign the agreement on behalf of the County.

Commissioner Schlessiger seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

B. COUNTY WORKS: Bulk Diesel Fuel Bids for 2026 – 2027:

-Mr. Scharzt will provide details. On June 22, 2026, the Road and Bridge Department contacted local vendors to determine bulk fuel pricing. The request included the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027, or the 50,000-gallon mark is exceeded. After review, Mr. Scharzt was given the discretion to approve a price that was beneficial to the County. On June 24, 2026, Mr. Scharzt contacted American Plains CO-OP and accepted an updated quote of \$3.29 per gallon for clear diesel and \$3.08 per gallon for dyed diesel.

Chris Scharzt, County Works Director, said he got bids from American Plains CO-OP on June 22nd for \$3.35 per gallon for clear diesel and \$3.14 per gallon for dyed diesel. Scharzt said when he went back on June 24th, the prices were slightly lower, and he locked in those prices. He said Zip's Service would like to bid but they do not have the capability of taking a bobtail to the dredge at the pit by Ellinwood.

Commissioner Schlessiger said with the volatility of the current fuel market, this was a good price. Scharzt said yes, it had even gone up since he got the quote.

Commissioner Schlessiger asked what pump price was currently. Scharzt said about \$4.50 per gallon for clear so this was a considerable savings.

Commissioner Esfeld asked Scharzt how long 50,000 gallons would last. Scharzt said that varied depending on where in the county they were working. Last year, they were in the southwest quadrant, close to town, so that got them to right at a year. He said next year they would be in the northeast quadrant so it may be a month or two short of the year. Scharzt said it also depended on how much snow we get in the winter.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to ratify the \$3.29 price per gallon for clear diesel and \$3.08 per gallon for dyed diesel from American Plains CO-OP from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, or up to 50,000 gallons of diesel fuel whichever comes first. Cost to be paid from the Road and Bridge Fund, Vehicle Fuel Line, 002-92-5175.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

C. SOLID WASTE: Bulk Diesel Fuel Bids for 2026 – 2027:

-Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, has also been hesitant to lock in a price for bulk diesel. After discussion with Mr. Scharzt, she contacted the two local vendors that can accommodate Solid Waste's

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needs for bulk diesel. Bids will be presented at this time for diesel through June 30, 2027, or the 25,000-gallon mark is exceeded.

Jennifer Hamby, Solid Waste Director, said the Landfill also goes out for fuel bids annually. She received two bids on June 24th. Hamby said the bid from United Ag Service was for \$3.35 per gallon with American Plains CO-OP bidding \$3.41 per gallon. Hamby said the bids were for 25,000 gallons or until June 30, 2027, whichever came first. She held off as long as she could, watching the markets.

Commissioner Reif asked Hamby if they were able to take a full semi load. Hamby said they deliver bobtails weekly to them.

Commissioner Reif said that was always a little bit more. Hamby said yes, it was for delivery. She would like to go with the lower bid from United Ag which they currently used.

Commissioner Reif asked Hamby if they were still local. Hamby said yes, they had locations in Galatia, Hoisington and Olmitz.

Commissioner Schlessiger moved to approve the \$3.355, I guess there is an extra 5, is that right, price per gallon from United Ag Service for one year or up to 25,000 gallons of diesel fuel. Cost to be paid from the Solid Waste Fund, Heavy Equipment Fuel Line, 140-65-5415. Is that a typo. It is just \$3.35.

Commissioner Zimmerman said no.

Hamby said that was how they put it on there, 355.

Commissioner Zimmerman said the code.

Commissioner Reif said yeah, the code.

Commissioner Zimmerman said could you repeat the code.

Hamby said oh, sorry. Oh, I am sorry. Down there.

Commissioner Reif said the equipment fuel line.

Commissioner Schlessiger said 140-65-5415.

Commissioner Hutchinson said you did it again.

Commissioner Zimmerman said 68.

Commissioner Hutchinson said you did it twice.

Commissioner Schlessiger said I did do it twice. I apologize. Too many fives today.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

No Executive Session Held

D. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

-Chairman Duane Reif 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.

V. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Esfeld – attended the SDSI Meeting last week where they discussed the budget.

Commissioner Schlessiger – congratulated the kids who participated in the Barton County Fair. She also thanked Sheriff Bellendir for conducting the auction.

Commissioner Reif – hoped everyone enjoys the 250th birthday of America, enjoy themselves and be safe.

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VII. ADJOURN:

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

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:

Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk

Duane Reif, Chairman

Notes from Executive Session in Study Session, County Clerk not present:

At 1:00pm Commissioner Zimmerman moved the Commission enter into Executive Session for a period of twenty (20) minutes. The subject to be discussed will be non-elected personnel. The reason this needs to be discussed in Executive Session is to discuss the performance of a county non-elected employee or employee(s). The Governing body, the County Administrator, the assistant County Administrator, the Sheriff and the County Attorney are to be included in said meeting. The Open Meeting will resume at 1:20pm in this room.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye.

At 1:20pm Commissioner Zimmerman moved that we come out of executive session and return to study session with no action taken.

Commissioner Schlessinger seconded the motion.

All voted aye.