

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

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July 21, 2026

The Board of Barton County Commissioners convened this 21st day of July, 2026, at the Barton County Courthouse.

Members present:

Duane Reif, Commissioner, 1st District, Chairman
Barb Esfeld, Commissioner, 2nd District
Shawn Hutchinson, Commissioner, 3rd District
Donna Zimmerman, Commissioner, 5th District, (Chairman Pro-Tem)
Bev Schmeidler, County Clerk
Matt Patzner, County Administrator
Todd Powell, County Counselor

Members absent:

Tricia Schlessiger, Commissioner, 4th District
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 Esfeld moved to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2026, Regular Meeting.
Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.
All voted aye. Motion passed.

II. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no Old Business.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

A. ROAD AND BRIDGE: Purchase of a Used Mowing Tractor:

-Chris Schartz, County Works Director, will provide details. In early June, the Road and Bridge Department released a bid to purchase one mowing tractor and to trade in one used unit. The department asked for two bids – one for a new unit and one for a used unit. BTI – John Deere submitted the preferred bid of \$114,000.00 for a used 2024 John Deere 6155M with 211 hours. This does include the trade of a 2016 Case / IHC Maxxum 150. Monies are included in the Road and Bridge Fund for this planned purchase.

Chris Schartz, County Works Director, said they reached out to local vendors and requested two bids, one for a new unit and one for a used unit. Bids were received from Lang Diesel, KanEquip and BTI. Schartz said BTI submitted the preferred bid for a used 2024 John Deere 6155M tractor with 211 hours for \$114,000.00. The City of Ellinwood had used the tractor on a lease program last year and turned it back in. Schartz said he contacted Ellinwood to be sure there were no problems with the tractor and that it was in good shape. Schartz said they would trade in a 2016 Case/IHC Maxxum 150 with 6,986 hours. BTI offered \$43,000.00 for that unit. He added that BTI was the lowest bid with the most for trade in. BTI was the only one that provided a bid for a used tractor.

Commissioner Zimmerman said that was basically a new machine with only 211 hours. She also asked Schartz how much a new unit would cost. Schartz said the bid they received for a new machine without

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trade in was \$174,746.99 and was \$131,746.99 with trade in. Scharzt added that the used machine almost had as good of a warranty as a new machine.

Commissioner Esfeld said she received compliments from another county about the great job they did mowing in Barton County. Scharzt said they were getting ready to start the third pass around the county.

Commissioner Reif said some summer help returned with experience.

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to approve the purchase of a used 2024 John Deere 6155M for \$114,000.00 from BTI, including the trade of a 2016 Case / IHC Maxmum 150. Cost to be paid from the Road and Bridge Fund, Equipment-Operate and Construction Line, 002-92-6190.

Commissioner Esfeld seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

B. ROAD AND BRIDGE: Purchase of Two Rotary Mowers:

-Mr. Scharzt will provide details. In early June, the Road and Bridge Department released a bid to purchase two rotary mowers and trade in three used units. BTI – John Deere submitted the preferred bid for two new 2026 John Deere FC15R Flex Wing mowers for a total of \$29,786.10. That is with the trade in of \$42,000.00 for the used units that includes three 2022 Land Pride 15ft rotary mowers. Monies are included in the Road and Bridge Fund for this planned purchase.

Chris Scharzt, County Works Director, said they currently had four but only needed three mowers. Again, BTI submitted the lowest bid with the most for the trade ins.

Commissioner Hutchinson moved to approve the purchase of two 2026 John Deere FC15R Flex Wing mowers for \$29,786.10 from BTI, including the trade of three 2022 Land Pride 15ft rotary mowers. Cost to be paid from the Road and Bridge Fund, Equipment-Operating and Construction Line, 002-92-6190.

Commissioner Zimmerman seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

No Executive Session Held

C. 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.

IV. ENDING BUSINESS:

1. Announcements
2. Appointments

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

Commissioner Zimmerman – the Candidate Forum last night was well attended and interesting.

Commissioner Esfeld – Humane Society Board Meeting tonight.

Commissioner Esfeld – shoutout to the Bat Cats for making it into the National Baseball Congress World Series. They play Friday night at 6:00 P.M., Sunday at 6:00 A.M. and then on Tuesday.

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VI. ADJOURN:

Commissioner Zimmerman moved to adjourn at 9:17 A.M.

Commissioner Hutchinson seconded the motion.

All voted aye. Motion passed.

ATTEST:



Bev Schmeidler
Barton County Clerk



Duane Reif, Chairman