

Barry County Board of Commissioners
January 10, 2023; 9:00 a.m.; Commission Chambers
Minutes

1. Chair David Jackson called the regular session of the Barry County Board of Commissioners to Order at 9:00 a.m.
2. Chair Jackson gave a tribute to Jodi Tyner, who passed away, and asked for a moment of silence in his honor.
3. Those present stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
4. Roll Call was taken. The following members were present: Bruce Campbell, Mark Doster, Catherine Getty, David Hatfield, David Jackson, Jon Smelker, and Bob Teunessen. Absent: Mike Callton. Also present: County Administrator Michael Brown, Deputy Administrator Luella Dennison, and Clerk Pam Palmer.
5. Approval of Written Agenda (including consent items & items for discussion). Commissioner Doster asked that a number of issues be added to unfinished business, seconded by Smelker. The written agenda was approved as amended without objection.
6. REPORTS FROM STATE AND COUNTY OFFICERS: Jim Dull announced that his assistant, Tammy Hayes, will be leaving the County after 18-1/2 years and asked that she be recognized for her service.
7. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT: (3 minutes per person)
 - Cyndi Twitchell introduced 3 students she brought to the meeting with her: Matthew Cornish, David Cornish, and Danae Corish. Cyndi also explained the definition of convocation and invocation to the board, as well as her thoughts as to a commissioner pay raise and change of board time.
 - Sandy Walters from Pine Lake supports the installation of a drain as a solution to the lake levels.
 - Mike Bremer spoke against the elimination of the invocation prior to the commissioners meeting.
 - Phillip Joseph, Chair of the Barry County Republican Party asked for more party involvement from the elected officials.
8. VARIOUS CORRESPONDENCE: David Jackson stated he received a call from Joel Ibbotson who stated he was in favor to keeping the invocation at the beginning of the meetings. Dave Jackson also stated he received 3 letters from Pine Lake residents regarding the lake level.
9. CONSENT ITEMS: (voted upon at one time by roll call vote):
 - a. Approval of December 20, 2022 Board of Commissioners meeting minutes.
 - b. Approval of January 3, 2023 Board of Commissioners Organizational meeting minutes.
(roll call vote)

Moved by Hatfield, seconded by Getty for approval of the Consent Items listed above. Roll call vote. Bruce Campbell, Mark Doster, Catherine Getty, David Hatfield, David Jackson, Jon Smelker, and Bob Teunessen. Nays: None. Absent: Mike Callton. Motion carried.

10. PRESENTATIONS: None

11. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

12. ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION: (roll call vote indicated)

Approval of transfers and disbursements:

a. Approval of pre-paid invoices in the amount of \$3,649,476.95 **(roll call vote)**

Moved by Smelker, seconded by Campbell for approval of pre-paid invoices in the amount of \$3,649,476.95 Roll call vote. Bruce Campbell, Mark Doster, Catherine Getty, David Hatfield, David Jackson, Jon Smelker, and Bob Teunessen. Nays: None. Absent: Mike Callton. Motion carried.

b. Approval of claims in the amount of \$99,427.46, *Approved by the County Administrator on 12/27/22.* **(roll call vote)**

Moved by Smelker, seconded by Teunessen for approval of claims in the amount of \$99,427.46. Roll call vote. Bruce Campbell, Mark Doster, Catherine Getty, David Hatfield, David Jackson, Jon Smelker, and Bob Teunessen. Nays: None. Absent: Mike Callton. Motion carried.

c. Approval of commissioner reimbursements (mileage) in the amount of \$167.44 **(roll call vote)**

Moved by Smelker, seconded by Hatfield for approval of commissioner reimbursements (mileage) in the amount of \$167.44. Roll call vote. Bruce Campbell, Mark Doster, Catherine Getty, David Hatfield, David Jackson, Jon Smelker, and Bob Teunessen. Nays: None. Absent: Mike Callton. Motion carried.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: ARPA updated projects were discussed ie, Freeport Water, Delton Water System, Trails contract approval, as well as how the balance of ARPA funds are to be distributed, which no formal action has been taken at this time. Wages that used ARPA funds was disbursed as follows: 50% in December, with subsequent payments in April and July. Employee wages increases and the inflation rate was discussed, and Michael Brown is currently working with Equalization as to the assessments due in March. The Board also addressed updates from department heads, and the issue of payment of a FOIA request from Jim Brown.

14. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Approval to schedule a special COW meeting on January 31, 2023 to conduct interviews for citizen appointments to boards/commissions.

Moved by Smelker, seconded by Hatfield for approval to schedule a special COW meeting on January 31, 2023 to conduct interviews for citizen appointments to boards/commissioners. Discussion. All ayes. Nays: None. Absent: Mike Callton. Motion carried.

15. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: None.

16. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: Commissioner Jackson reported attending or will be attending meetings at Hope Township, Rutland Township, Economic Development and Brownfield Redevelopment Authority meetings.
17. VICE CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT: Commissioner Hatfield spoke with Mayor Tossava about going forward as commissioner for the City of Hastings.
18. COMMISSIONER REPORTS: (FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA) – Each commissioner reported on their various committees, boards, events and meetings.
19. LIMITED PUBLIC COMMENT: (3 MINUTES PER PERSON)
 - Cyndi Twitchell continued with her comments from the first public comment section and reminded Commissioner Doster that he is working for the people in District 6 and to publicly apologize.
 - Jim Enrietti disagreed with eliminating public comments and stated that the pay of the office and office hours were known when they filed to run for the position. He also mentioned he disagreed with separation of church and government and ended his comment with "In God we Trust".
20. OTHER BUSINESS: None.
21. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:
 - Commissioner Teunessen asked if the Building & Grounds Department could look into rearranging the desks so he could see Commissioner Doster.
 - Commissioner Doster stated he appreciated the public comments and will take them into consideration.
 - Commissioner Getty thanked Tammy Hayes for her service with Barry County.
22. ADJOURNMENT: at 9:56 a.m.

David Jackson, Chair
Barry County Board of Commissioners

Pamela A. Palmer, County Clerk

Approved: _____
Date & Initials