

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, February 17, 2015 with Mike Metcalf, Bill Carlblom, Cindy Schwehr, John Froelich, and Rodger Berntson present. Chairman Schwehr called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Agenda was reviewed.

**Treasurer – Pledge of Securities**

Vicki Zinck, Treasurer, presented the Pledge of Securities. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the report; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

**Executive Session - Termination**

Rodger Berntson moved to go into Executive Session to discuss Karen Christenson's termination; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". The public and the press were asked to leave the Commission Chambers. When the discussion was over, the public was invited back in to the meeting. John Froelich made a motion to close the Executive Session; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". John Froelich moved to send a letter of response to Karen Christenson; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

**Sheriff – Vest Grant / Personnel / Phone System**

Randy McClafin, Sheriff, requested approval to purchase 9 vests at a cost of approximately \$9,000, less matching grant funds of \$3,585.25. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the request; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Sheriff McClafin then presented a proposal for an additional officer, and this will be discussed again at a future meeting, once additional information is obtained. Jason Thiel, MIS Director, updated the Commission on how the various phone systems work and discussed options to consider for the Sheriff's Office.

**Highway – HP Load Restriction Assistance / Scissor-Lift / Personnel / Project Update**

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, recommended that Barnes County request the North Dakota Highway Patrol's assistance with road restriction weight enforcement in 2015. Rodger Berntson moved to accept the recommendation; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Mr. Johnson requested permission to purchase a scissor-lift at a cost of \$3,000. Bill Carlblom moved to approve the request; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Mr. Johnson informed the Commission that they have another opening for an Equipment Operator, and requested permission to fill this position out of Valley City, as well as the other position that is still open in the Dazey shop. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the request; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Shawn Mayfield, Kadmas, Lee & Jackson, provided an update on the status of the surge funding bill in the legislature, discussed projects that are currently "on the shelf", and informed the Commission what it would cost to provide Valley City with haul truck access without road restrictions (\$1.25 to 2.3 million). Other discussion included whether the Highway Department should continue to assist the North Dakota Winter Show with snow removal, if asked; the general consensus was that, if it's feasible, continue to do it like they've done in the past.

**Planning & Zoning – Conditional Use Permit**

Betty Koslofsky, Tax Director, presented an Application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to go from Agricultural to Residential from William Poukka (Cuba Township, NW ¼ 4-57-139). John Froelich moved to approve the application; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Ms. Koslofsky presented an inquiry from NDSU asking for support for a study on erosion within the Barnes series soil type. The Commission suggested that it would be more appropriate for the Barnes County Soil Conservation District to review this request.

**Auditor – Minutes/Miscellaneous**

Mike Metcalf moved to approve the February 3, 2015 minutes with corrections; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried. Mike Metcalf moved to approve a new Service Contract with Valley Recycling for \$360 for one year; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Other discussion included NDDOT Railroad Crossing Requests, Barnes County listed in an estate settlement, and the ND State Auditor's report on Harold Rotunda's 2013 audit.

**LIDAR Mapping**

John Froelich moved to approve the request from the James River Watershed Coordinator – Ryan Odenbach for a \$1,000 commitment from Barnes County in support of the Light Detection And Ranging (LIDAR) mapping project, matching the Water Board's commitment; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. John Froelich amended the motion to

match \$500 instead; Mike Metcalf amended his second. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

#### **CCH Office Space - Discussion**

Candy Huss, Social Services Director, Tom Overn, Social Services Board President, and Jason Thiel, MIS Director, presented their office space needs. More discussion with the parties involved is needed before a decision can be made; also, cost estimates are needed.

#### **Dispatchers - Concerns**

Holly Neuberger, Sarah Hass, and Megan Johnson, presented their concerns, and requested that the Commission consider having Kim Franklin continue to serve as 911 Coordinator. It was agreed that further discussion is necessary.

#### **Emergency Management – Dispatch Services Agreement**

Kim Franklin, Emergency Manager, presented the updated Barnes County Dispatch Center User Agency Agreement. State's Attorney Carl Martineck will work with Ms. Franklin on the final draft.

#### **Commission Discussion**

Mike Metcalf moved to approve installation of water coolers on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors by Air Anderson Inc., at a cost of \$4,100; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Upcoming meetings were discussed, as well as possible repair projects (skylight, boiler, and window cleaning).

With no further business, John Froelich made a motion, seconded by Mike Metcalf, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 11:55 am.

Cindy Schwehr, Chairman  
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier  
Barnes County Auditor