

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 with Cindy Schwehr, Bill Carlblom, Mike Metcalf, John Froelich, and Rodger Berntson present. Chairman Metcalf called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Agenda was reviewed.

Corrections – 24/7 Coordinators / New Jails

Randy McClafin, Sheriff, requested \$1.00 per hour extra for the employees who are administering the 24/7 program (Carrie Kolpin and Desiree Williams). Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the request; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Visiting the new jail in Mountrail County was discussed.

Abatement Hearing – Alex Punton, Jr.

Stacie Leier, Tax Director, and Alex Punton, Valley Township resident, appeared before the Commission to present additional information on Mr. Punton’s Application for Abatement or Refund of Taxes. According to Ms. Leier’s calculations, Mr. Punton did not meet the requirements for Homestead Credit for the 2016 tax year; therefore the board took no action on the Application.

Auditor – Minutes / County Government Week Proclamation

John Froelich moved to approve the March 7, 2017 minutes with corrections; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the County Government Week Proclamation; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

PROCLAMATION
County Government Week - April 17 – 21, 2017
"Brilliant Ideas at Work"

WHEREAS, the nation’s 3,069 counties serving more than 300 million Americans provide essential services to create healthy, safe and vibrant; and WHEREAS, counties move America forward by providing health care, administering justice, keeping communities safe, creating economic opportunities and much more; and WHEREAS, Barnes County and all counties take pride in their responsibility to protect and enhance the health, welfare and safety of its residents in efficient and cost-effective ways; and WHEREAS, through National Association of Counties President Bryan Desloge’s “Brilliant Ideas at Work” initiative, NACo is encouraging counties to focus on the most innovative programs and services that strengthen communities; and WHEREAS, in order to remain healthy, vibrant and safe, America’s counties provide public health, justice, safety, infrastructure, transportation, technology, environmental stewardship and economic services that play a key role in everything from residents’ daily commutes to emergency response; and WHEREAS, each year since 1991 the National Association of Counties has encouraged counties across the country to actively promote their own programs and services to the public they serve; and WHEREAS, Barnes County is committed to moving forward by continually working to address healthcare, justice, safety, and economic opportunities within the County; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT I, Mike Metcalf, Barnes County Commission Chairman, do hereby proclaim April 17 – 21, 2017 as County Government Week and encourage all county officials, employees, schools and residents to participate in county government celebration activities.

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor

Mike Metcalf, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Social Services – Heart Gallery

Stephanie Morse, Social Services, requested permission to put up the Heart Gallery display during County Government Week. The Commission expressed their support and approval.

Commission Discussion

NDIRF Annual Meeting –John Froelich moved to approve the proxy; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the updated Agenda Policy, *with changes* (as printed below); Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

**BARNES COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING AGENDA POLICY
Adopted March 21, 2017**

Pursuant to chapter 44-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, as interpreted by the North Dakota Attorney General

and the North Dakota Supreme Court, the Barnes County Board of Commissioners desires to implement a policy for setting the agenda of regular meetings of the Board in order to ensure that suitable public business may be discussed in an orderly manner.

THEREFORE, the following rules are adopted as of the date set forth above:

- 1) Barnes County department heads and elected officials, other County employees with permission of their supervisor, or any individual representing a public entity that receives County funding, may contact the Auditor to reserve a time on the commission meeting agenda to discuss County business.
- 2) Any individual may contact the county commissioner representing the district in which the individual resides in order to request a time on the commissioner meeting agenda to discuss any public business. Requests may be denied at the discretion of the appropriate commissioner or the Board, for any reason, including failure to submit appropriate documentation by the deadline below. *Appeals of any denied requests may be made to the Chairman of the Board.*
- 3) Reservations and requests must be made by 5:00pm on the Tuesday prior to the next regularly scheduled commission meeting. Late requests may be considered for a future meeting.

Water Board – Hobart easements and Snagging & Clearing were discussed, as well as the status of FEMA reimbursements. Southeast Judicial District Vacancy letter of support was signed. Legislative Forum – The State DOT is proposing closing the maintenance shop in Litchville. Barnes County Township Officers' Association meeting will be March 23rd. Budget process – Rodger Berntson proposed a 5% reduction on essential departments and 10% reduction on non-essential departments, as something to think about. Policy suggestions will be discussed at the next meeting.

With no further business, Rodger Berntson made a motion, seconded by John Froelich, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:16 a.m.

Mike Metcalf, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor