

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, October 17, 2017 with Cindy Schwehr, Bill Carlbom, John Froelich, and Rodger Berntson present. Mike Metcalf was unable to attend. Vice-Chairman Carlbom called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Agenda was reviewed.

Planning & Zoning – Variances (3)

Liz Roorda, Deputy Tax Director representing Planning & Zoning, presented an application for a Variance – Setback 150 – 160' from center of road from Marlyn Maasjo (Binghampton Township, SE ¼ SE ¼ NE ¼ 30-138-56). Rodger Berntson moved to approve the application; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Ms. Roorda presented an application for a Variance – Setback 176' from township road from Betty & Kenneth Koslofsky (Binghampton Township, NE ¼ 22-138-56). John Froelich moved to approve the application; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Ms. Roorda presented an application for a Variance – Setback 100' from center of township road from Nathan Saylor (Binghampton Township, SW ¼ 28-138-56). John Froelich moved to deny the application; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Cindy Schwehr voting "no".

Auditor – Minutes / Financial Report

Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the October 3, 2017 minutes; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried. Beth Didier, Auditor, presented an update on the County finances, with nothing unusual or noteworthy to report, at this time.

Parent Resource Center (NDSU Subaward #FAR0028193)

Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the contract to fund the operating expenses for the 2017-2018 Family Life Education Project, Community Based Child Abuse Prevention through the Parent Resource Center; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

Commission Discussion

In observation of October being Domestic Violence Awareness month; APOC (Abused Persons Outreach Center) will be putting up some banners in the Courthouse rotunda. Upcoming holidays were discussed (see below). The State Water Commission approved the drainage permit for Hobart Lake. The State is working on a fix for instances when Barnes County's Dispatch phone lines get "dropped" in the back-up system with Richland and Stutsman counties.

Department Head Meeting

The Extension Office has been addressing Dicamba drift issues; additional training is expected. Emergency Management is working with Valley City State University on an updated Memorandum of Understanding and discussing vulnerable areas on campus. 911/Dispatch continues to work with the State on the 911 addressing. Teagan Hunt has been hired as Dispatcher. Tax Equalization staff will be gone to Bismarck next week for two days for the annual Vanguard training; the Recorder's Office will cover the office. Stewart Township has lost their assessor, due to the new certification requirements. Sheriff's Office is working on developing an active shooter training for the Courthouse. The cold storage is now in use at the old National Guard building at the Airport. The jail is working on their new standards training. MIS has been dealing with computer security issues, as well as WIFI security. City County Health provided updates on the following: Cardiac Ready Community; Blood Pressure screenings; Behavioral Health Coalition meeting monthly; Safe Sleep grant; Block Grant for On-the-Move and Diabetes education; Heather Kroeker is the new Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator; Flu-shot clinics; Young People's Healthy Heart has moved into the CCH building (second floor); Andrea Winter is the new WIC Coordinator; Katie Beyer is working with Law Enforcement on Alcohol Prevention. Department Heads are reminded to be watching their budgets, and make arrangements to meet with the Commission if their budgets need to be adjusted prior to the end of the year. The Friday after Thanksgiving is not a holiday. Those taking the day off are expected to use Leave. All County Offices are expected to be open on the Friday after Thanksgiving. If, however, due to staffing, any office will not be open, that office is responsible for notifying KOVC and the Times-Record. If one person is in the office, the office is considered "Open for business". No one should be working in a "Closed" office on a regular business day.

With no further business, Cindy Schwehr made a motion, seconded by John Froelich, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:07 a.m.

Bill Carlbom, Vice-Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor