

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 with Mike Metcalf, Cindy Schwehr, John Froelich, and Rodger Berntson present. Bill Carlblom was unable to attend. Chairman Schwehr called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Agenda was reviewed.

Auditor – Minutes/EAP Contract

John Froelich moved to approve the November 3, 2015 minutes; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Auditor Beth Didier presented a contract for approval from the Village Business Institute for Employee Assistance Program services through November 30, 2016 at a cost of \$3,120. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the contract; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

National Hospice Palliative Care Month Proclamation

Heather Pautz, CHI Health at Home, requested that the Commission proclaim November 2015 as National Hospice Palliative Care Month. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the Proclamation; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care empower people facing a serious or life-limiting illness to live as fully as possible, surrounded and supported by family and loved ones; WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care professionals are dedicated to helping diverse communities access quality end-of-life care and are committed to removing barriers to accessing care; WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care bring patients and family caregivers the highest quality care delivered by an interdisciplinary team of skilled professionals that includes physicians, nurses, social workers, therapists, counselors, health aides, spiritual care providers and others who make the wishes of each patient and family a priority; WHEREAS, through pain management and symptom control, caregiver training and assistance, and emotional and spiritual support, allowing patients to live fully and make more meaningful moments until the end, surrounded and supported by the faces of loved ones, friends, and committed caregivers; WHEREAS, Each year, hospice saves Medicare more than \$2 billion by providing solutions for physicians, care to patients and comfort to families anywhere, at any time. WHEREAS, every year more than 1.5 to 1.6 million Americans living with life-limiting illness, and their families, received care from the nation's hospice programs in communities throughout the United States; WHEREAS, more than 355,000 trained volunteers contribute 16 million hours of service to hospice programs annually in the U.S.; WHEREAS, hospice and palliative care providers encourage all people to learn more about options of care and to share their wishes with family, loved ones, and their healthcare professionals; NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Cindy Schwehr, Commission Chairwoman, by virtue of the authority vested in me by Barnes County, ND do hereby proclaim November 2015 as National Hospice Palliative Care Month and encourage citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of care at the end of life and to observe this month with appropriate activities and programs.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of November, 2015 and caused this seal to be affixed.

Cindy Schwehr, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor

USI – County Insurance Q&A

Dave Silewski, USI, appeared before the Commission to answer questions regarding liability insurance.

Dispatch Update

Holly Neuberger and Sue Lloyd provided an update on Dispatch, staffing, and Emergency Management.

CPU Contract

Jason Thiel, MIS Director, presented a contract from Computer Professionals Unlimited Inc (CPU) for programming and support through December 31, 2016 for approval. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the contract in the amount of \$23,717.16; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

Sheriff – Drones and Docking Stations

Sheriff Randy McClafin and Deputy Sheriff Jed Reile discussed the need for keyboards and docking stations for the four tablets (which they already have) at an estimated cost of \$3,000. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the request; to be paid out of the Sheriff's budget. Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Sheriff McClafin asked the Commission for their thoughts regarding pursuing grant funding and purchasing drones; the Sheriff's department will follow up with further research.

VC-BC Development Corporation – Requests for Funds / Contract Renewal

Jennifer Feist, Director of Development for the Valley City-Barnes County Development Corporation, and Kay Vinje, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, requested approval of \$5,000 to support the Chamber of Commerce. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the request; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried, with Rodger Berntson voting “no”. Ms. Feist, along with board members Wade Bruns and Tony Kobbervig, requested approval of the 2016 contract in the amount of \$27,000 with the Development Corporation for the calendar year 2016. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the contract, to be paid out of Economic Development funds; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried, with Rodger Berntson voting “no”.

Commission Discussion

The Commission will send a letter of congratulations to Lucas Jury upon his attaining the status of Eagle Scout. The County Christmas Party / Awards Banquet will be held on December 18th. Confidentiality of employee information was discussed. Salaries are public information; however, the related benefits are confidential. A county resident asked what would happen if Valley City disbanded their police department. The County would be responsible for coverage of the City's law enforcement, and the cost would be shared by all Barnes County taxpayers. Sidewalk repair is still pending; if the complete fix isn't possible before the weather turns, bad spots will be patched. The December 1st meeting will be re-organization. There will be a meeting regarding the culvert at the old Miller Motors site on November 19th at 3:00 pm at City Hall. Barnes County Township Officers Association will be November 19th at 8:00 am at the VFW. Security Committee members Kerry Johnson and Jason Thiel discussed the possibility of having incident training for employees and performing site assessments. The Commission gave the go-ahead to pursue it further. Mike Metcalf will assemble a committee to interview Veterans Service Officer applicants. John Froelich and Bill Carlblom will prepare to interview for the Emergency Manager / Dispatch Coordinator position.

With no further business, John Froelich made a motion, seconded by Mike Metcalf, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Cindy Schwehr, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor