

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 with Cindy Schwehr, Bill Carlbom, 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.

**Sheriff's Office – Bid Opening**

Bids were received from Miller Motors and Stoudt Ross Ford. Sheriff Randy McClafin asked for approval to accept the bid from Miller Motors for a 2016 Dodge Charger. Rodger Berntson moved to accept the bid of \$26,685 from Stoudt Ross Ford for a 2016 Ford Taurus; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion failed upon roll-call vote, with Cindy Schwehr, Bill Carlbom, and John Froelich voting "no". Bill Carlbom made a motion to accept the bid of \$27,477 from Miller Motors; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Mike Metcalf and Rodger Berntson voting "no".

**Dispatch Update**

Temporary Dispatch Supervisor Holly Neuberger and Emergency Manager/Dispatch Coordinator Sue Lloyd provided a Dispatch update. Two new dispatchers have been hired, pending new-hire processing. John Froelich moved to appoint Holly Neuberger as permanent Dispatch Supervisor, at her current rate of pay; Bill Carlbom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

**Planning & Zoning – Variance / Exemption**

Betty Koslofsky, Tax Director, presented an application for a Variance – Setback of 177' from center of highway from John R Cook (Getchell Township, NE ¼ 34-141-58). Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the application; Bill Carlbom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Ms. Koslofsky presented an application for Property Tax Exemption for improvement from John R Cook (Getchell Township, NE ¼ 34-141-58). Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the application; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Rodger Berntson voting "no".

**Tax Director – Assessing Contract / Staffing**

Betty Koslofsky presented assessing contracts from Green Township at \$972 annually and Noltimier Township at \$816 annually. Rodger Berntson moved to approve the contracts; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Ms. Koslofsky asked for permission to hire one or two staff members for her office. The Commission will address this on January 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Weed Board – Equipment Purchase**

Jim McAllister, Weed Officer, asked permission to purchase an Arctic Cat Prowler from Dakota Cat for \$7,000 prior to year-end, in order to get an extended 2-year warranty. This was budgeted for 2016, but will come out of 2015 instead. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the request; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". The Weed Board hired Jamen Windish to replace Jim McAllister when he retires.

**Auditor – Minutes / Liquor/Beer Applications / Staffing**

Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the December 1, 2015 minutes; Bill Carlbom seconded the motion. Motion carried. Auditor Beth Didier presented Liquor, Beer, and Sunday Alcohol applications from Ashtabula Crossing and Baldhill Grill & Chill for approval. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the applications; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Cindy Schwehr made a motion to approve the Auditor's Office hiring a temporary full-time employee as soon as possible; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

**Barnes County Wildlife – Faust Park Maintenance**

Rodger Berntson moved to approve the 2015 maintenance fee of \$600 payable to Barnes County Wildlife; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

**Court Facilities Grant Application**

Clerk of Court Wanda Auka presented an Application for Court Facilities Improvement Grant Funds. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the grant application, pending approval by the State Historical Society; Bill Carlbom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

**Commission Discussion**

Name tags, liability insurance, and a repair at the jail were discussed.

With no further business, Rodger Berntson made a motion, seconded by Bill Carlbom, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Mike Metcalf, Chairman  
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier  
Barnes County Auditor