

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, December 20, 2016 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.

**State's Attorney – Office Remodel / Research Software**

Carl Martineck, State's Attorney, informed the Commission that they've received a VOCA (Victims of Crime Act) grant, for renovating the office to provide additional, more confidential victim services. The VOCA grant is a federal grant that is administered through the State. The County share of the cost will be \$2,496.06. John Froelich moved to approve the request; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Rodger Berntson moved to approve a request for a three-year contract for the Westlaw research software program at a cost of \$116.07 per month (with a 3% yearly increase), to be paid out of the indigent defense and mental health line items for the first year, and to be revisited at budget time; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

**MIS – CPU Contract**

Jason Thiel, MIS Director, presented a 2-year contract with CPU in the amount of \$23,717.16 annually. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the request; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

**Jack Olson – Fence Viewer**

Jack Olson, Spring Creek Township resident, asked the Commission for assistance in obtaining a fence viewer (North Dakota Century Code 47-26-02) for his land in Spring Creek and Skandia townships, due to neighboring cattle at large causing issues on his certified organic farming operation. The Commission will follow up with the State's Attorney, as well as US Fish & Wildlife.

**Planning & Zoning - Variances**

Jessica Jenrich, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, presented an application for a Zoning District Amendment and a Subdivision from Neil Pederson (Marsh Township, NE ¼ 9-139-58). Bill Carlblom moved to approve the application; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Ms. Jenrich presented an application for a Variance – Setback of 110' from the center of the township road from Harold Peterson (Springvale Township, SW ¼ 13-139-56). Bill Carlblom moved to approve the application; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Ms. Jenrich presented an application for a Variance – Setback 158' from center of road from Barnes County (Getchell Township, NW ¼ 18-141-58). John Froelich moved to approve the application and to pay the \$100 fine for not obtaining a variance at the proper time; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

**Auditor – Minutes / Faust Park Maintenance**

Bill Carlblom moved to approve the December 13, 2016 minutes; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Rodger Berntson moved to approve \$600 to be paid to Barnes County Wildlife Federation for annual maintenance of Faust Park; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

**Board Appointments**

Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the January 1, 2017 Board Appointments, as presented: Airport – Tim Logan, Park – Bobby Koeplin, Planning & Zoning – Scott Legge, Senior Citizens – Phillip Mueller, Dick Gulmon, Darryl Bulzomi, and Liz Johnson, Water Resources – Dale Jorissen, and Weed Control – Derek Bruns; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". The opening on the Park Board and the openings on the Senior Citizen's board will be advertised again.

**Beer / Liquor License Renewals**

Auditor Beth Didier presented Liquor, Beer, and Sunday Alcohol applications from Ashtabula Crossing, Baldhill Grill & Chill and Sodbuster Club for approval. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the applications; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

**Tax Equalization – PAT / Sidwell Contracts / Office Assistance**

Stacie Leier, Tax Director, updated the Commission on delays with the transition to the Sidwell program and requested approval to renew the licensing fee for the PAT program, as the Sidwell data will not be ready in time. The cost of the PAT renewal is \$1,600 for the 2017 License. John Froelich moved to approve the renewal; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Also, Sidwell has identified issues within the Barnes County parcel set which, if not addressed, will create inaccuracies within the data. They

provided options to address this issue, some of which cost an additional \$5,630 to \$8,130. Ms. Leier will follow up with the Sidwell Regional Account Manager to set up a meeting to get some questions answered and try to resolve the issue. The Planning & Zoning Coordinator will be helping out in Tax Equalization during slow times.

**On-Call Policy**

John Froelich moved to rescind the on-call policy previously put in place, effective January 9, 2017; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried, with Mike Metcalf voting “no”.

**Commission Discussion**

County 2017 meeting dates were discussed. John Froelich moved to pay Sheriff Randy McClaflin for his hours worked serving at the DAPL protest; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. This is reimbursed by the State.

With no further business, Bill Carblom made a motion, seconded by John Froelich, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 10:46 a.m.

Mike Metcalf, Chairman  
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier  
Barnes County Auditor