

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, June 17, 2025 with Bill Carlbom, Mike Schwehr, Vicky Lovell, Pete Paulson, and Shawn Olauson present. Chairman Bill Carlbom called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, roll call was taken and the agenda was reviewed.

VC-BC Public Library

Hilde Van Gijssel presented the annual report for the Valley City Barnes County Public Library. The restoration and renovation of the library is completed. The loan is anticipated being paid off next year. E-books and audio books have gotten big. This is Hilde's last meeting with the county. She is stepping down from the library board.

Planning and Zoning

A setback variance application for Darin Karlgaard for moving a cabin to align with water, sewer, and electrical located in Lot 12 Block 2 of Whatchacallit Subdivision was presented. Shawn Olauson made a motion to approve the application; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously upon roll call vote. A tree variance was presented for Janice Klein seeking a variance of 100' to 150' from the center of the township road located in the NE¼ 36-141-61 in Brimer Township. Shawn Olauson moved to approve the application; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously upon roll call vote. A setback variance application for Dustin Theurer was presented seeking a variance to have five drain tile lines within 75' of the centerline of 40th St SE in Springvale Township. Pete Paulson moved to approve this application; Mike Schwehr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously upon roll call vote. A setback variance application was presented for building a garage 57" from center of subdivision road and 15' from south property line located in Ashtabula Township for Dan Klein. Vicky Lovell made a motion to approve the application. Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously upon roll call vote. Lakeside Construction and Services Inc. applied for a Conditional Use Permit to excavate gravel location in section 1-142-59 in Rogers Township. Pete Paulson made a motion to approve the Conditional Use Permit with dust control; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote with all members voting yes. A tree variance application for 85" from the center of the township road on SE¼ 30-142-58 Ashtabula Township from Mike Schwehr was presented. Shawn Olauson made a motion to approve the application; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Commissioners Carlbom, Paulson, Olauson, and Lovell voting yes. Commissioner Schwehr abstained from voting. A setback variance for David Mielke building a new shed at 32-142-58 Ashtabula township located on Lot B Block 2 in Martin's Landing which be replacing existing shed and which is less than 75' from the center of the road. Vicky Lovell moved to approve the application. Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously upon roll call vote. A setback variance application for Robert Schulze for building a garage 55' from the township road on the NW¼ NW¼ less Auditor Lot 1 13-137-58 in Oakhill Township was presented. Shawn Olauson moved to approve the application; Mike Schwehr seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously upon roll call vote. Jessica Jenrich presented Planning and Zoning Development Code changes regarding Animal Feeding Operations. Shawn Olauson made the motion to approve changes as presented according to the North Dakota Century Code 11-33; Mike Schwehr seconded the motion. The motion carried with Commissioners Schwehr, Carlbom, Olauson, and Paulson voting yes. Commissioner Lovell voted no. Building Permits were reviewed.

Jack Ertelt

Jack Ertelt is seeking a written description of the policy for the Barnes County Sheriff's Office Criminal Trespass Arrest Policy. Determining how a case is handled varies case by case. Jack will visit Randy at the Sheriff's Office.

MIS Department

Jason Thiel is requesting to replace the current System I server from CPS because life expectancy of the server is at the end. This server runs the bulk of our county operations. The total cost of the new server is \$70,932.00 plus travel costs. The monthly fees will remain the same at \$600.00. There will be enough in his budget to cover the cost of the new server. Pete Paulson made the motion to purchase the new server; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting yes.

Auditor's Office

Vicky Lovell moved to approve June 3, 2025, minutes as presented. Mike Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting "aye". One application for the open library board member was received from Megan Bergman. Vicky Lovell made a motion to appoint Megan Bergman to the Valley City Barnes County Public Library Board; Mike Schwehr seconded the motion. The motion carried with all members voting yes. Participating in WSI's Learning Management System (LMS) program was discussed. We will gather more information.

Highway Department

Sealed bids were presented for the county's remaining surplus property. All items are as is with no warranty or guarantees. High bid for the Ford Taurus was Jamen Windish at \$612.00. Bundle 1 was Lance Peterson for \$5.00. Bundle 2 was Lance Peterson with no bid. Bundle 3 was Lance Peterson at \$1.00, and Bundle 4 was Lance Peterson at \$1.00. Pete Paulson made a motion to accept the high bidder for each item advertised; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all members voting yes. The pricing on LED Stop Signs with complete installation per intersection is \$3,325.00. A private individual offered to pay for the signs at a specified intersection. The board felt this would cause conflict with others if we were to put this type of sign at one intersection and not others. Ottertail Power was discovered installing an approach without first obtaining an application prior to

construction. Work was stopped and they completed the required paperwork to continue. They moved the approach as requested. Mike Schwehr moved to approve the approach application; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Commission Discussion

Pete Paulson stated we will have a conference call with LaMoure County regarding VSO compensation on July 1st at 9:00 AM. Bill will be absent. July 15th at 9:00 AM would work better. Bridgetown Builders will donate 25% towards the initial cost of the natural gas project on the south side of interstate. There is a hog operation in the works in Barnes County. Vicky Lovell stated she had one complaint on the library float in the Community Days parade. Bill Carlblom reported that the county received a substantial bill from Martin Mechanical for the heating/cooling project. We will check to see if we are required to pay the bill or if there was a breach of contract.

With no further business, Vicky Lovell made a motion, seconded by Shawn Olauson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, with all members voting “aye” and the meeting was adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

Bill Carlblom, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Julie Mindt
Barnes County Auditor