

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, October 7, 2025 with Bill Carlblom, Mike Schwehr, Vicky Lovell, Pete Paulson, and Shawn Olauson. Chairman Bill Carlblom called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., roll call was taken, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the agenda was reviewed.

Planning & Zoning

A setback variance was presented for Jeremy Rudolph for erecting new grain bins located on parcel #40-0640430 in section 6-142-61 in Uxbridge Township along Highway #1. Vicky Lovell moved to approve the variance; Mike Schwehr seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote with Commissioners Lovell, Paulson, Schwehr, and Carlblom voting yes and Shawn Olauson voting no. Jessica would like to purchase a stand-up desk for \$1,372.00. Shawn Olauson moved to approve the desk purchase; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all members voting yes.

Jack Olson

Jack Olson met with the commission to present concern on water issues from the Trager Dam affecting his land. His goal is to return the Trager Dam to the way it was 61 years ago. He would like the commissioners to contact Dave Azure, US Fish and Wildlife, with a recommendation for help with the water issues resulting from the Trager Dam changes on his property.

Sheriff's Office

Randy McClafin is seeking the commission's approval to increase new Deputy Sheriff Howatt wage from \$23.91 per hour to \$26.85 per hour. Deputy Howatt was paid the same wage he was getting at the Correctional Center while he was attending the Law Enforcement Academy for deputy training. Deputy Howatt has finished his training and is on full-time duty in the Sheriff's Office. Pete Paulson moved to approve the increase in wage beginning with the next pay period; Mike Schwehr seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Environmental Services

Shane presented a request to purchase new tires for the Bobcat. Pete Paulson moved to approve the tire purchase; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote with all members voting yes. Nathan Eldridge was introduced as our new custodian replacing Ryan Grenz.

Auditor's Office

Mike Schwehr moved to approve September 16, September 22, and September 24, 2025, minutes as presented. Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll call vote with all members voting "aye". A Memorandum of Understanding was presented between the ND Secretary of State's Office and Barnes County related to the state-owned election equipment under the control of the county auditor. Vicky Lovell moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with all members voting yes. State Fair delegates will be tabled until the next meeting. Election envelope ordering was discussed. Century code changed the wording on the envelopes. We are required to use the new envelopes therefore the commission approved the ordering of new envelopes through the general fund.

Highway Department

Preliminary engineering and design selection interviews were conducted for Peterson Bridge project. Two engineering firms, IMEG and KLJ, presented their proposals. Both firms presented very well. The interview committee recommended KLJ. Construction on this project begins in 2027. Bill Carlblom made a motion to accept KLJ as the successful bidder; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote with all members voting yes. Jamie Smith gave an update on current projects. Jacob Piatz has turned in his resignation.

Veteran Service Office

LaMoure County made a counteroffer of \$25,000.00 per year for Barnes County providing Veteran Services twice a month in LaMoure for the next contracted year. Pete Paulson made a motion to accept the counteroffer from LaMoure County for the service contract; Mike Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously with all members voting yes upon roll call vote. Pete proposed giving Tammy a \$1.00/hr. increase beginning on January 1, 2026, for going to LaMoure. Mike Schwehr seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote with Commissioner Schwehr, Carlblom, and Paulson voting yes and Commissioners Lovell and Olauson voting no.

Commission Discussion

Pete Paulson gave an update on the VSO activity. Haying is done at the airport. The airport board is not satisfied with NDIRF insurance paid for the hanger door damage from the June windstorm. Shawn Olauson attended the Buffalo Bridges meeting. Overtime is being paid due to the LIHEAP program. CPS and school districts within the zones will be communicating twice a year. Mike Schwehr attended the City County Health District meeting. They are busy prepping for the RSV season. They will be down one nurse. By-law changes will be made. One board appointment will be appointed by the county health board instead of being appointed by the school. Vicky Lovell reported the library is doing well and there will be a strategic planning event coming up. She attended the SCDRC meeting. Bill has two nominations from NDSU Extension for state fair delegates which will be voted on at the next meeting. Bill attended the NDSU bi-annual meeting. Sheriff's Office project is completed. Two bills were pulled out from the bill run for Melissa Neitzke and Randy McClafin. Vicky Lovell made a motion to approve the bills presented for the bill run with the exception of the bill reimbursement presented for Melissa Neitzke and Randy McClafin until

more information is received; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Environmental Services

Martin Mechanical was in attendance for the bid opening for the Courthouse HVAV System. Several bids were received and opened. Roers Construction was the low single prime bidder with a bid of \$3,425,000. Low bidder for general contractor was Roer Construction with a bid of \$689,000. Low bidder for electrical contractors was Grotberg Electric with a bid of \$296,000. Low bidder for mechanical was Custom Aire Inc. with a bid of \$2,473,480. The three multiple prime bids total \$3,458,480. Roers Construction single prime bid remains the low bidder for the project. The commission board had a question and tabled the award vote until next meeting when there is an answer to their question.

Bills Approved For September 2025

General Fund: Advanced Business Methods Inc \$112.79, Amazon Capital Services \$748.24, Appliance City \$59.99, Balco Uniform Co. Inc \$4,080.51, Barnes Rural Water \$1,042.12, Beckman Septic Llc \$225.00, Bek Communications Cooperative \$1,079.25, Big Language Solutions \$9.12, Bob Barker Company \$241.48, Boiler Inspection Program \$140.00, Carblom, William \$115.80, Cass County Electric \$755.73, Cavett & Linda Stepanek \$500.00, Charm-Tex Inc \$979.80, Christopher Siek \$5,553.50, Cink, Jay \$980.47, City County Health District \$9,600.84, Code 4 Services Inc \$8,315.47, Cole Papers Inc. \$192.30, Counties Providing Technology \$2,817.00, Cps Technology Solutions \$7,640.00, Dacotah Bank Sd \$10,798.09, Dacotah Paper Co. \$327.12, Dickey Rural Telephone Coop. \$107.76, Everson, Jordyn \$16.31, Fat Man Trash Llc \$934.50, Fmj Electric Llc \$8,490.00, Forum Communications Printing \$4,153.55, Gille Auto \$125.00, Grotberg Electric, Inc. \$1,025.34, Handy Hardware & Rental \$1,459.79, Harold J. Rotunda, Cpa \$5,500.00, Heise, Rebecca \$200.00, High Plains Water Treatment, Inc. \$55.00, Information Technology Department \$5,662.40, Klj Engineering Llc \$594.85, Kotaco \$50.59, Litchville Bulletin \$425.06, Lovell, Victoria \$187.20, Marco Inc - St Louis \$722.21, Mckesson Medical-Surgical Mn Suppl \$307.97, Mercy Hospital - Valley City \$76.00, Mid-States Wireless, Inc. \$112.00, Mindt, Julie \$5.64, Montana-Dakota Utilities \$2,312.26, Nd Attorney General \$4,120.00, Nd Dept Of Human Services \$1,353.96, Nd Emergency Management Assn \$115.00, Northwest Iron Fireman, Inc. \$317.00, Nucara Pharmacy \$317.26, O'reilly Auto Parts \$122.81, On Demand Graphics & Signs \$596.00, Paulson, Pete \$188.20, Petro Serve Usa \$3,480.11, Pfaff, Jody \$193.20, Pharmchem Inc \$287.55, Postmaster \$198.00, Puklich Chevrolet Buick Gmc \$592.08, Quadient Finance Usa Inc \$3,000.00, Quadient Leasing Usa Inc \$709.08, Ray Nelson Construction \$9,168.41, Record Keepers, Llc \$70.00, Richland County Corrections \$1,870.00, Sanford Health Occupation Medicine \$56.00, Scram Systems \$225.76, Sheyenne Concrete Llc \$34,163.80, Sign Pro \$120.00, Smith Lumber Company \$404.08, Stoudt Miller Inc \$834.25, Stutsman County Correctional Cente \$300.00, Summit Foods Service Llc \$17,794.20, Thiel, Jason \$90.04, Thomson Reuters -West \$390.42, Valley Barber Service \$536.00, Valley City Public Works \$8,073.64, Valley City Times-Record \$880.23, Valley Lumber Company \$111.20, Valley Officeworks \$577.46, Verizon Wireless \$1,180.72, Workforce Safety & Insurance \$250.00, Total For Fund \$180,587.11, City County Health: City County Health District \$1,403.54, Total For Fund \$1,403.54, Veterans Service Office: Bek Communications Cooperative \$35.53, Leever's Foods \$38.16, Petro Serve Usa \$563.38, Record Keepers, Llc \$7.88, Verizon Wireless \$112.92, Wagon Wheel Inn Ltd \$550.00, Total For Fund \$1,307.87, County Road And Bridge: Chs Dakota Plains Ag \$23,532.98, Dakotaland Autoglass Inc \$161.21, Fei Inc \$21.74, Foster, William \$189.99, Gille Auto \$125.00, Inland Truck Parts & Service \$548.10, Klj Engineering Llc \$148,793.38, Kotaco \$1,942.32, Mac's \$172.70, Montana-Dakota Utilities \$72.94, Nd Dept Of Transportation \$1,598.01, Ottertail Power Company - Jamestown \$157.61, Petro Serve Usa \$48.83, Powerplan Oib \$760.97, R & H Maintenance & Lawn Care \$640.00, Sanford Health Occupation Medicine \$122.00, Smith, Jamie L. \$127.49, South Dakota Ltap \$250.00, The Window Man \$296.00, Truenorth Steel \$1,568.64, Valley Auto Parts \$545.88, Valley City Public Works \$777.81, Verizon Wireless \$99.42, Wd Larson Companies Ltd Inc \$352.63, Total For Fund \$182,905.65, Weed Control: Agterra Technologies Inc \$210.00, Barnes Co Highway Dept \$423.36, Dacotah Bank Sd \$111.70, Handy Hardware & Rental \$40.53, Manson, Justin \$81.00, Nutrien Ag Solutions Inc \$62,562.00, Sanford Health Occupation Medicine \$56.00, Valley City Public Works \$47.06, Verizon Wireless \$200.05, Windish, Jamen \$448.34, Total For Fund \$64,080.04, County Agent: Dacotah Bank Sd \$2.00, Harstad, Alicia \$524.42, Milender, Sue \$373.26, Quill Corporation \$194.96, Tichy, Amy J \$48.02, Total For Fund \$1,142.66, Bridge Sinking: Starion Bond Services \$6,302.50, Total For Fund \$6,302.50, Community Service: Verizon Wireless \$39.03, Total For Fund \$39.03, Grants And Projects: Leever's Foods \$32.07, Total For Fund \$32.07, Township Tap Funding Projects: Klj Engineering Llc \$1,144.24, Total For Fund \$1,144.24, Primary Residence Credit Adj: Angela Waters & Chris Waters \$228.33, Bernard & Edna Elsner \$500.00, Blair Parfit \$43.00, Bradley & Rosalie Knutson \$500.00, Cameron Tabbert \$264.81, Carol Anderson \$54.14, Cindy Loibl \$500.00, Dan Gehlhoof \$92.35, Darrell & Nancy Hermanson \$500.00, David Fitzell \$57.98, David Majerus \$500.00, David Sizer \$500.00, Debra Kuhry \$169.10, Franklin Larson \$500.00, Hope Hopson \$143.14, Jacob Le \$294.98, Jenneice & Myron Sommerfeld \$500.00, Jim Myers \$56.98, Joanne Nguyen \$54.14, Joey Burkhart \$129.05, John Schonert \$121.67, Keith & Debora Reisenauer \$131.19, Kenneneth & Loretta Ussatis \$500.00, Kevin Paulson \$55.75, Kyle Gregerson \$500.00, Larry Sayler \$500.00, Lauri Skoge Bruse \$500.00, Lawanna Hieb \$500.00, Luke & Loni Trapp \$500.00, Mara Heinze \$258.58, Nathan Sayler \$500.00, Penny Leifson \$95.22, Rebecca Fitzell \$228.33, Richard & Charlotte Jorissen \$500.00, Richard & Debra Gulmon \$500.00, Richard Martinson \$500.00, Robert & Barbara Schroeder \$274.06, Robert Grenz \$193.74, Roger & Sandra Mulvaney \$500.00, Ross Odermann \$223.91, Steven & Vivkie Ross \$500.00, Steven Robertsdahl \$500.00, Timothy & Rebecca Hager \$500.00, Timothy & Trisha Eggert \$500.00, Wyatt Gentzkow \$101.09, Total For Fund \$13,903.05, Soil Conservation: Barnes Co Soil Conserv. Dist. \$972.40, Total For Fund \$972.40, Garrison Conservancy Dist: Garrison Diversion Cons Dist \$983.97, Total For Fund \$983.97, Airport: Barnes Co Municipal Airport \$1,074.99, Total For Fund \$1,074.99, State Funds: Nd State Treasurer \$309.03, Total For Fund \$309.03, Older Persons: South Central Adult Services \$701.58, Total For Fund \$701.58, Ambulance: Barnes County Ambulance \$974.36, Total For Fund \$974.36, Water Resources: Hieb, Jerry \$11.90, Houston Engineering, Inc. \$16,438.25, Minnesota Valley Testing Laborator \$1,744.80, Ohnstad Twichell, P.C. \$4,198.10, Starion Bond Services \$490.00, Valley City Times-Record \$34.00, Total

For Fund \$22,917.05, Historical Society: Barnes Co Historical Society \$263.11, Total For Fund \$263.11, Library: Valley City Public Library \$621.82, Total For Fund \$621.82, Cities: Dazey \$399.48, Fingal \$37.14, Kathryn \$40.85, Leal \$45.72, Litchville \$705.77, Sanborn \$308.14, Valley City \$10,705.03, Wimbledon \$666.84, Total For Fund \$12,908.97, Townships: Alta \$725.37, Anderson \$406.32, Ashtabula \$1,318.93, Baldwin \$365.39, Binghampton \$539.63, Brimer \$645.57, Cuba \$527.21, Dazey \$364.58, Eckelson \$445.83, Edna \$524.44, Ellsbury \$341.73, Getchell \$549.95, Grand \$414.78, Green \$637.96, Greenland \$349.46, Hemen \$372.12, Hobart \$650.56, Laketown \$297.82, Mansfield \$553.53, Marsh \$662.91, Meadow \$619.97, Minnie \$377.91, Nelson \$449.30, Noltimier \$615.64, Norma \$422.84, Oakhill \$347.92, Oriska \$904.65, Pierce \$440.03, Potter \$365.74, Raritan \$2,894.59, Rogers \$293.92, Rosebud \$432.96, Sibley \$458.34, Skandia \$637.29, Spring \$434.86, Springvale \$386.37, Stewart \$327.96, Svea \$442.17, Thordenskjold \$538.09, Uxbridge \$494.91, Valley \$2,184.43, Weimer \$294.45, \$25,058.43, Park Districts: Fingal \$.57, Litchville \$28.12, Sanborn \$15.61, Valley City \$2,791.48, Total For Fund \$2,835.78, School Districts: Barnes County North \$7,929.01, Enderlin Area Sd 24 \$12,437.19, Hope-Page \$108.36, Litchville-Marion \$3,223.24, Maple Valley \$3,169.68, Montpelier \$26.60, Valley City \$13,836.83, \$40,730.91, Rural Fire Districts: Dazey \$167.83, Edna \$57.84, Enderlin \$8.26, Fingal \$105.71, Hope \$122.06, Kathryn \$17.34, Nome \$649.60, Page \$39.40, Sanborn \$533.26, Tower City \$133.35, Valley City Rural Fire Protection \$264.27, Wimbledon \$271.94, Total For Fund \$2,370.86, Total Warrants \$565,571.02

With no further business, Shawn Olauson made a motion, seconded by Vicky Lovell, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, with all members voting "aye" and the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 a.m.

Bill Carlblom, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Julie Mindt
Barnes County Auditor