

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, October 21, 2025 with Bill Carblom, Mike Schwehr, Vicky Lovell, Pete Paulson, and Shawn Olauson. Chairman Bill Carblom 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.

Corrections

Jeremy Wolff presented information on transferring nurse, Karen Bundy, from City County Health District employment to Barnes County Corrections as a full-time county employee at a rate of \$34.98 per hour. Vacation and sick leave balance transfer will be discussed and decided on at a later date. Karen will be able to retain years of service upon transfer. Pete Paulson made a motion to move forward with the transfer of the nurse to corrections; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Planning & Zoning

A variance on lot size less than five acres located in the SE¼ 12-143-58 in Sibley Trail was presented for Barbara Anderson. Consensus was this should take the route of becoming a subdivision due to the size being less than five acres. Vicky Lovell moved to deny the application; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. The motion to deny was carried upon roll call vote with all members voting yes. Mike Schwehr made a motion for the process to develop a subdivision of five acres. Pete Paulson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously upon roll call vote. Where to take storm debris from residents in the county was discussed. Building permits were reviewed.

Environmental Services

Roers Construction relayed that Grotberg Electric withdrew their bid due to a software glitch not calculating correctly. Roers would replace Grotberg with Superior. Shawn Olauson made a motion to accept Roers Construction bid. Bill Carblom seconded the motion. Shawn retracted the motion due to financing not lined up. Bill retracted the second. There will be a special meeting once the financing questions have been answered.

Auditor's Office

Vicky Lovell moved to approve October 7th, 2025, minutes as presented. Mike Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members voting "aye". A nomination was made for Alisha Harstad and Sue Milender to be the State Fair delegates for Barnes County. Mike Schwehr made a motion to approve Alisha and Sue as the county state fair delegate; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote with all members voting yes.

Commission Discussion

Pete gave an update on the VSO office activities. Shawn Olauson attended the water board meeting. An update on the Little Dam finalization, Hobart Drain, and Sanborn Lake levels was given. Dam inventory has been taken and discussed. Cost share for snagging and clearing was submitted to the Department of Water Resources. There was a surface drain application approved by the state. Vicky Lovell gave updates on HUD and SCDRC. The strategic planning meeting for the library was tabled. The County Commission Summit is set for December 9th in Bismarck. Bill discussed a reimbursement bill for medical test expense resulting from referrals due to WSI law enforcement physical examination requirements submitted by Randy McClafin. Pete Paulson made a motion to cover Randy's bill this time and going forward we will add to the policy that, in the future, the county will not cover the medical expenses. Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. The motion carried up on roll call vote with all members voting yes.

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 9:20 a.m.

Bill Carblom, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Julie Mindt
Barnes County Auditor