

The Board of Barnes County Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 17, 2004, with all members present.

Kerry Johnson, Barnes County Highway Superintendent, and Barry Schuchard, Kadrmas Lee and Jackson, met with the Commission. Kerry discussed setting the date for bids on road oil, culverts, and rentals. It was the consensus of the Commission to hold the bid letting on March 16, 2004, as follows:

10:00 a.m.	Road Oil
10:15 a.m.	Culverts
10:30 a.m.	Rentals

Barry discussed Federal safety dollars as it pertains to guard rails on bridges south of Valley City. He stated that we should do the engineering on all three bridges, even though we have been allowed funding for two at this time.

Commissioner Opdahl moved and Commissioner Berntson seconded to do the engineering on all three bridges, and have a letter signed by the Chairman and sent requesting funding for the third bridge, should funding become available. Upon a roll call vote with all Commissioners voting "Yes", motion carried.

Barry presented a map of 2004/2005 projects in Barnes Country.

Kerry discussed three potential projects for 2005.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Maasjo seconded to instruct Kadrmas Lee & Jackson to start the engineering on County projects for 2005. Upon a roll call vote with all Commissioners voting "Yes", motion carried.

Commissioner Maasjo moved and Commissioner Berntson seconded to instruct Kerry to get quotes for a generator for the Barnes County Highway Department. Upon a roll call vote with all Commissioners voting "Yes", motion carried.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Maasjo seconded to approve the minutes of February 3, 2004. Upon a roll call vote with all Commissioners voting "Yes", motion carried.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Berntson seconded to approve a raffle permit for North Central of Barnes School. Upon a roll call vote with all Commissioners voting "Yes", motion carried.

BJ Edwardson, Tax Director, informed the Commission that she and her assistant will be attending a meeting in Bismarck on elevator assessing and also that the Annual Assessor Meeting will be at the Courthouse on February 25, 2004 at 1:00 p.m.

Bob Eggert, Scott Legge, and Larry Hovel from the Barnes County Soils Committee met with the Commission to discuss data and procedures that they, as a Committee, are using to equalize land valuations in Barnes County. A problem that has arisen is that inundated Crop land that is no longer inundated is being moved to marsh land by Township Assessors, which moves crop land into non-crop land status. This is not the intent of the program. If the Marsh category is abused, corrective action may be necessary.

This problem will be addressed at the upcoming Annual Assessor's meeting.

Marcy Grant, Director of City/County Health, introduced two new employees she has hired: Maria Swenson, Safe Community Program, and Lorelee Buelow, Community Resource Coordinator. Both positions are totally funded through grants.

Norma Duppler, Emergency Manager, met with the Commission to discuss a correction to a Subdivision Plat.

Chairman Paulson informed the Commission that Norma has received a state award for Outstanding Leader in the field of Emergency Management. The Commission congratulated Norma on her award.

Norma informed the Commission that she has been awarded a grant for \$300,000.00 for the purchase of emergency equipment for Barnes County.

Norma discussed an issue where the Water Board released their secretary, requesting his resignation.

Randy McClafin, Barnes County Sheriff, met with the Commission to discuss the need for secure storage for evidence. Locations for additional storage were discussed. It was the Consensus of the Board that the Sheriff and portfolio holders work out the details.

Randy discussed a new water heater for the jail that was purchased to replace the old one that failed.

Randy requested purchasing a replacement stove at the jail that would include two ovens.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Berntson seconded to allow Randy to purchase the requested stove for approximately \$1,035.00. Upon a roll call vote with all Commissioners voting "Yes", motion carried.

Randy requested purchasing a replacement copier due to the fact that the one they were going to use from the State Attorney's office would take at least \$700.00 for repairs. He recommended purchasing a new copier for approximately \$3,995.00.

Commissioner Maasjo moved and Commissioner Schwehr seconded to approve the purchase of a new copier for approximately \$3,995.00 and amend the Corrections Budget to reflect the costs. Upon a roll call vote with all Commissioners voting "Yes", motion carried.

Commissioner Berntson informed the Commission that he had received a letter from Brett Lloyd pertaining to Barnes County building a new correction center. No action was taken.

Commissioner Maasjo informed the Board that Jim McAllister, Barnes County Weed Officer, was presented an award for Weed Officer of the Year for the State of North Dakota. The Commission congratulated Jim on his award.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Opdahl moved and Commissioner Berntson seconded to adjourn.

Edward R. McGough
Barnes County Auditor

Palmer Paulson, Chairman
Barnes County Commission