

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

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, updated the Commission on ongoing projects throughout the county.

Discussion was held on an open well on county property in Eckelson.

Commissioner Berntson informed the Commission that the railroad has secured the vacant elevator at Eckelson.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Opdahl seconded motion to approve the minutes of the Aug. 3, 2004 meeting as presented. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "Yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commission Maasjo seconded motion to appoint Steven Nielson to the Airport Authority Board, and thanked Gale Hansen for his interest in serving Barnes County. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "Yes," motion carried.

Jason Thiel, MIS Director, met with the Commission to discuss the need to hire a part-time employee from the college for approximately 12 hours per week, to replace the employee he lost when school dismissed last spring.

Commissioner Opdahl moved and Commissioner Berntson seconded motion to allow Thiel to hire a part-time employee. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "Yes," motion carried.

Thiel also asked the Commission what will be expected of his department as to providing computer support for the City-County Health grant-funded departments once they relocate outside the Courthouse. Lengthy discussion was held on the matter.

Commissioner Maasjo moved and Commissioner Opdahl seconded motion stating the MIS Department will not provide computer support for the City County Health grant-funded programs, once they have left the Courthouse. Upon a roll call vote with Commissioner Schwehr and Chairman Paulson voting "No" and all others voting "Yes," motion carried.

Robin Huseby, States Attorney, discussed an Administrative Consent Agreement from the North Dakota Department of Health to Barnes County on apparent air pollution control and solid waste violations which occurred from a hardware store demolition. The matter was put on hold until Huseby does more research.

The Commission then entered an executive session to discuss litigation with Huseby.

The open meeting then resumed. Marcy Grant met with the Commission to discuss the next step in the installation of the video-conferencing system.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Opdahl seconded motion to proceed with the installation of the Health Alert conferencing equipment by the Association of Counties, to be installed in the DES room in the Courthouse basement, and name MIS Director Jason Thiel to act as county contact for the system. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "Yes," motion carried.

Mike Manstrom, bond counsel with Dougherty and Co. LLC of Bismarck, met with the Commission to sign off on the sale of the bridge bonds.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Maasjo seconded motion to award the bid for \$500,000 general obligation bridge improvement bonds of 2004 to Dougherty & Company, LLC. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "Yes," motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Maasjo seconded motion to adjourn. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

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Edward R. McGough  
Barnes County Auditor

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Palmer Paulson, Chairman  
Barnes County Commission