

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session Tuesday, August 16, 2005, with all members present except Commissioner Schwehr.

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, introduced a new employee, Jamie Smith, Administrative Assistant, who will work with the Highway Department, Water Board and Zoning. He also informed the Board that he has hired Eugene Pederson to fill the Equipment Operator position.

Ross Eberle of KLJ discussed 2006-07 projects. Johnson and Eberle discussed Farm to Market projects. Johnson informed the Commission that his department is working overtime to finish chip sealing by September 1. He also discussed the installation of two concrete bathrooms at Clausen Springs Park.

Commissioner Triebold made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Opdahl, to approve the hiring of Rose Hatcher as Deputy Recorder in the Recorder/Tax Equalization Office. Upon a roll call vote with all members present voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Maasjo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Triebold, to approve the minutes of August 2, 2005. Upon a roll call vote with all members present voting "yes," motion carried.

Extension agents Randy Grueneich and Ellen Bjelland presented their quarterly reports.

Tax Director BJ Edwardson reported on State Equalization.

Edwardson and Robin Huseby, States Attorney, presented a Resolution and Plan for the process of combining the offices of Tax Director and County Recorder, and making the office of County Recorder appointed instead of elected.

Commissioner Maasjo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Triebold, to adopt the following resolution. Upon a roll call vote with all members present voting "yes," motion carried.

RESOLUTION 10

BE IT RESOLVED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2005, by the Barnes County Commission, that a PLAN for combining the offices and positions of Barnes County Recorder and Barnes County Tax Director into one unelected office and position entitled DEPARTMENT OF PROPERTY AND RECORDS, is now herein filed and by this resolution herein preliminarily adopted, and that said PLAN shall be publicized at least twice within 30 days from today's date, and that two public hearings will be held at scheduled Barnes County Commissioner meetings in the next three months, said meetings to be on the agendas, at which public input will be accepted regarding said PLAN. FURTHER, it is herein resolved that upon publication of said PLAN and after public hearings are held regarding said PLAN, the Barnes County Commission shall meet and decide whether to make said PLAN final, or amend or dispose of said PLAN.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 2005
/s/ Rodger Berntson, Chair, Barnes County Commission

Commissioner Triebold made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Opdahl, to set the public hearings for September 6 and 20, 2005, at 11 a.m. Upon a roll call vote with all members present voting "yes," motion carried.

Pat Hurley and Don Johnson of the Barnes County Water Resource Board, and John Behm, Fingal mayor, met with the Commission to discuss a ditch block opened near the City of Fingal. It was the consensus of the Board to clean the County right-of-way in the ditch, contingent upon the City of Fingal cleaning the rest of the ditch.

Theresa Will, City County Health Director, and Heather Pautz, Social Services Director, met with the Commission to discuss the Rural Health Network Development Planning Grant. It would be a collaborative effort between CCHD, Barnes County Social Services and Mercy Hospital, looking at

networking services to better serve the community. Three entities are required for the program, which is not a matching grant.

Commissioner Opdahl made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maasjo, to allow Social Services to become a partner to apply for the Network grant. Upon a roll call vote with all members present voting "yes," motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Maasjo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Triebold, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Edward R. McGough
Barnes County Auditor

Rodger Berntson, Chairman
Barnes County Commission