

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session Tuesday, December 20, 2005, with all members present.

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, discussed erosion along the Sheyenne River if Devils Lake water comes through Barnes County, as it affects County roads along the river.

Ross Eberle of Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson, discussed the bid-letting held in Bismarck, with Northern Improvement being the low bidder.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maasjo, to sign the contract with KLJ for construction engineering for future projects. Motion carried.

Bobby Koeplin presented the Commission with a check for \$26,838.43 for reimbursement for in-kind work done on the Highway-Byway system along Little Yellowstone and Clausen Springs parks.

Johnson requested authorization to purchase used snow plows from state surplus, which range in cost from approximately \$100.00 to \$200.00. It was the consensus of the Board to allow Johnson to purchase the plows.

Johnson requested that Jamie Smith, a part-time employee, be allowed holiday pay. The County policy is to not allow holiday pay for part-time employees. Johnson may bring a request for change of policy to the Barnes County Employee Policy Committee when they meet again.

Jason Thiel, MIS Director, and Wanda Auka, Clerk of Court, met with the Commission to request purchase of two computers for the Clerk of Court's office.

Commissioner Maasjo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Triebold, to approve the purchase of two computers from the 2006 MIS budget. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Auka also discussed holding off on hiring another person in her office until she gets a better handle on what exactly is the need.

BJ Edwardson, Tax Director, and Betty Koslofsky, Administrative Assistant in the tax office, met with the Commission to discuss 2006 salaries.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maasjo, to allow Betty Koslofsky a 50-cent increase above the \$11.94 proposed for 2006 salaries, and to allow BJ Edwardson a 25-cent increase above the \$15.07 proposed for the 2006 salaries. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Edwardson presented an abatement request from Todd Wittenberg for PCL: 56-0500460, Lots 7 & 8, Blk 64, Rplt 1st Addition, Oriska, for 2003. Requested reduction was from \$22,900.00 to \$4,300.00; the City of Oriska approved a reduction to \$5,700.00.

Commissioner Triebold made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maasjo, to approve the abatement for Todd Wittenberg for PCL: 56-0500460, to \$5,700.00. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Edwardson presented for discussion the following items:

- ◆ \$5 each day charged to township / city if assessment book(s) has not been turned in by statute date of 4th Monday in April (lateness is a problem we have)
- ◆ Two-year new residential exemption – must qualify for North Dakota first-time homebuyer low-income loan to receive the exemption. The mortgage company must sign off, as part of the application. (Commission can set parameters)

◆ Report on Potter Township investigation of land amount discrepancy, stating that no adjusted data sheets were submitted for the 2006 tax year, so 2005 parcel values will be used to compare to 2006 parcel values to be calculated in January. This will be done after the county agricultural average per acre certification is received from the State Tax Department.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Triebold, to approve an auditor's lot for Matt Olason. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Triebold made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maasjo, to approve the minutes for December 6 and 14, with a correction. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Maasjo made a motion, seconded by Cindy, to approve the Beer, Liquor, and Sunday Alcoholic Beverage licenses for City Lights. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Berntson, to cancel taxes on the following properties. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

2005 Tax Sale

09-1440497	\$136.11
35-5100270	7.04
51-0100460	73.99
65-0250765	547.56

51-0100790 97.73 *Plus penalty & interest – taxes for 2001-2005 (Fingal)*

2005 VC FEMA Buyout

63-0342646	1410.15
	<u>315.56</u>
	1,094.59 taxes to be cancelled

2005 Tax Sale – City paid specials

63-0250531	1495.73	5 years taxes plus penalty & interest
63-0830002	498.37	"
63-0830017	1214.51	"
63-2390235	60.11	"

County-owned property/FEMA buyouts 2004

63-4000017	\$325.16
63-4000026	325.16
63-4000035	426.83
63-4000107	406.70
63-4000611	941.58
63-4000674	464.16

Commissioner Maasjo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Berntson, to sign a contract with Logan County for boarding prisoners in Barnes County. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

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

Edward R. McGough
Barnes County Auditor

Harlan Opdahl, Chairman
Barnes County Commission