

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session Tuesday, April 18, 2006, with all members present.

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, and Ross Eberle of Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson, met with the Commission to discuss the upcoming project that runs from Baldhill Dam to Highway 26. Discussion took place concerning the cost to repair two areas where there are frost heaves in the spring. The cost to repair these areas could be quite high so there were concerns whether the cost was worth the benefit.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maasjo, to negotiate with Northern Improvement, the contractor, as to the cost of the repairs and bring estimates to the next meeting. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Johnson informed the Commission that another engine has been located for the 1995 motor grader, to replace the engine that locked up. Cost of the replacement will be approximately \$6,500.00.

Commissioner Maasjo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Berntson, to have Johnson proceed with the engine replacement in the 1995 motor grader, for the cost of approximately \$6,500.00. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

BJ Edwardson, Tax Director, presented an abatement application for six parcels for the Open Door Center. These included the following:

- PCL:63-3472445 – 140 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE
- PCL:63-3472450 – 140 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE
- PCL:63-3472436 – 140 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave SE
- PCL:63-3471689 – 248 Central Ave N (Bookstore)
- PCL:63-1060052 – 675 11<sup>th</sup> Ave SW (Group Home)
- PCL:63-0050117 – Lot 1, Blk 2, Anderson's Addn (949 6<sup>th</sup> St SW) (Group Home)

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Berntson, to grant a partial exemption (\$36,000) for one parcel (PCL:63-3471689, Bookstore), and the requested abatements for the remaining five parcels. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Edwardson presented an abatement for Sheyenne Care Center, 979 Central Ave N (PCL:63-2660330), requesting valuation of 135,900.

Commissioner Schwehr stated she may have a conflict of interest because she is employed by Sheyenne Care Center.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maasjo that Commissioner Schwehr abstains from voting because of her employment by the property in question. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Triebold, to approve the abatement for Sheyenne Care Center, as recommended by the City of Valley City and the Tax Director. Upon a roll call vote with all members eligible voting "yes," motion carried.

Edwardson presented an abatement request from Faron and Laurie Hatcher at 323 6<sup>th</sup> Ave NE (PCL:63-5860234).

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Berntson, to approve the recommendation of the Tax Director and the City of Valley City, and lower the valuation to 43,900. Upon a roll call vote with Commissioners Schwehr and Berntson voting "yes," and Commissioners Opdahl, Maasjo, and Triebold voting "no," motion failed.

Commissioner Opdahl made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Triebold, to allow the abatement of 36,000 instead of the 43,900 as recommended by the Tax Director and the City of

Valley City. Upon a roll call vote with Commissioners Opdahl, Maasjo and Triebold voting “yes,” and Commissioners Schwehr and Berntson voting “no,” motion carried.

Edwardson presented an abatement request from Jacquetta Stricklin and Wanda Anderson at 352 6<sup>th</sup> Ave NW (PCL:63-0340728), to lower the valuation to 43,500.

Commissioner Triebold made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maasjo, to approve the recommendation of the Tax Director and the City of Valley City, and leave the valuation at \$51,600. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting “yes,” motion carried.

Edwardson presented an abatement request from Lois McGuire at 918 2<sup>nd</sup> St NE (PCL:63-6040189) to lower the valuation from the City of Valley City’s recommendation of 34,500 to 29,400.

Commissioner Opdahl made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Schwehr, to approve the recommendation of the Tax Director and the City of Valley City, and leave the valuation at 34,500. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting “yes,” motion carried.

John Ertelt met with the Commission to discuss cleanup of his property along State Highway I-94, on the east side of his homestead. The two parties agreed that Mr. Ertelt would move the trailers and sheds behind the tree row north of his property within 30 days.

Cindy Klapperich, Barnes County Food and Nutrition Program Agent, met with the Commission to discuss her program. She presented a list of programs and other groups she works with, and a summary of contributors’ support for her program year of October 1, 2006 – September 30, 2007.

Commissioner Maasjo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Triebold, to approve and sign the Family Nutrition Program support summary for Barnes County. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting “yes,” motion carried.

It was the consensus of the Board to approve the following auditor’s lots:

Glen Hayes: Auditor’s Lot 1, NW ¼, Sec 20, Twp 140N, R61W, Eckelson Twp.

Jason Sjostrom: Auditor’s Lots 1 & 2, NW ¼, Sec 22, Twp 141N, R57W, Noltimier Twp.

Wilbert Schuster: SE ¼, Sec 26, Twp 138N, R56W, Binghampton Twp.

Scot Larson: SE ¼, Sec 20, Twp 138N, R61W, Meadow Lake Twp.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Triebold, to approve a contribution of \$1,813.77 to the VC/BC Development Corporation for taxes and specials. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting “yes,” motion carried.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Triebold, to approve the transfer of \$48,542.10 in 2005 from the Social Services emergency fund to the general fund, as payback for transfer of emergency funds by the County Auditor in 2004.

Auditor Ed McGough informed the Commission that the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund sent the County a conferment of benefits totaling \$27,574.00, which will decrease 2006 insurance costs.

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

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Edward R. McGough  
Barnes County Auditor

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Harlan Opdahl, Chairman  
Barnes County Commission