

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session Tuesday, June 20, 2006, with all members present.

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, met with the Board. He reported the June 17 memorial dedication of the new John W. Carlisle Walk Bridge located on the east side of Clausen Springs went well.

He stated that a records management specialist had cleaned out Highway Department files.

He reported that installation of a new railroad/highway crossing signal had been approved in Rogers Township, southeast of Rogers at DOT 691-930N by the Canadian Pacific Railway, as part of the 2006 Signal Program. A letter from the NDDOT estimated the cost at \$129,906.58. Various funding sources to cover the county's share were discussed.

Commissioner Maasjo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Schwehr, to approve a raffle permit for Spring Creek Lutheran Church at Hastings. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Triebold, to approve the Americana Festival, to be held August 5, 2006, which includes a quilt show inside the Courthouse rotunda and an arts and crafts show outdoors on the Courthouse square. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Triebold, to approve the minutes of June 6 with one correction. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Melvin Wendel met with the Commission to discuss county zoning code enforcement at Rebel Ridge, Lee's 2nd Subdivision. Discussion was held regarding the hiring and funding of an inspector.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Berntson, to direct State's Attorney Brad Cruff to send notice to owners of three properties in Lee's 2nd Subdivision informing them of noncompliance with erosion control measures and giving them 30 days to correct the problem. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

An abatement hearing was held on a home owned by Kenneth Simmons at 507 7th Ave SE, Valley City. A reduction in valuation from 17,000 to 13,800 was recommended by the City of Valley City and Tax Director BJ Edwardson. Mr. Simmons was present at the hearing to discuss his eligibility for the homestead credit and learn if he could be rebated for any past years he may have been eligible. Edwardson agreed to check on the matter for the past two years.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Schwehr, that the valuation be reduced from 17,000 to 13,800 as recommended by the City of Valley City and Tax Director BJ Edwardson. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding a proposed site for stockpiling asphalt millings located on the SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of the NW ¼ Section 20, Oriska Township, by Central Specialties, on land owned by John Triebold. A special Barnes County Planning and Zoning meeting will be held June 26 at 8 p.m. at the Highway Department to discuss the matter.

The Commission also discussed the unauthorized removal of tables from Little Yellowstone Park.

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

Edward R. McGough
Barnes County Auditor

Harlan Opdahl, Chairman
Barnes County Commission