

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session Tuesday, September 19, 2006, with all members present.

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, and Mark Anderson, KLJ, met with the Commission. Mr. Johnson discussed a culvert repair at Clausen Springs Park. He informed the Commission they are starting approach work to County Highway 21 South (Kathryn Road), and discussed future work to be done on that road. They also discussed the 4th Street Bridge replacement, and on a railroad crossing on the Peak Road.

Commissioner Triebold made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Schwehr, to approve the minutes of September 5, 2006, with a correction. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maasjo, to approve the minutes of September 7, 2006, as presented. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Maasjo, to approve a raffle permit for the Green School Community Center. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Maasjo made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Schwehr, to allow Brad Cruff, States Attorney, to appoint Howard D. Swanson, attorney at law, as an assistant Barnes County States Attorney. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Berntson discussed the cost of calling special meetings of the Commission or any County board or committee for individual requests, as opposed to waiting for a regular meeting to deal with the request.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Schwehr, to adopt the following resolution, Costs and Assessments of Special Meetings. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Resolution 10

Costs and Assessments of Special Meetings September 19, 2006

All boards of Barnes County shall assess to a private citizen or any private or public entity a fee incurred to hold a special meeting requested by the citizen or entity and on whose behalf the special meeting is being called. A special meeting of the Board is one held at a time other than the regularly scheduled meeting time.

The estimated costs to call the special meeting shall be determined by the Barnes County Auditor and approved by the Chairperson or other representative of the board duly authorized to call the meeting. Said costs shall be deposited by the citizen or entity with the Barnes County Auditor no less than three (3) business days before the special meeting is to be held. The respective Board shall charge a reasonable fee equal to the actual costs incurred by the respective board for the services rendered. This provision does NOT mandate the calling of a special meeting, but DOES mandate the assessment of costs for a special meeting called according to this policy.

In the event that the amount deposited by the citizen or entity is insufficient to offset the total actual costs of the special meeting, the citizen or entity shall be responsible for payment to the Barnes County Auditor for the balance, to be paid in full within a reasonable time, not to exceed thirty (30) days. In the event that the amount deposited by the citizen or entity exceeds the actual costs of the special meeting, the respective board or the Barnes County Auditor shall refund the balance to the citizen or entity.

Betty Koslofsky, Tax Director, met with the Commission to discuss the possibility of hiring a third employee in that office, which had been a request from BJ Edwardson, former tax director. It was the consensus of the Board that the office should continue to operate with the two current employees.

Theresa Will, City County Health Director and Rural Healthcare Network Board members Mary Ellen Frey, Mercy Hospital site administrator, Heather Pautz, Social Services Director, and Bobby Koeplin and Pastor Ellen Arthur, community representatives, met with the Commission to discuss a financial report prepared by Eide Bailly which analyzed the possible options for consolidation of home services. According to this report, the best financial option is for a consolidation to happen under CCHD, and the second-best option is to form a new company. The Commission was supportive of the consolidation efforts and willing to further discuss how this might best be accomplished. Ms. Frey will discuss this further with the hospital board and the CEO (Rick Failing), and a decision will be made as to whether the Network Board moves ahead with the next three-year grant proposal which would allow funds to pursue implementation of this consolidation. This grant would be for \$180,000 per year for the next three years.

Ms. Will also discussed an emergency exercise for flu shots, to be held at the Highway Department Oct. 25, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., in conjunction with Kim Franklin, Emergency Manager.

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