

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session Tuesday, June 17, 2008, with all members present.

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent recommended accepting the low bid from Sweeney Brothers for the Volvo motor grader as opened at the June 3 bid-letting. The following bids were received (amounts with trade-in): Caterpillar – \$221,561.00; Case – \$183,500.00; Sweeney's - \$177,566.00; John Deere - \$197,500.

Commissioner Triebold made a motion, seconded by Berntson, to accept the low bid from Sweeney Brothers for the Volvo motor grader, at a cost of approximately \$177,566.00, with trade-in. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," except Weber, who voted "no," motion carried.

Johnson presented 13 County approach permits from Florida Light & Power (FPL) for permanent approaches to the wind towers.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Opdahl, to approve the permits as presented. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Johnson updated the Commission on the Keystone Pipeline progress.

Johnson also requested to proceed to advertise for bids to purchase a tandem truck.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Weber, to allow Johnson to begin the bid process to purchase a tandem truck. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Opdahl made a motion, seconded by Berntson, to hire Ross' Tree Service to remove an evergreen tree from the Courthouse grounds that is falling and creating a liability; approximate cost is \$275.00. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Weber, to approve gaming site authorization at Sammi V's Chop House for the Enderlin Alumni Association. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Don Johnson, Fingal area resident, met with the Commission to discuss statements he made at the Barnes County Equalization meeting of June 3.

Ellen Bjelland, Extension Agent, and Amy Tichy, Parent Resource Coordinator, presented the Commission with an agreement that Barnes County would be the fiscal agent for the parenting grant program.

Ms. Tichy presented an overview of the program.

Commissioner Opdahl made a motion, seconded by Triebold, to sign the agreement making Barnes County fiscal agent for the Parent Resource Center grant. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Eldred Knutson, Marsh Township resident, discussed his concerns with the campsite project at River Bend Farm.

Chairwoman Schwehr recessed the Commission meeting and opened a public hearing, to consider an application for a conditional use permit from Ashtabula Wind, LLC to install high voltage power lines and a guyed turning structure in Ellsbury and Baldwin townships.

Curt Wike, attorney for Ashtabula Wind, LLC, indicated that the conditional use permit represented a change order from a previously approved conditional use permit.

Chairwoman Schwehr closed the hearing and reconvened the Commission meeting.

Commissioner Triebold made a motion, seconded by Opdahl, to approve the conditional use permit as presented on the basis of the previously acknowledged conformity to the Barnes County Planning Code and the Master Plan for Barnes County and benefits to the entities and citizens of Barnes County. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Chuck Luessen of KLJ met with the Commission to discuss an addition to the Ashtabula Lookout Subdivision for Shirley Tschannen.

Commissioner Opdahl made a motion, seconded by Triebold, to approve the 1st Addition to the Ashtabula Lookout Subdivision for Shirley Tschannen. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Betty Koslofsky, Tax Director, discussed the tax equalization process and formulas as requested by the Commission.

Commissioner Opdahl discussed the proposed correctional facility, and those counties opting out of the project and their request of funding paybacks.

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

Edward R. McGough
Barnes County Auditor

Cindy Schwehr, Chairman
Barnes County Commission