

The Barnes County Commission met for a budget session September 26, 2008, with all members present.

Betty Koslofsky, Tax Director, met with the Commission to discuss the recommendation set by the State Board of Equalization, to raise the county residential valuations by 10 percent.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Opdahl, to increase the county residential valuation by 10 percent, except in the City of Valley City, as required by the State Board of Equalization. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Weber, to approve the state recommendation for PCL: 19-1440440 (Mark Haines). Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Triebold made a motion, seconded by Opdahl, to approve the state recommendation to add 40 percent economic obsolescence to the Eckelson 'city' parcels. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Discussion took place regarding a petition, presented to the Auditor on September 23, requesting that the Commission hire a special assessor to reassess all Eckelson Township real property as to actual value.

The Eckelson Township Board had requested that the petition not be processed further because of the 40 percent valuation reduction.

Commissioner Triebold made a motion, seconded by Opdahl, to take no further action with the petition as presented, and that anyone unsatisfied with their valuation may follow the abatement process. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Chairwoman Schwehr recessed the Commission meeting until after the Social Services Board meeting, at which time the Commission meeting was reconvened for 2009 budget request discussion.

Betty Koslofsky, Tax Director, requested the addition of a part-time employee.

Commissioner Triebold made a motion, seconded by Opdahl, to not allow raises requested by the Clerk of Court office due to increases approved earlier in this fiscal year. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commission salaries were discussed. It was the consensus of the Board to increase Commission salaries by 2.5 percent. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes" motion carried.

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

Edward R. McGough
Barnes County Auditor

Cindy Schwehr, Chairman
Barnes County Commission