

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session Tuesday, February 17, 2009 with all members present.

Dick Rausch, FPL, met with the Commission to present a draft of a letter to the County, outlining their responsibility to county roads as to repairs needed when hauling is complete.

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, and Mark Anderson of KLJ discussed snow event-related costs incurred by the Highway Department for the month of January.

Mr. Johnson presented a letter from Keystone Pipeline offering \$200,000.00 for repairs to County Highway 27 (Cuba Road), four miles south.

Commissioner Opdahl made a motion, seconded by Froelich, to reject Keystone Pipeline's offer of \$200,000.00 for repairs to the section of road four miles south on the Cuba Road (County Highway 27), and to direct States Attorney Brad Cruff draft a letter of rejection to Keystone, which will be signed by Chairman Berntson. Upon a roll call vote with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Froelich made a motion, seconded by Schwehr, to approve the minutes of February 3 with one addition. Upon a roll call vote with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Froelich made a motion, seconded by Opdahl, to approve a grant awarded by the state court system, as presented by Wanda Auka, Clerk of Court. Cost of the third-floor remodeling project is estimated at \$32,885.00, of which the County cost is approximately \$9,000.00. Upon a roll call vote with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Betty Koslofsky, Tax Director, presented abatement applications for James Zubrod; Willis and Mary Wagar; Jason Sjostrom; and Bernard and Edna Elsner.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Froelich, to approve the abatement request of James Zubrod for PCL:17-1010105, to lower the 2008 valuation to \$220,000. Upon a roll call vote with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Weber, to approve the abatement request of Willis and Mary Wagar for PCL:17-4200950, to lower the 2008 valuation to \$95,000. Upon a roll call vote with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Opdahl made a motion, seconded by Schwehr, to approve the abatement request of Jason Sjostrom for PCL:17-2620210, to lower the 2008 valuation to \$112,000. Upon a roll call vote with Commissioner Opdahl voting "yes," and all others voting "no," motion failed.

Commissioner Froelich made a motion, seconded by Opdahl, to lower the 2008 valuation to \$135,000 on PCL:17-2620210, owned by Jason Sjostrom. Upon a roll call vote with all voting "yes," except Commissioner Berntson, who voted "no" motion carried.

Commissioner Opdahl made a motion, seconded by Schwehr, to lower the 2008 valuation to \$106,500 on PCL:17-4300325, owned by Bernard and Edna Elsner. Upon a roll call vote with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Jason Thiel, MIS Director, discussed a labor/parts maintenance contract held by the county with the now-bankrupt Plasmon, Inc. for the Plasmon Optical Jukebox, and the subsequent need for a new contract.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Froelich, to enter into a one-year maintenance contract with the new company, Alliance Storage Solutions, at a cost of \$2,467.00 per year. Upon a roll call vote with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Kim Franklin, Emergency Manager, presented a proposed list of members for the Local Emergency Planning Committee as follows: Scott Miller, Theresa Will, Betty Tykwinski, Gary Retterath, John

Schwehr, Gene Bjerke, Dean Ross, Ms. Franklin, Leighton Smith, Lyle Pennekamp, Jeff Godfredson, Donald Hopkins, and Kasey Skalicky.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Froelich, to add Commissioner Opdahl (as Emergency Management portfolio holder) and to approve the amended list. Upon a roll call vote with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Weber, to appoint Jody Pfaff as County Recorder, effective February 23, 2009, and continuing until the next county election, at a salary of \$12.36 per hour. Upon a roll call vote with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Opdahl made a motion, seconded by Froelich, to re-appoint Tim Logan to the Airport Authority board for another five-year term, to expire in March, 2014. Upon a roll call vote with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Gene Bjerke, Sheriff, updated the Commission on the jail remodeling and repair project.

The Commission met with the department heads to discuss county business.

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

Edward R. McGough
Barnes County Auditor

Rodger Berntson, Chairman
Barnes County Commission