

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session Tuesday, May 18, 2010, with all members present except Commissioner Opdahl.

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, was present to discuss a maintenance agreement for county and township roadways with the NDDOT right-of-ways. Mr. Johnson said that, because of concerns between counties he feels a revised agreement will be made.

Johnson updated the Commission regarding ongoing County emergency repair projects. He also discussed an upcoming meeting with the state Game and Fish Department regarding stockpiling rock at Clausen Springs for shoring up the Clausen Springs Dam.

Commissioner Weber made a motion, seconded by Froelich, to cancel taxes on two Barnes County tax sale properties in the City of Fingal as follows: PCL: 51-0102560, Original Fingal, Lots 6-8, Blk 19 (\$1,329.46); PCL: 51-0102290, Original Fingal, Lots 6&7, Blk 18 (\$753.82). Upon a roll call vote with all present voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Froelich made a motion, seconded by Berntson, to approve a gaming site authorization for the VFW at Kelly's Ashtabula Crossing. Upon a roll call vote with all present voting "yes," motion carried.

Betty Koslofsky, Tax Director, presented a tax abatement application from Susan Triebold on PCL: 63-5600076, Lot 8, Blk 1, Van Hall Subdivision, for property valuation reduction from \$19,200.00 to \$12,000.00. The recommendation from Ms. Koslofsky and the Valley City Commission was to lower the valuation to \$12,200.00.

Commissioner Berntson made a motion, seconded by Froelich, to approve a reduction of property valuation from \$19,200.00 to \$12,200.00, for PCL: 63-5600076, requested by Susan Triebold, as recommended by the Barnes County Tax Director and the City of Valley City. Upon a roll call vote with all present voting "yes," motion carried.

Jennifer Feist, Economic Development Director, and Mark Richman, Travel Center partner/investor, were present in conjunction with their request for a \$10,000.00 grant to support the Tower Travel Center at Tower City, using the funds to access the Bank of North Dakota's Flex Pace Program, a debt reduction program. Center development would create a projected 25 full-time jobs.

Commissioner Weber made a motion, seconded by Froelich, to approve the request from the VC/BC Development Corporation for the \$10,000.00 grant, to be used by the Tower Travel Center at Tower City. Upon a roll call vote with Commissioners Froelich, Schwehr, and Weber voting "yes," and Berntson voting "no," motion carried.

Ms. Feist also updated the Commission on existing and projected businesses in Valley City and Barnes County.

Discussion was held on the zoning coordinator position with the resignation of Greg Hager. Commissioner Froelich recommended temporarily placing the Planning and Zoning responsibilities with the Tax Director's office.

Commissioner Froelich made a motion, seconded by Weber, to temporarily place the Planning and Zoning responsibilities to the Tax Director's office. Upon a roll call vote with all present voting "yes," motion carried.

Brad Cruff and Compensation Committee members met with the Commission to request projections for 2011 salary increases. No action was taken at this time.

Betty Koslofsky, Tax Director, discussed the upcoming County Equalization meeting.

She also discussed increasing the hours of the part-time Tax Office employee, Sheila Anderson, during the interim while handling the Planning and Zoning responsibilities. It was the consensus of the Board that the hours worked by Ms. Anderson be increased enough to handle the extra duties.

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

Edward R. McGough
Barnes County Auditor

Cindy Schwehr, Chairperson
Barnes County Commission