

Barnes County Commission
Tuesday, December 20, 2011
Valley City, North Dakota

The Barnes County commission met in a regular session on Tuesday, December 20, 2011 with all members present.

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent stated the work on Peterson Bridge Project is complete.

Mr. Johnson gave a completion report on the Grade Raise Project CER-0222(069), East of Hwy #1. Berntson made a motion, seconded by Leitner, to sign letter of acceptance with Ronglien & Sons Excavation with stipulation they will do repairs as needed. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Shawn Mayfield of KLJ, presented information about a Scenic View grant in North Valley, from 12th Ave to the elevator. He will need to get an estimate of cost and information on easements.

Mayfield gave an update on River Bank erosion project. Decision was tabled until Commissioner meeting on January 3, 2012.

Kerry Metzke presented a contract for the Sheyenne River North Valley Bridge, 5th Ave NE (N Valley Rd) BRU-2-990(040)044. Froelich made a motion, seconded by Berntson, to approve Industrial Builders for the project. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Randy McClaflin discussed part-time help salary. Froelich made a motion, seconded by Berntson to set part-time help at grade 8 level, at \$13.27 per hour. Leitner, Berntson, and Froelich voted "yes." Knutson and Schwehr voted "no." Motion carried.

Alicia Hoffarth and Becky Heise presented the North Country Trail Easement request for Barnes County Right of Way land. This limits the Barnes County liability. Froelich made a motion, seconded by Leitner, to approve request. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Brad Cruff and Ms. Koslofsky presented a salary increase request from the Compensation Committee. Knutson made a motion to make a chart revision from years of service to step increases which is based on merit only. For lack of second, motion failed.

Froelich made a motion, seconded by Leitner, to approve a 3% cost of living increase. Upon a roll call vote, all voted "yes," except Berntson, who voted "no." Motion carried. After further discussion, this motion was then amended, to approve a 3% cost of living increase, except for the Auditor who won't get an increase until he returns to work full time, as determined by the Commissioner's. Upon a roll call vote, all voted "yes," except Berntson, who voted "no." Motion carried.

Froelich made a motion, seconded by Leitner, to purchase a pickup for the Park Board, at a cost of up to \$7,000.00. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Discussion not to pursue the sale of Little Yellowstone Park. Knutson made a motion, seconded by Leitner, not to sell the Park. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Schwehr closed the Commission meeting and opened the public hearing on Planning/Zoning changes. Leitner made a motion, seconded by Froelich, to approve the changes. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Ms. Koslofsky presented the abandonment of Section line between sections 19 and 20, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Board. Froelich made a motion, seconded by Knutson to abandon the section line with approval contingent on the township's easement from the owner. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried. Motion was amended to have this done within 90 days. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Knutson made a motion, seconded by Froelich, to approve a 100' building variance for Albert Wixon, Baldwin Twp. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Berntson made a motion, seconded by Leitner, to approve a 46' building variance for Royce Kinney, Hobart Twp. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Berntson, made a motion, seconded by Knutson, to approve a 50' building variance for Lyle Hansen, Green Twp. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Froelich made a motion, seconded by Knutson, to approve a conditional use permit for Kelly and Amanda Chase, Alta Twp to change the use from agricultural to residential. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Berntson made a motion, seconded by Leitner to approve an auditor's lot for Dean Bjornson, Potter Twp. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Variance hearing was closed and the Commission meeting re-opened.

Discussion of a 5 member Water Board. Lee Grossman stated that two people can be appointed at large to the Water Board by the end of this year. Froelich made a motion, seconded by Knutson to move to a five member Water Board, with one member residing in the Sheyenne River Valley. With Schwehr, Leitner, Knutson and Froelich voting "yes," Berntson voted "no." Motion carried.

Leitner made a motion, seconded by Knutson, to sign the contract for the Barnes County Ambulance Service for 2012 with no changes. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Knutson made a motion, seconded by Froelich, to approve minutes of December 6, 2011 as amended.

Froelich made a motion, seconded by Leitner, to proceed with the eviction notice presented by Lee Grossman. Upon a roll call vote, with all voting "yes," motion carried.

Mr. Grossman discussed Hobart Township Cemetery abandonment. Jody Pfaff gave information from the Recorder's office. No action was taken. County will maintain upkeep of marker in area around it.

With no further business to discuss, motion was made by Froelich, seconded by Knutson, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Edward R. McGough
Barnes County Auditor

Cindy Schwehr, Chairperson
Barnes County Commission