

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, June 17, 2014 with Phil Leitner, Cindy Schwehr, Eldred Knutson, John Froelich, and Rodger Berntson present. Chairman Knutson called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Agenda was reviewed.

Hobart Lake Project

Bret Fehr and Bruce Anderson, Water Board members, requested that the Commission advise them as to whether to use 24" pipe, which would take the 5' off Hobart Lake in 2 to 3 years, or 36" pipe, which would do the job in about 1 ½ years. The Commission suggested that the water board members meet with some of the affected parties one on one to explain the control measures that will be put in place, and report back at the 7/1 meeting. The respective board's attorneys will need to coordinate on developing a Memorandum of Understanding, and are still working on their determination of who has what authority.

Highway Department – Engineering Contracts / Project Updates

Shawn Mayfield, Kadmas, Lee & Jackson, informed the Commission that all three projects from last year are nearly complete, with only the seeding to grass on the shoulders remaining. For this year's projects, Mayo Construction will be starting the paving of the lake road after the 4th of July, and the pre-construction conference with Knife River Construction will be later this week. The proposed paving projects for next year include 1) From ND Highway 32 east through Fingal to the Cass County Line along County Highway 34 and 2 mile spur north from Fingal to ND Highway 32 (8 miles); 2) From ND Highway 1 to Litchville along County Highway 38 (5.5 miles); 3) From ND Highway 46 to Litchville along County Highway 11 (2 miles); 4) From ND Highway 1 to Eckelson along County Highway 22 (6.5 miles); and 5) From County Highway 22 north through Sanborn (1 mile). Rodger Berntson moved to approve signing the contract for these five projects; Phil Leitner seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll call vote, with all members voting "yes".

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, is working with Border States Paving on getting the Courthouse parking lot re-surfaced, and suggested that Stan Horst contact someone to arrange for jackhammer removal of the curb. The Commissioners later visited with Stan Horst about tearing out the cement ridge in the middle of the parking lot. The CAT motorgrader for the Litchville shop arrived yesterday.

City-County Health District – Block Parties

Sharon Buhr, City-County Health District board member, provided information on the history of block parties, and requested that the Commission sign a **Proclamation for Block Parties 2014**: Whereas block parties nationwide can help reduce crime by getting to know your neighbors and develop a sense of community; and whereas block parties help to develop a sense of neighborhood spirit, safety, and unity; and whereas Barnes County plays a vital role in assisting the Barnes County Sheriff's department and the Valley City Police department through joint crime, drug and violence prevention efforts in Barnes County and is supporting block parties locally; and whereas it is essential that all citizens of Barnes County be aware of the importance of crime prevention programs and impact that their participation can have on reducing crime, drugs and violence in Barnes County, and whereas law enforcement-community partnerships, neighborhood safety, awareness and cooperation are important to the life and health of a community; now therefore, we, the Barnes County Commission, hereby call upon all citizens of Barnes County to join with neighborhoods and communities across America to host or attend a block party in your neighborhood. Further, let it be resolved that we, the Barnes County Commission, hereby proclaim the summer and early fall in Barnes County to be a time to get to know your neighbor and celebrate by hosting or attending a block party.

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor

Eldred Knutson, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Cindy Schwehr moved to sign the Proclamation; Phil Leitner seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll call vote, with all members voting "yes". Sharon Buhr also informed the Commission of a "Welcome" event that is currently in the planning stages, with the purpose of introducing newcomers to the community to the resources available to them.

Planning & Zoning – Variances / CUPs / Subdivision

Liz Roorda, Deputy Tax Director, presented an application for a Variance (Setback of 1' off the property line) from Adam L Faul (Ashtabula Township, SW ¼ 32-142-58). Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the application; Phil Leitner seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Eldred Knutson and Rodger Berntson voting "no", as they did not feel that 1' is adequate. Ms. Roorda presented an application for a Variance (Setback & Trees) from

Gerald Brennan (Minnie Lake Township, SW ¼ 28-142-56). John Froelich moved to approve a Variance of 100' for the trees and 130' for the house; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Because there are existing trees at 100', upon roll-call vote, motion carried with all members voting "yes". Ms. Roorda presented an application for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow Residential use of the land from Gerald Brennan (Minnie Lake Township, SW ¼ 28-142-56). Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the CUP; Phil Leitner seconded the motion. Upon roll-call vote, motion carried with all members voting "yes". Ms. Roorda presented an application for a Zoning District Amendment to rezone from Ag to Commercial from Arthur Companies (Ellsbury Township, SE ¼ 17-143-56). John Froelich moved to approve the application; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Upon roll-call vote, motion carried with all members voting "yes", as there was no opposition from the public. Ms. Roorda presented an application for a CUP to allow commercial use of the land from Arthur Companies (Ellsbury Township, SE ¼ 17-143-56). John Froelich moved to approve the application; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Upon roll-call vote, motion carried with all members voting "yes". Ms. Roorda presented an application for a Variance (Trees, as long as the trees do not block the neighbors' view) from Benjamin Elder (Ashtabula Township, Jewett Beach 2nd Subdivision 21-142-58). Phil Leitner moved to approve the application; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Upon roll-call vote, motion carried with all members voting "yes". Ms. Roorda presented an application for a Subdivision from Terence R Brock (Green Township, NW ¼ 12-139-59). John Froelich moved to table the application until the next meeting to allow further research; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Because of concern over the proximity of the pipeline and the need to get some questions answered, upon roll-call vote, motion carried with all members voting "yes". Ms. Roorda presented an application for a CUP from Ag to Residential from Thomas E Jewett (Edna Township, E ½ 22-142-60). Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the application; Phil Leitner seconded the motion. Upon roll-call vote, motion carried with all members voting "yes".

Auditor – Minutes/Miscellaneous

Beth Didier, Auditor, requested that the Commission table approval of the minutes to the next meeting in order to compare notes with the Tax Director's office to ensure that the minutes accurately reflect the actions taken at the Equalization meeting. There were no major problems with administration of the Primary Election last week, although the Auditor's Office did have some difficulty in finding enough election workers to serve at each polling place. The Canvassing board met yesterday and finalized the election results.

Board Appointments

The Commission received letters of application for board appointments: Margaret Dahlberg for Library; Mike Schwehr and Nyle Burchill for School Annexation, Reorganization, and Dissolution; and Bobbie Miller, Tom Overn and Pat Hansen for Social Services. John Froelich moved to approve all of these incumbent appointments; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes".

Commission Discussion

Relay for Life went well, and Stan Horst was complimented for a job well-done by event staff. Canvassing board met yesterday and went well. Passport processing transition is at a standstill, so further action may be needed. Hazard Mitigation will be meeting July 28, 2014 with local meetings already scheduled. 911 addressing verification/correction is in progress. Response to "dog" calls was discussed. South Central Dakota Regional Council Executive meeting upcoming. Devils Lake water tour upcoming. "Living in a Global World" to be presented at the Barnes County Historical Society. KLJ golf outing coming up this Friday. The Grant Young FEMA house bid opening will be June 24, 2014. Governor's Pipeline Summit upcoming. Defensive Driving course being offered to Barnes County employees and their families on June 25 & 26. Need to check to see if the final report on the Court Facilities Improvement Grant for the jury room renovation has been submitted. Striping of the parking lot will be discussed at the next meeting.

Rodger Berntson presented a draft of a bill that Senator Larry Robinson put together for presentation to the State legislature regarding a change to the Century Code that would provide a cut-off date for former owner's right of repurchase of property forfeited to the county under tax deed proceedings. Need to pass a Resolution in order to send this on to NDACo.

The Commission commended Correctional Officer Daryl McGee on being recognized in the paper for his heroic efforts in helping a lady from a burning building. Phil Leitner mentioned that the Auditor's Office will be posting the small city's election results to the website. Leroy Triebold mentioned that the State Health Department would be obtaining water samples from Hobart Lake.

With no further business, Phil Leitner made a motion, seconded by John Froelich, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor

Eldred Knutson, Chairman
Barnes County Commission