

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 with Cindy Schwehr, Vicky Lovell, Bill Carlblom, Pete Paulson, and Shawn Olauson present. Chairman Carlblom called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., roll-call was taken, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Agenda was reviewed.

Planning & Zoning – Variance

Jessica Jenrich, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, presented an application for a Variance – Setback 20’ from center of road and 2’ from land to the south from Lance Peltier (Sibley Trail Township, 34 & 35 –143-58). Vicky Lovell moved to approve the application; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Emergency Management – Emergency Operations Plan

Jessica Jenrich, Emergency Manager, presented the Emergency Operations Plan and requested Commission approval. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the plan; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Highway Department – Approach Application / Right-of-Way Damage & Drainage

Jamie Smith, Highway Superintendent, presented an Approach Application from Eric Broten for an approach located at 6-142-60. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the request; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Vicky Lovell voting “no”. Issues with unauthorized work in the County road right-of-way and ditch damage was discussed.

Gallagher – Compensation Study

Mike Verdoorn and Maria Zelinsky, Gallagher, presented the results of the Barnes County Compensation Study to the Commission.

Auditor – Minutes

Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the May 2, 2023 minutes; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commission Discussion

Commission discussion included portfolio updates. Cindy Schwehr moved to make Shane Kalbrener Director of Environmental Services for Barnes County; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Cindy Schwehr moved to purchase five chairs at a cost of roughly \$12,000 for Social Services; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

With no further business, Vicky Lovell made a motion, seconded by Cindy Schwehr, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Bill Carlblom, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor