

The Board of Barnes County Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, December 21, 2004, with all members present.

Charlotte Brett of Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson and Commissioner Schwehr reported on a meeting they had with Melanie Rhinehart and Ross Keys (representing Rep. Earl Pomeroy) concerning the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Project.

Highway Superintendent Kerry Johnson presented for approval an Agreement for Engineering Services between Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson and Barnes County.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Triebold seconded motion to accept the Agreement for Engineering Services between Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson and Barnes County. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Johnson presented a lease agreement for new 2005 Case Motorgrader from Krider Equipment.

States Attorney Robin Huseby presented a proposed County policy concerning alcohol and drug abuse by County employees, to be approved for the County Employees Policy Manual.

BJ Edwardson and Betty Koslofsky of the Tax Equalization Office met with the Commission to discuss motions needed on land valuations for 2005.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Maasjo seconded motion to value all qualifying inundated acres at \$9.66, which is 10 percent of certified non-crop county average price per acre (\$96.58), effective for the 2005 tax year. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Opdahl moved and Commissioner Maasjo seconded motion that the agricultural land target be as close as possible to 98 percent of the state certified average for the 2005 tax year with minus 2 percent per acre prepared for township valuation data sheets effective for the 2005 tax year. There will be no more than ½ (one-half) percent tolerance allowed at the local level for adjustments.

Edwardson discussed the \$75,000.00, 2-year new single family residential exemption (allowed by previous County Resolution) and the importance of inspecting the new homes requesting the exemption.

Commissioner Opdahl moved and Chairman Berntson seconded motion to discontinue the \$75,000.00, 2-year residential tax valuation credit on all residential homes and building permits applied for after January 1, 2005. Upon a roll call vote with Commissioner Opdahl and Chairman Berntson voting "yes, and all others voting "no," motion failed.

Edwardson requested an addendum be placed in the previous County Resolution allowing for a \$75,000.00 new single family residential tax exemption, stipulating that before exemption is granted, the County Assessor/Tax Director's Office inspect and inventory the structure(s) for taxation purposes to verify the application.

Commissioner Maasjo moved and Commissioner Schwehr seconded motion to insert an addendum in the previously-approved County Resolution (below, with addendum), which would require inspection by the Tax Equalization Office prior to approval for residents applying for the \$75,000.00 new single family residential tax exemption. Upon a roll call vote with all members present voting "yes," motion carried.

Resolution #11

We, the Board of Barnes County Commissioners, do now, by this resolution, pursuant to past Commission action, to allow a two year property tax exemption on new single family dwellings, and new condominium and townhouse residential property within the County excluding cities, as provided by NDCC 57-02-08 (35)(36), providing that County Zoning regulations are also met, subject to the seventy-five thousand dollar true & full value limitation (excluding land).

Dated this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1992  
/s/ Adrian Clancy, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

Addendum

Before the exemption is granted, the county assessor/tax director's staff shall inspect and inventory the structure(s) for taxation purposes, to verify application eligibility.

Dated this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2004  
/s/ Rodger Bernston, Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

Discussion was held on placing valuations on the tax rolls in February for 2005, on the homes that have been assessed so far, by the Tax Equalization Office.

Commissioner Opdahl moved and Commissioner Maasjo seconded motion to incorporate the actual appraised true valuation on all rural residential property as of the February 1 valuation of that tax year for 2005. Upon a roll call vote with Commissioner Opdahl voting "yes," and all others voting "no," motion failed.

Jan Froelich, Clerk of Court, met with the Commissioner to discuss remodeling of the large courtroom. She requested the Chairman's signature to allow application for grant dollars.

Commissioner Triebold moved and Commissioner Maasjo seconded motion to sign the grant application and allow Froelich to apply for the grant with no guarantee that the project takes place. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Jennifer Feist of the Valley City-Barnes County Development Corporation presented the annual agreement between Barnes County and the Corporation.

Commissioner Maasjo moved and Commissioner Triebold seconded motion to sign the annual agreement with the Valley City-Barnes County Development Corporation, increasing the administration funds from \$15,000.00 to \$16,000.00. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Feist informed the Commission that the Development Corporation supports the Dream Fund for the Dream House Program.

Commissioner Opdahl moved and Commissioner Schwehr seconded motion to approved funding to the Valley City-Barnes County Development Corporation to be used for participation in the Dream Fund at \$13,200.00 per year for 3 years, for a total of \$39,600.00, to begin in 2005. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Maasjo moved and Commissioner Schwehr seconded motion to approve the minutes of the December 7, 2004 meeting with corrections. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Opdahl seconded motion to approve the Liquor, Beer, and Sunday permits for 2005 to the following businesses: Lodge and Peanut Bar, Inc., S&M Roadside Bar, Inc., Kelly's Ashtabula Crossing Resort, Inc., and the City Lights Supper Club. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Norma Duppler, Emergency Manager, and Ray Bernstad of Minnkota Electric, met with the Commission to request the County sponsor a grant to upgrade towers for high wind damages.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Triebold seconded motion that Barnes County act as sponsor for a pre-hazards grant for Minnkota Electric with the approval of Harold Rotunda, Barnes County CPA, as to the fund flow of the grant dollars. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Employees presented a request for one-half day off Thursday, December 23, for the Christmas holiday. It was the consensus of the Board that Friday, December 24 will be the only day off, due to Friday being the holiday taken.

County residents Emily and Shane Olstad, Cory Erck, game warden, and Robin Huseby, States Attorney, met with the Commission to discuss a problem with people hunting from the county road

near the Olstads' residence. The Olstads requested that the county place signs from Highway 1 west one-half mile, prohibiting hunting from the road. It was the consensus of the Board that the legal ramifications must be researched before any action can take place.

Commissioner Opdahl moved and Commissioner Maasjo seconded motion to rescind the motion of August 3, 2004, to pay the Sheriff's Department \$35.00 in overtime pay during grant work. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the board, Commissioner Schwehr moved and Commissioner Maasjo seconded motion to adjourn. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

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Edward R. McGough  
Barnes County Auditor

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Rodger Berntson, Chairman  
Barnes County Commission

The Barnes County Park Board met in regular session Tuesday, December 21, 2004, with all members present: Commissioners Berntson, Maasjo, Schwehr, Triebold, Opdahl; Park Supervisor Bev Anderson; and Members Kerry Johnson; and Tim Tangen.

Chairman Maasjo opened the meeting.

Johnson discussed the cost of treating the water into Little Yellowstone Park, estimating approximately \$6,130.00.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Johnson seconded motion to proceed with application for grants and other funding to chemically treat the water into Little Yellowstone Park during the summer season, and a building to house the treatment plant. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Johnson discussed the pool at Little Yellowstone Park.

Discussion took place on the repairs and maintenance needed at Clausen Springs Park.

Commissioner Opdahl moved and Schwehr seconded motion to request help from the Barnes County Wildlife Club, by written request, to install a restroom at the beach site at Clausen Springs. Johnson will write the letter of request to the Wildlife Club. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Discussion took place concerning the 2005 Clean-up Day at the parks and what repairs will be done.

The Board commended Bev Anderson, Park Supervisor, and her crew for the great job they did in the parks this year.

Discussion took place on getting a used truck and a lighter trailer for use in the park.

Bobby Koepplin and Becky Heise met with the Board to discuss grant dollars and projects completed at the parks.

Koepplin also discussed proposed projects and funding.

Commissioner Schwehr moved and Johnson seconded motion to request \$5,500.00 from the Barnes County Economic Development funds as matching funds for capital improvements in Little Yellowstone and Clausen Springs Parks and to use \$6,156.00 in Barnes County Park funds as a match for improvements in Little Yellowstone Park. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

Johnson moved and Schwehr seconded motion to adjourn. Upon a roll call vote with all members voting "yes," motion carried.

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Edward R. McGough  
Barnes County Auditor

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Dale Maasjo, Chairman  
Barnes County Park Board