

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 with Cindy Schwehr, Mike Metcalf, Bill Carlbom, John Froelich, and Rodger Berntson present. Chairman Carlbom called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Agenda was reviewed.

**Veterans Services – Driver Job Description**

Mike Metcalf moved to approve the VSO Driver job description, to be paid hourly, up to 40 hours per week; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

**Planning & Zoning - Variances**

Jessica Jenrich, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, presented an application for a Variance – Setback 140' from the center of County Road #27 from Christopher Holm (Norma Township, SW ¼ 5-138-57). Mike Metcalf moved to approve the application; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Ms. Jenrich presented an application for a Variance – Setback 60' from the center of the subdivision road from Andy Sweet (Ashtabula Township, NE ¼ 27-142-58). Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the application; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

**MIS – IT Contract with City of Valley City**

Jason Thiel, MIS Director, proposed an updated Technical Support Services Agreement between Barnes County and the City of Valley City for approval, to be effective January 1, 2019. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the contract, as presented; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

**Corrections – Jail Architect Approval / Staffing Request**

The Commission discussed the need for an architect to prepare estimates for a number of different scenarios: upgrade the old jail or build a new jail, as well as add-on options. Mike Metcalf moved to give the jail committee authority to look for an architect to prepare an estimate to upgrade the old jail, as well as an architect to prepare preliminary plans for a new jail; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Julie Forsman, Chief Correctional Officer, requested permission to hire one full-time and one part-time employee, due to the State recommendations. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the request; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

**Auditor – Minutes / Financial Report**

Mike Metcalf moved to approve the May 1, 2018 minutes; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried. Beth Didier, Auditor, presented an update on the County finances.

**Liquor & Beer License – The Crossing**

Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the liquor and beer license applications for The Crossing under new ownership (Greg Enstad), pending finalization of the purchase; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

**VC-BC Development Corporation – Request for Funds (Chamber of Commerce)**

Valley City-Barnes County Development Corporation Director of Development Jennifer Feist and Chamber Executive Vice President Kay Vinje requested approval of \$5,000 to support the Chamber of Commerce, funded through the Barnes County mill levy fund for economic development. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the request; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Rodger Berntson voting “no”.

**Highway Department – Final Certification of Local Match (Faust Bridge)**

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, and Shawn Mayfield, Kadmas, Lee & Jackson, presented the Final Certification of Local Match for the Faust Dam Bridge for approval. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the certification; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the Final Certifications for State SB2103 funds; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Mr. Johnson obtained bids for a new pickup: Ford - \$33,564, Chevy - \$34,978, Dodge - \$40,979. Cindy Schwehr moved to purchase the Ford or the Chevy; Cindy Schwehr rescinded the motion. Mike Metcalf moved to accept the bid from Puklich for the Chevy at a cost of \$34,978; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Rodger Berntson voting “no”. Mr. Johnson would like to budget for a major project in 2019, due to good prices right now. Road restrictions will start to be lifted in the next couple of weeks: blacktop first, then gravel.

**Commission Discussion**

The premium safety discount received due to our participation in the County Employers Group and WSI's Learning Management System (computer based training) program is \$3,132.97; the premium dividend credit refund is \$19,721.59. The community enhancement committee asked to use the Courthouse lawn and sidewalk the first Thursday of the month; Cindy Schwehr will inform them to keep to the outer sidewalk for any chalk art. There are some additional areas of concrete that need repair; estimates will be obtained. John Froelich is researching a policy to prevent people from encroaching in County ditches. The work on the Hobart Lake project will likely run a

little late, due to working conditions. Museum happenings were discussed. Mike Metcalf moved to approve signing the Hobart Lake amended contract due to extension request; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting "yes". Harold Rotunda, CPA, discussed fund balances with the Commission.

With no further business, Cindy Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Mike Metcalf, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m.

Bill Carblom, Chairman  
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier  
Barnes County Auditor