

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 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., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Agenda was reviewed.

Corrections – PREA Audit Contract

Anna Berntson, PREA Coordinator, presented quotes to perform the Prison Rape Elimination Act program audit and recommended hiring Melinda Allen at a cost of \$7,794.05. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the request; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Planning & Zoning – Variance

Jessica Jenrich, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, presented an application for a Variance – Setback 4’ from East property line from Don Nelson (Valley Township, 24-140-58). Cindy Schwehr moved to deny the application; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Ms. Jenrich presented a proposal from SRF Consulting Group, Inc to prepare an updated Comprehensive Plan. The Commission requested that she request additional proposals.

Auditor – Minutes / State’s Attorney – Staff Status Change

Shawn Olauson moved to approve the December 7, 2021 minutes; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried. Tonya Duffy, State’s Attorney, submitted a recommendation for LaDonna Anderson to graduate from Trial Period Status and requested that the Commission grant her a pay increase. No action was taken by the Commission.

Board Appointments

Cindy Schwehr moved to appoint Deedra Froemke to serve on the Library board; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the remaining willing incumbents listed below, as well as the new applicants for the Airport board, Zonal board, Park board, Planning & Zoning board, Water Resources board and Weed board openings; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. These appointments are effective January 1, 2022: Airport Authority: Tim Logan, incumbent; Buffalo Bridges Zonal Board: Shawn Olauson, incumbent; Park: Scott Tichy, incumbent and Tyler Jacobson (new); Planning & Zoning: Jeff Bopp (Dist 3), incumbent; Water Resources: Bruce Anderson (Dist 4), incumbent; and Weed Control: Beth Didier (new). School Tuition Committee had no applicants and remains unfilled.

Beer / Liquor License Renewals

Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the applications for Liquor and Beer Licenses from Hungry Pelican, LLC for the Hungry Pelican at the Crossing and the Hungry Pelican at the Dam, as well as the Sodbuster Club; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

VC – BC Development Corporation – Contract Renewal & I-94 Development Corridor

Jennifer Feist, Valley City – Barnes County Development Corporation Director of Development, requested approval of the economic development contract for the calendar year January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, including 2.49 mills as approved by the Commission and \$30,000 for administrative services. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the contract renewal; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Vicky Lovell voting “no”. Ms. Feist also requested approval of \$70,000 from the Barnes County Economic Development Mill Levy Fund to support the ND National Guard (land and infrastructure) in the I-94 Regional Development Corridor (year eight of fifteen). Shawn Olauson moved to approve the request; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Vicky Lovell voting “no”.

Service Awards

The following service awards were presented: City-County Health – Katie Beyer, Kerry Due, and Heather Schwehr – 5 years; Veteran’s Services – Angela Hunt – 5 years; Dispatch – Emma Nelson and Andrea Suhr, 5 years; Planning & Zoning: Jessica Jenrich – 5 years; Highway Department – Randy Earles, Trent Larson, and Todd Smith – 10 years; Corrections – Drew Buck and Jennifer Wilson – 5 years; Parks – Bobby Koepplin – 10 years, and Sheriff’s Office – Randy McClaflin – 40 years.

Commission Discussion

Commission discussion included portfolio updates.

SO Office Deputy Job Description

Shawn Olauson moved to approve the proposed job description for the Sheriff’s Office Deputy; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

CCHD Loan / Balance transfer

Bill Carlbom moved to pay off the loan on the City-County Health District building in the amount of around \$232,000, contingent upon CCHD board agreement; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Pete Paulson voting “no”. Shawn Olauson moved to pay \$400,000 of their funds to City County Health District for transfer to their new checking account; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Highway Department – Acceptance / Paving Engineering / Project Updates

Cindy Schwehr moved to sign the Acceptance of the Hillside project; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Vicky Lovell moved to go forward with the paving project contract for engineering; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, provided project updates.

With no further business, Shawn Olauson made a motion, seconded by Pete Paulson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

Bill Carlbom, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor