

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 with Cindy Schwehr, Vicky Lovell, Bill Carlblom, John Froelich, 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.

US Fish & Wildlife Service – Potential Land Acquisition

Kurt Tompkins, US Fish & Wildlife Service District Manager, presented information about a 160-acre property in Thordenskjold Township (4-137-57) that has been offered for sale as a potential US Fish & Wildlife Service land acquisition. Cindy Schwehr moved to allow US Fish & Wildlife Service to pursue the purchase, as long as there is adequate fencing, if pastured; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Planning & Zoning – Variances & Replat of Subdivision

Jessica Jenrich, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, presented an application for a Variance – Setback 115' from center of road from Kerry D Olson (Oriska Township, SE ¼ 17-140-56). Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the application; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Ms. Jenrich presented an application for a Replat of Veteran’s Subdivision from Mike Heinze (Sibley Trail Township, NE ¼ 13-143-58). Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the application; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Ms. Jenrich presented an application for a Variance – Tile crossing in road right-of-way from John H Triebold (Hobart Township, Sections 3, 4 & 9 – 140-59). Cindy Schwehr moved to table a decision until after it is acted upon by the Water Board; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Ms. Jenrich presented an application for a Variance – Tile outlet crossing from Fred Schroeder (Weimer Township, 31-141-56). Cindy Schwehr moved to table a decision until after it is acted upon by the Water Board; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Ms. Jenrich presented an application for a Variance – Setback 15' from North property line from Bob Eichten (Marsh Township, NE ¼ 9-139-58). Vicky Lovell moved to approve the application; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Highway Department – Ditch Cleaning & Approach Applications / Accident (Equipment Loss)

Kerry Johnson, Road Superintendent, presented a Drainage/Ditch Cleaning Permit Application from Vaughn Zacharias for a ditch located at 14-137-57. Shawn Olauson moved to deny the Application; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Mr. Johnson presented an Approach Application from Daniel Lund for an approach located at SW ¼ 14-137-57 for approval. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the Application; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Mr. Johnson apprised the Commission on the status of the recent truck accident/equipment loss. County Road #21 (Kathryn) culverts have been delivered to the construction site. Work will begin soon; County Road 22 safety project (Hobart Lake) is moving forward, taking out the existing riprap; Meadow Lake erosion control project is completed. Matt Lang, Kadmas, Lee & Jackson, provided project updates on the emergency grade raise on County Road #11 south of Sanborn near Litchville: Scherbenske INC. was the low bid at \$337,141. Installation of a bypass lane on County Road #21 near the Sheyenne River erosion site will be complete next week.

Sheriff – Portable Radios

Randy McClafin, Sheriff, requested approval to purchase seven portable radios and programming from MidStates Wireless at a total cost of \$44,743.23, which was included in the budget. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the request; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Grant funds of \$1,500 per radio will be coming as a partial reimbursement.

Auditor – Minutes

Shawn Olauson moved to approve the June 2, 2020 minutes; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Commission Discussion

Women’s Suffrage marker has been installed and will be dedicated later this summer. The Pre-bid conference for the jail project went well; bids will be coming in for opening after 2 pm on the 25th, with the Commission to vote on the 7th. Sidewalks are being repaired. Other discussion included future bills for the Hobart Lake Drain, the 10-mile Lake project, Little Dam, Kathryn Dam, South Central Dakota Regional Council, Library and Social Services. Cindy Schwehr made a motion that Barnes County take possession of the Social Service vehicles, as the newly formed Zone does not pay for the vehicle expenses; Cindy Schwehr retracted the motion. The consensus of the board was to hold off on public meetings, other than the required meetings, for the time being.

With no further business, Shawn Olauson made a motion, seconded by John Froelich, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:47 a.m.

Bill Carlblom, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor