

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, September 20, 2022 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 for drain tile – Setback 50 – 60' from center of 30<sup>th</sup> St SE & 31<sup>st</sup> St SE from John H Triebold, Alan N Triebold and Roger E Triebold (Oriska Township, NE ¼, SE ¼, SW ¼ 5-140-56 & NE ¼ 8-140-56). Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the application; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

#### **County-Owned Property Lease-Letting**

The County had several FEMA and non-FEMA properties available for leasing. Leo Straley bid \$50 per year for five years on Parcel #12-6000100 and \$700 per year for five years on Parcel #12-6000600. Eldred Knutson bid \$50 per year for five years on Parcel #20-0940430. Dan Fairfield bid \$50 per year for five years on Parcel #23-2210120. No other interested parties appeared to bid on the lease properties, and Bill Carlblom declared the bids accepted and the bidding process “closed”.

#### **Brackett Wind Introduction**

Claire Ditrach, Brackett Wind, introduced herself, along with Amanda Coletti and Nick Gebauer, and provided information regarding a proposed wind project in Barnes County between Valley City and Tower City on either side of Interstate 94.

#### **Highway Department – Motor Grader Bids**

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, provided project updates and presented the motor grader bids from Caterpillar and Deere. Mr. Johnson recommended purchase of the Deere 772GP at a cost of \$446,700 prior to the buy-back and trade, with a net cost of \$246,400. Bill Carlblom moved to approve the purchase; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

#### **Highway Department – Project Acceptance Letter / Engineering Contract**

Cindy Schwehr moved to sign the Project Acceptance Letter for the Kathryn Hillside Project; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Shawn Olauson moved to approve the Engineering Contract with Kadmas, Lee & Jackson for \$28,000; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

#### **Weed Board - Building**

Jamen Windish, Weed Officer, and Kerry Johnson discussed the weed/highway building needs. More information will be gathered, and a decision will be made at the next meeting on October 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Auditor – Minutes / State Fair Delegates / Opioid Settlement Funds**

Vicky Lovell moved to approve the September 6, 2022 minutes; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Cindy Schwehr moved to appoint Alicia Harstad and Doug Muske as State Fair Delegates to attend the annual meeting on November 16, 2022; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve giving Barnes County’s check in the amount of \$2,562.63 from the National Opioids Settlement to City County Health District, to be used for opioid remediation, as per the “approved uses” list; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

#### **IT – Rotunda Copier**

Jason Thiel, MIS Director, recommended leasing a Kyocera from Central Business Systems at a cost of \$383.50 per month. Vicky Lovell moved to approve the lease; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion.

#### **Commission Discussion**

Commission discussion included portfolio updates.

#### **Budget Discussion**

The Commission reviewed salary recommendations for individuals. Cindy Schwehr moved to increase the VSO drivers to \$17.00 per hour, effective this pay period, to increase Jessica Jenrich, Angela Hunt, and Debbie Magnuson to \$26.44 per hour effective this pay period, and to increase Jacob Piatz, Ryan Metcalf, Dustin Suhr, Garret Suhr and Shane Olauson by \$1.00 per hour effective the first of next year; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

With no further business, Cindy Schwehr made a motion, seconded by Vicky Lovell, 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