

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, October 17, 2023 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.

Paul Lacina – VC Schools Building Levy Error Update

Paul Lacina, Valley City resident, asked for an update on the Valley City Schools building levy error and requested that the Commission reconsider the refund solution currently in place and to re-evaluate the process. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

Planning & Zoning – Variance

Jessica Jenrich, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, presented an application for a Variance – 120' from center of township road – from Brad Knutson (Oakhill Township, SE ¼ 28-137-58). Pete Paulson 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 Variance – Setback from William R Poukka (Cuba Township, 4-139-57). Shawn Olauson moved to approve the application; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Ms. Jenrich presented an application for a Variance - Setback – from Tim J Richman (Springvale Township, 35-140-56 and 3-139-56). Pete Paulson moved to approve the application; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Emergency Management – Updates

Jessica Jenrich, Emergency Manager, provided an update on Mutual Aid Agreements. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the Mutual Aid Agreements with Griggs, Steele, Cass, Stutsman, Ransom, and LaMoure counties, as well as South Central Adult Services; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. The Active Shooter Exercise will be held tomorrow and Ms Jenrich will provide an update at the next meeting.

VC-BC Development Corporation – Request for Funds

Jennifer Feist, Valley City – Barnes County Development Corporation Director of Development, requested approval of \$137,500 to purchase and install a laser cutting system, (funds were originally approved to be used for a powder coating system), as well as additional funds of \$62,500 sourced through the Barnes County Mill Levy fund dedicated to Economic Development, for a total of \$200,000. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve reallocation of the \$137,500 for the laser cutting system request; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Vicky Lovell and Pete Paulson voting “no”. Bill Carlblom moved to approve the \$62,500 on the condition that none of the funds are spent on the stabilization of the building; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Cindy Schwehr and Vicky Lovell voting “no”.

Dispatch – Equipment & Service Agreement / CRIB Appointment

Sarah Miller, Dispatch Coordinator, and Jason Thiel, MIS Director, requested a replacement of the current equipment we have and the related service agreement, at a cost of \$22,909.72. Shawn Olauson moved to approve the request; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Shawn Olauson moved to appoint Sarah Miller as Barnes County’s representative to the Coordinated Regional Interoperability Board (CRIB), with Jessica Jenrich listed as Alternate; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Corrections – Idemia Maintenance & Support Contract Extension

Jeremy Wolff, Chief Correctional Officer, requested approval of Extension to Maintenance and Support Agreement for one year at a cost of \$7,548.00. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the request; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Auditor – Minutes / Software Decision

Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the October 3, 2023 minutes; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried. Cindy Schwehr moved to cancel the contract with Tyler Technologies and continue with CPT; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Commission Discussion

Commission discussion included portfolio updates and shared information from the recent North Dakota Association of Counties conference that some attended last week. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve Julie Mindt to submit a claim for unclaimed property with the State of North Dakota for Barnes County; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Salary Finalization / County Parks

Bill Carlblom moved to approve salary equity adjustments, as presented, effective this next pay period, and that part-timers could be adjusted on-the-fly; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Bill Carlblom moved to approve a 5% Cost of Living adjustment for the 2024

salaries; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Vicky Lovell voting "no".

With no further business, Vicky Lovell made a motion, seconded by Shawn Olauson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Bill Carlblom, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor