

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 with Cindy Schwehr, Bill Carlblom, Mike Metcalf, John Froelich, and Rodger Berntson present. Chairman Metcalf called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Agenda was reviewed.

**Sheriff – Radio / Vehicles / Lightbar Requests**

Randy McClafin, Sheriff, asked permission to purchase a radio and repeater for the jail car at a cost of approximately \$7,800, if there is enough left in the 2017 Corrections budget to cover it. Bill Carlblom moved to approve the request; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Sheriff McClafin recommended purchase of a 2018 Fleet Chevrolet Tahoe 4WD from Puklich Chevrolet at a cost of \$37,907 with a trade-in of \$3,500 and a 2018 Ford Explorer Interceptor 3.5L Eco Boost V6 from Stoudt Ross Ford at a cost of \$35,820 with a trade-in of \$1,000. \$75,000 was budgeted in 2018 for these purchases, with the total purchase price being \$69,227. Bill Carlblom moved to approve the recommendation; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

**Building & Grounds – Skidsteer Request**

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, Stan Horst, Building & Grounds, and Alex Punton, AP Equipment, appeared before the Commission to discuss options for a skid steer for snow removal for Building & Grounds. Mr. Punton presented a bid for a S590 T4 Bobcat skid steer loader with a price of \$34,998.40 for the Highway Department, and was willing to provide a \$10,000 trade-in allowance for the highway department’s old skid steer. Rodger Berntson moved to approve the new skid steer for the Highway Department; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Bill Carlblom moved to keep the old skid steer for Building & Grounds, with the stipulation that it is kept indoors during the cold months, and that the broom is kept on-site at the Courthouse; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Building & Grounds will pay \$10,000 towards the purchase price of the new skid steer (in order to account for the purchase of the old skid steer from the highway department), with the balance being paid out of Highway Department funds.

**Planning & Zoning - Variances**

Liz Roorda, Deputy Tax Director, presented an application for a Variance – Setback of 8’ from the North property line from Terry Langdahl (Sibley Trail Township, Lot 10 Block 1 Homestead Sub 13-143-58). Cindy Schwehr moved to deny the application in support of the Planning & Zoning board’s recommendation; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

**Auditor – Minutes / Financial Report**

Bill Carlblom moved to approve the November 7, 2017 minutes with corrections; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried. Beth Didier, Auditor, presented an update on the County finances.

**2018 Election Precincts and Polling Places**

Bill Carlblom moved to keep the 2018 Election Precincts and Polling Places the same as they were for the 2016 Elections, with the entire County again doing Vote-By-Mail and In-Person voting on Election Day at the Barnes County Courthouse; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Commission Chairman Mike Metcalf announced that he will not be running for re-election for Commission District #2 in 2018.

**Harold Rotunda, CPA – 2016 Financial Statements**

Harold Rotunda, CPA, presented the 2016 Financial Statements and discussed budget strategies.

**Commission Discussion**

Cindy Schwehr moved to approve signing the ND Dept of Transportation Federal Aid Program project sheet; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. County burials were discussed.

With no further business, John Froelich made a motion, seconded by Bill Carlblom, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Metcalf, Chairman  
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier  
Barnes County Auditor

