

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, December 19, 2023 with Cindy Schwehr, Vicky Lovell, Pete Paulson, and Shawn Olauson present. Bill Carlblom was absent. Vice-Chairman Schwehr 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.

Sheriff's Office

Jason Thiel and Pat Sand presented options to replace vehicle and body cameras. Shawn Olauson moved to approve purchasing from Axon Enterprises; Vicky Lovell seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all present members voting "yes".

Emergency Management / Planning & Zoning

Ms. Jenrich presented the Emergency Preparedness Plan Updates. Pete Paulson moved to approve the updated Emergency Preparedness Plan; Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all present members voting "yes".

Ms. Jenrich presented a Development Code Change. Shawn Olauson moved to approve the Development Code Change; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all present members voting "yes".

Jessica presented the Final Comprehensive Plan. Vicky Lovell moved to approve the Comprehensive Plan; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll call vote with all present members voting "yes"

There will be ICS 300/400 training coming up in January at the firehall that Jessica will attend. There is a possibility the dates will include Martin Luther King Day. This will be discussed at a later meeting date when the training dates are finalized.

South Central Dakota Regional Council

The commission tabled the Joint Powers Agreement. This will be discussed when presented by Economic Development.

Auditor's Office

The December 5, 2023 minutes were reviewed. Vicky Lovell made a motion to approve the minutes; Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll call vote with all present members voting "yes".

Establishment of precincts and polling locations for the 2024 election cycle was discussed. Keeping the polling location at the Barnes County Courthouse for all precincts and at the Barnes County Courthouse for the absentee and mail in ballot precincts for all precincts for the 2024 election cycle the same as we have done in the past was discussed. Vicky Lovell made a motion to approve keeping the polling location for all precincts and the absentee ballot and mail in ballot precinct polling locations for the 2024 election cycle at the Barnes County Courthouse. Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present members voting "yes".

The Amazon Prime account was discussed. The bill had increased from \$179.00 to \$1,299.00 because the number of users had gone up beyond three. The commission decided to bring the users back down to make it more affordable. Carol Grenz and Jason Thiel will remain on the account. Departments needing to order can contact Carol to place the order.

Board Appointments

Board appointments were reviewed. Pete Paulson made a motion to appoint Jeff Nathan to the Housing Authority Board. Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present members voting "yes". Vicky Lovell made a motion to make the following board appointments: Airport Authority – Jamie Bryn; Coroner – David Hochhalter MD; Park Board – Tyler Jacobson; Buffalo Bridges Zonal Board – Tom Overn; Water Resource – Bret Fehr Dist. #1; Jerry Hieb Dist. #3; and Weed Control – Jamie Smith. Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll call vote with all present members voting yes. The Barnes County Water Resource District has one spot remaining unfulfilled in Dist. #2.

Beer / Liquor License Renewals

Vicky Lovell made a motion to approve the applications for Beer and Liquor Licenses for Hungry Pelican, LLC for the Hungry Pelican at the Crossing and the Hungry Pelican at the Dam, and Bayshore Resort and Marine LLC. Pete Paulson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously upon roll call vote.

Barnes County Ambulance

Scott Miller presented the Barnes County Ambulance Contract commencing January 1, 2024 and terminating December 31, 2026. Pete Paulson made a motion to approve the contract. Shawn Olauson seconded the motion. Motion carried with all present members voting "yes".

Commission Discussion

Pete Paulson has received calls from community members concerning E-Dispatch for responders not being

available to the public any longer. Pete called on Sarah Miller to inform the commission on how E-Dispatch works regarding E-Dispatch pages available for public access as they were coming out. Dispatch had turned this option off out of concern for public safety, responder safety, and privacy. The commission will let the E-Dispatch public option be off due to those concerns. Pete commented that the Troubadour concert at the Courthouse had a full-house audience. Theresa Will's retirement was well attended. The Weed Board is waiting for the state's chemical reimbursement. The Artic Cat side by side has a broken axle and parts are difficult to obtain. The Weed Board conference is in January. Bobby Koeplin has submitted his resignation from the Park Board but is willing to help with grant work for the park on a contract basis. The need for a tractor at the park was discussed.

Shawn Olauson attended the Water Board, Planning and Zoning, Museum, and Park Board meetings. Valley City Little Dam funding from the State Water Commission has been approved. NRCS is waiting for ice on 10-Mile Lake to measure depth. Assessment hearings on Thordenskjold will be on February 12th. A void was filled under the spillway of Clausen Springs Dam. Trash rack costs increased to \$8,600.00. Legal Drain #2 has a \$200,000.00 project. \$167,000.00 was raised to date. They paid for rock, temporary repair, and the engineering on the project. They will need to bond the project. The Advisory Board will meet January 8th at the Water Resource District meeting. Clearing and snagging will depend on the weather. Tomahawk work is done. The Historical Society Board received a house from Lowell Bushing's estate.

Josh Johnson had requested a meeting with Bill, Cindy, and Tonya regarding the building fund refund. The Troubadours had their annual Christmas Concert at the courthouse. They would like to extend a huge thank you to the commissioners. They would like to do the same next year. The comments received were very good. Cindy extends her thank you to the staff that helped serve and set up and take down.

Vicky Lovell reported that the library is starting to get donations for roof repairs. The next library meeting will include approving the budget.

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 9:19 a.m.

Bill Carlblom, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Julie Mindt
Barnes County Interim Auditor