

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, December 19, 2017 with Cindy Schwehr, Mike Metcalf, Bill Carblom, John Froelich, and Rodger Berntson present. Chairman Carblom called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Agenda was reviewed.

VC-BC Development Corporation – Contract Renewal

Jennifer Feist, Valley City – Barnes County Development Corporation Director of Development, presented a request for approval of the 2018 contract for the calendar year January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018, to include 2.24 mills, as approved by the Commission, and \$27,000 for administrative services. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the request; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Rodger Berntson voting “no”.

Barnes County Ambulance – Contract Renewal

Scott Miller, Barnes County Ambulance, presented the three-year contract for Commission approval. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the contract, using Blue Cross Blue Shield allowable rates, as appropriate; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Social Services – Family Leave

Wanda Larson, Social Services Director, presented the Commission with a policy change proposal, to update County policy to reflect the State policy that they are required to follow. Mike Metcalf moved to change Dependent Sick Leave from 40 hours a year to 80 hours a year, for all employees, effective immediately; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

MIS – Century Link PRI Contract Update

Jason Thiel, MIS Director, presented a 5-year contract with Century Link, which would lower the rate from \$550 per month to \$490 per month. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the contract; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Auditor – Minutes

Mike Metcalf moved to approve the December 5, 2017 minutes; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Board Appointments

Mike Metcalf moved to approve the January 1, 2018 Board Appointments, as presented: Airport – Shawn Anderson, Housing Authority – Larry Leier and Tyler Van Bruggen, Park – Andre Delorme, Planning & Zoning – Jeff Bopp, Water Resources – Shawn Olauson, and Jerry Hieb; Cindy Schwehr seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. The openings on the Library board, Planning & Zoning, the School Annexation, Reorganization & Dissolution board, and Weed Control board will be advertised again.

Beer / Liquor License Renewals

Cindy Schwehr moved to approve the applications for Liquor, Beer, and Sunday Alcohol from Ashtabula Crossing, Baldhill Grill & Chill, Crossroads Steakhouse & Lounge, and Sodbuster Club; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Tax Equalization – Rasmusson Abatement

Stacie Leier, Tax Director, presented Applications for Abatement or Refund of Taxes from Howard Rasmusson for Tax Years 2015, 2016, and 2017 on parcel # 34-3530310, and recommended a 3-year abatement for a total of \$645.50. Cindy Schwehr moved to accept Ms. Leier’s recommendation; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Planning & Zoning – Development Code Clarification

Jessica Jenrich, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, discussed Section 12 of the Development Code with the Commission. Requirements will be clarified, and another notification will be mailed out, after the Planning & Zoning board works on the wording and brings it back to the Commission.

Highway Dept – Faust Dam (Final Acceptance Letter)

Kerry Johnson, Highway Superintendent, presented the Project Completion Certificate for Repair of Barnes County Bridge #02-117-03.0. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the certificate; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the Final Acceptance Letter on the Faust Dam project; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Corrections – Refrigerator / Freezer Replacement

Randy McClafin, presented a request for a new refrigerator/freezer at a cost of \$3,800 for the two. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the request; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

City-County Health District – Jail Nursing Services Contract

Becky Kratz, City-County Health District accountant, presented the Jail Nursing Services Contract for approval. Cindy Schwehr moved to approve signing the contract at \$40.50 per hour (same rate as last year); Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Commission Discussion

When putting items on the Agenda, the Commission needs the information at least a week prior to the meeting. The Chairman must approve any additional agenda items, if it’s already been sent to the press. Other discussion included an active shooter exercise for County employees, and use of County vehicles, rather than personal vehicles, in certain cases where it makes sense.

With no further business, Mike Metcalf made a motion, seconded by John Froelich, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned.

Bill Carblom, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor