

Forman, North Dakota
March 1, 2011

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Bill Anderson, Steve Wyum, David L Jacobson, Mike Walstead and Jerry Waswick. Absent: None. Mary Ann Gadberry, the Sargent County Teller, was also present.

Approve minutes of February 15, 2011 meeting as corrected. (Walstead/Jacobson, unanimous)

Sandy Hanson, 911 Coordinator met with the Board. She reported on emergency communications issues, including: the Federal requirement to switch communications devices to narrow banding by 2013; and, replacing the county's current radio repeater with a narrow band device. It is necessary to replace the current broad band, analog repeater, and grant money for the replacement is available from Homeland Security. Minn-Kota has prepared an estimate of \$16,621 to replace the repeater, which would bring that component of the County's communications system into compliance with Federal regulations before the 2013 deadline. A grant from Homeland Security has been approved for the purchase of a new repeater, cable and tower updates and was approved at \$22,972 with a 20% local match. Sandy Hanson will research sources for the local share and report back to the Board.

Sandy Hanson informed the Board that the computer that was approved for her department at the last meeting was submitted too late for the deadline. A video conferencing compatible television was purchased instead, with the intention of setting up a teleconference unit in the second floor Courthouse meeting room. There were additional reporting guidelines to meet for the TV. Sandy submitted a computer purchased for the Auditor's Office for the grant monies. Commissioner Wyum encouraged Sandy to proceed, as long as all actions and acquisitions comply with applicable State and Federal rules and regulations.

The Board reviewed an Application for Abatement or Refund of taxes submitted by Randy & Mary Gibbon regarding property within the City of Milnor's Renaissance Zone. The property affected is Lots 7-8, Block 28, Original Addition, which is eligible for 100% tax exemption for 5 years instead of the original calculation of taxes at 20% per year for 5 years. Milnor City approved the abatement. Motion to concur with Milnor City. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous)

Sandy Hanson informed the Board of emergency declarations for spring flooding from Milnor City and Cogswell City. A discussion followed on measures to take in preparation for the anticipated flooding for the entire county; where the resources will come from; and, who will pay for flood protection measures and for damage resulting from flooding. The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers has been contacted to consult with Cogswell City concerning overland flooding prevention, protection and mitigation measures.

Orville Nelson, Sargent County Historical Society, presented a 2010 financial report with income and expenses and a year end balance of approximately \$40,000. Accept the report of the SC Historical Society as submitted by Mr. Nelson, (Anderson/Jacobson, unanimous)

Damon DeVillers, Interstate Engineering, Inc.; Richard Engst, Roger White, Mark Breker and Jim Bosse, Water Board members and Sparky Engquist, county highway supervisor arrived at the meeting to discuss the proposed replacement of Bridge 123-20, located on Sargent County 5, approximately 4 miles south and 1.5 miles west of Rutland. Alternative 6, which appears to be the most cost effective of the 9 alternatives prepared by the County Engineer, was discussed in detail. Alternative 6 proposes to replace the deteriorated bridge structure currently at the site with one line of 16 feet wide by 7 feet high reinforced concrete box culvert. The 20% county share of the cost would be approximately \$79,000. Damon explained the upstream and downstream sites and flows from the drainage area and provided those in attendance the Draft Project Concept Report. Damon was asked to provide additional information on the upstream and downstream structures. These sites will be reviewed on March 22 before making a final decision on the structure size.

Jerry Waswick updated Board members on the status of the Court Facilities improvement grant application. Contractors have been contacted.

The Commissioners reviewed additional information on Equipment Breakdown insurance coverage. State Fire and Tornado has informed the Board that the elevator, as well as the electrical machine or apparatus that operates the elevator, is included in the building coverage. Hartford will continue to complete an annual inspection of the Courthouse heating system pursuant to its contract with State Fire and Tornado, and will provide an inspection certificate to the county. Motion to change the Equipment Breakdown coverage from Hartford Company/Sargent County Insurance to Hartford Company/ND State Fire and Tornado Fund. This will result in premium savings of approximately \$1100 per year. (Jacobson/Anderson, unanimous)

Motion to participate in 50/50 cost share with the Sargent County Water Board in a water retention study. The estimated county's share of the cost of the study is \$3,750.00. (Anderson/Jacobson, unanimous)

Sherry Hosford, County Auditor informed the Board that grant proceeds from ND Dept. of Commerce for the new heating system in the sum of \$34,776.60 have been received. Those monies, along with the rebate from Ottetail Power Co., will be placed in the Capital Improvement fund.

David Ruch, Sargent County Fairboard, met with the commission to discuss the Contingency Fund set up by the county commission for the Fair and the fairgrounds in the 2010 budget. Money for the 2010 year from the contingency fund was not paid out. He requested that a separate fund be established for building and repairs at the fairgrounds. He updated the commission on estimates received for shingling the auditorium roof. Motion to allocate \$1,600 of the 2010 budgeted amount for the contingency fund to a Fairgrounds building improvement and maintenance fund, to be an ongoing fund dedicated to maintenance, improvements and construction of buildings at the fairgrounds. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous)

Sherry Hosford, County Auditor, distributed information regarding the Title VI Program. A list of procedures was reviewed, and a motion was made to appoint Sherry Hosford Title VI Coordinator. (Wyum/Jacobson, unanimous) Sherry will work with developing the Title VI program and coordinate efforts with Damon DeVillers, County Engineer.

Travis Paeper, Sheriff, met with the Board and reported on issues pertaining to his office, including: closing an unlicensed bar in the county; and, implementation of the new 24/7 program, for which Deputy Matron Brenda Peterson is being trained.

Meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

JERRY WASWICK – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR