

Forman, North Dakota
June 4, 2013

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

Approve minutes of May 21, 2013 meeting. (Wyum/Walstead, unanimous)

Commissioner Jacobson commented on several roads that are on the gravel list. He suggests that the gravel projects begin as soon as road restrictions are lifted. Gravel contractors are ready to start hauling, although none, as yet, have any gravel that meets contract specifications.

Motion to authorize the Chairman, States Attorney and the County Auditor to execute the County Federal Aid Contract and Bond for CER-4135(054), CER-4110(059) & CER-4110(058) on CMC 4135 – 6.5 miles north of Geneseo – with H & S Contracting, Inc. for \$168,902.75 and CER-4110(064) on CMC 4110 – 6.5 miles north of Geneseo – with Gladen Construction, Inc. for \$23,724.00. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous)

Roz Amerman, custodian, met with the Board to discuss the County's current sick leave policy and ask for a one time variance in the definition of the term "family member" to include a relative who is neither a member of an employee's household nor financially dependant upon the employee. Board members expressed their comments and suggested further discussion with the States Attorney concerning the meaning of the term "family member" as it now pertains to an employee's sick leave. The County Personnel Board had previously reviewed the policy and had not recommended any changes at that time.

Paige Cary, The Sargent County Teller and Lyle Bopp, States Attorney arrived at 10:00 a.m.

Sandy Hanson, Tax Director arrived at the meeting. The Board of Review and Equalization proceeded to organize for 2013. Others present were Jim Lunneborg, Rutland, Lysle Coleman, Crete and Gary Visto, Oakes. Ms. Hanson presented residential information for both townships and cities and recommended that this Board approve the changes as suggested by the townships and cities. The net increase in True and Full Value for Residential lots is \$92,855 and a decrease of \$118,630. The net increase for buildings and structures is \$892,430 and a decrease of \$427,610. Motion to approve the recommendation of no changes to the residential properties within the cities and townships. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous)

Sandy recommended that any discussion on the commercial properties should be tabled until the next meeting due to inaccurate information received from the state. Commercial property decision tabled until June 18.

Bill Smith commented on the value of agricultural land versus commercial land values, specifically on a parcel located in the NE1/4-13 of Forman Township that was formerly used for agricultural purposes but now has a commercial application. After further discussion it was agreed that the Tax Director will do further research on appropriately valuing land used for commercial purposes.

Eight applications were received for Classification as Inundated Agricultural Land. The Board proceeded to consider each application as follows: Parcel 08-2740000 from Daro Crandall for 65 acres. Motion to deny the application as the parcel does not meet the qualifications as set forth in State law. (Walstead/Anderson. Motion carried.) Parcels 16-5083000 for 45 acres and 16-5084000 for 75 acres from Edwin Erickson. Allow 31 acres on parcel 16-5083000 due to excluding the marsh land which is not eligible for inundated acres status under current State law, and approve 75 acres on parcel 16-5084000. (Waswick/Anderson, unanimous) Parcels 16-6183000 and 16-5184000 from Gary Kratcha. Neither parcel meets the 10 acres minimum requirement as provided by State law. Motion to deny both applications. (Anderson/Waswick, unanimous) Parcel 16-5154000 from James Lunneborg for 73 acres. Allow 67 acres due to excluding marsh land which is not eligible for inundated land status under current State law. (Wyum/Walstead, unanimous) Parcel 16-5147000 from Bradley Wyum for 52 acres. Allow 38 acres. (Waswick/Walstead, unanimous) Parcel 16-5152000 from Kathleen Wyum for 43 acres. Allow 25 acres. (Waswick/Anderson, unanimous)

Ms. Hanson had information concerning the per acre valuation of agricultural land for the 2013 assessment. The averages for Sargent County are Agricultural land-\$768.49; Cropland-\$873.99 and Noncropland-\$168.38. Sandy presented a report with Agricultural property values shown by township based on the soils based valuation changes. Discussion continued on soils based valuations and changes in true and full value. Sandy provided a list of 19 grievances filed with the Soil Committee of

which 8 are still under investigation. The Soils Committee will meet prior to the June 18 commission meeting to address the 8 grievances that are still being investigated.

Bill Smith publicly commended the members of the Soils Committee for all their work on moving forward with the soils based valuation system. Jerry Waswick, Commissioner and serving as a member of the Soils Committee, commented that it was a very difficult process but very educational. Anyone who would like to serve on this committee is welcome to contact a township board member to express their interest.

Motion for the Board of Review and Equalization to recess until June 18, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

Bruce Speich, DeLamere; Damon DeVillers, Interstate Eng., Inc. and Sparky Engquist, Road Supt. arrived at the meeting. Damon presented a Hydraulic Study for culvert replacement in Section 9-132-53. The location of this site is a crossing of Co. # 14 on the east side of Section 9 in Hall Township. Installation of the culvert will accommodate the flow of water from a tile field drainage system being installed by the Speich's. Placement of the culvert will keep the water on land owned by the Speich's. Mr. DeVillers recommends a 36" culvert with riprap installed at the inlet and outlet to aid in controlling erosion. Supt. Engquist reported that the culvert currently through the road at this site has deteriorated and is due for replacement. Motion to approve replacing the culvert including cost share with the county, the water board and Speich's pursuant to current Water Board and County policies. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous)

Chairman David Jacobson left the meeting at 11:40 with Vice-Chairman Wyum presiding.

Mike Walstead discussed County road gravelling projects and testing the quality of gravel now stockpiled in the various pits. The county bid specifies for stockpiling gravel and the quality of the gravel has been monitored but the Board requested testing at area pits that are being used for county projects. Damon provided information on the gravel testing results from Midwest Testing at the Thorp, Smith and Christenson pits. All samples tested failed to meet the county specifications. Steve Wyum suggested that Mike Walstead, Road commissioner; Sparky Engquist, Road Supt. and Damon DeVillers, Engineer, determine a protocol of how to sample the gravel; when to test; and, testing once it is placed on the roadways. The Board will review this protocol at the June 18 meeting.

Motion to approve the Construction Engineering Services Agreement between NDDOT and Sargent County for Project CER 4110(64) – on CMC 4110 – 6.5 miles north of Geneseo and authorize the Chairman and Auditor to execute this contract to Gladen Construction, Inc. (Walstead/Wyum, unanimous)

Motion to authorize the Chairman and Auditor to execute the Notice of Award to Johnson Excavation to proceed with the Wild Rice River Low Water Crossing FEMA project between Sections 30 & 31 in Herman Township, also known as the S & D Crossing FEMA Project. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

Damon DeVillers also presented a hydraulic Study for a culvert replacement in Tewaukon Township between Section 8 and 9 near Frenier Dam.

Motion to authorize Chairman and Auditor to execute any forthcoming Federal Aid Contracts on upcoming ER projects. (Walstead/Wyum, unanimous)

Motion to adopt the Application process and application form as proposed by Commissioner Walstead, States Attorney Bopp and Road Supt. Engquist for private ditch cleaning and Drainage Work within County Road Right-of-Way and instruct the States Attorney to place an article/notice in The Sargent County Teller informing the public of this application process. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous)

Approve Sunday Permit for the sale of Alcoholic Beverages at CDPB, LLC, Coteau des Prairie Lodge, 9953 141st Ave SE, Havana ND for twelve months. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

Discussed whether or not the courthouse should be open on Friday, July 5th. Board members concluded that there is work to be done, and that the courthouse offices will be open on July 5th.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

DAVID L JACOBSON – CHAIRMAN

STEVEN WYUM – VICE-CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR