The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Karen Anderson, Don Wehlander, Mike Walstead, Steve Wyum and Ray Brockman. Absent None

Approve December 16, 2003 minutes. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

The Commission received a letter from W.E. Smith, Forman indicating that he did not want another appointment on the SC Job Development Authority. Rescind the re-appointment of Mr. Smith. (Brockman/Walstead, unanimous)

Approve Games of Chance # 2004-01 to Tewaukon Rod and Gun Club for a raffle on January 16, 2004 at Geneseo Hall; #2004-02 to St.Mary's Altar Society for Bingo on February 8 & 22, 2004 and March 7 & 21, 2004 (Storm dates – February 15 & 29 and March 14 & 28) at St. Martin's Church Basement, Geneseo and #2004-03 to Cogswell Gun Club for a raffle on February 22, 2004 at Silver Lake Park, Forman and another raffle on September 12, 2004 at Cogswell Trap Grounds, Cogswell. (Anderson/Wehlander, unanimous

Approve disposal of 2 computer monitors, SN 29759 and 06080, typewriter #41, typewriter #49 and calculator #711. (Anderson/Wehlander, unanimous)

Approve Joint Powers Agreement for Purchasing with NDACo to offer services for Special Operations Team Support at a cost of \$400 per year. (Wehlander/Brockman, unanimous)

Approve 2004 Sargent Seniors Council Contract. (Anderson/Wehlander, unanimous)

Gina Hillestad, SC Treas., met with the Board with the pledge of assets. Approve public depositories with Sargent County Bank and First National Bank as a security in the amount of one hundred ten dollars for every one hundred dollars of public deposits. Sargent County Bank currently pledges \$4,110,000 and First National Bank pledges \$2,025,000. (Wehlander/Walstead, unanimous)

Norm Preble, Tax Director and Judy Olson, Milnor met with the Board for the purpose of conducting a public hearing on a Property Tax Exemption on a bed and breakfast facility located in SE1/4-11-131-54. The request is for a five-year exemption on property taxes. No one appeared at the hearing to provide testimony on the exemption. Grant 5-year 100% property tax exemption for 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 on the structure known as Prairie Winds Bed and Breakfast (Wehlander/ Walstead, unanimous)

Lyle Bopp arrived at the meeting.

Norm Preble reported that information from the ND State Tax Department provided the agricultural value per acre for 2004 in Sargent County is \$407.89 according to the capitalized average value.

The Board acknowledged receipt of a letter from Ransom Township regarding culvert purchases. Sargent County will only be involved with culvert requests that come through a governmental entity.

Approve adoption of the following resolution. (Brockman/Wehlander, unanimous)

WHEREAS, the bid in the amount of \$124,834.90 received in the bid opening of December 17, 2003 for Project AC-BRO-0041 (007) was the low bid received.

WHEREAS, this bid is considered reasonable.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of County Commissioners of Sargent County would award to Industrial Builders Inc. the contract for Project AC-BRO-0041(007) and hereby authorizes the Chairman of the Board to sign said contract.

It is further understood that the County shall reimburse the North Dakota Department of Transportation for any payments made under this contract, which are not collectible from the Federal Highway Administration.

Sparky Engquist reported on the part-time employee status and work remaining on painting equipment.

Brian Tayer and Cindy Leinen, SC Ambulance coordinators met with the Board to update on ambulance activities. Brian informed the Board about contact with businesses allowing employees to carry ambulance pagers. Additional meetings are being scheduled to meet with other businesses and school boards. Cindy put an ad in the paper but hasn't had any responses. Lyle Bopp reported that he has been in contact with FM Ambulance regarding payment to volunteers but is still awaiting more information. A meeting will be scheduled for the ambulance coordinators to meet with the Board on February 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Rescind the 2004 Beer and Liquor License for Hillside-C Store. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous)

Damon DeVillers, Interstate Engineering, Inc. met with the Board to discuss the upcoming bridge project. Authorize the Chairman and Auditor to sign the Construction Engineering Services Agreement. (Brockman/Wehlander, unanimous) Sandra Hanson, Emergency Manager arrived at the meeting. Damon reviewed some data on Wireless AVL Services – the solution for vehicle tracking. There is grant funding through Homeland Security. Sandra will check out the amount of funding available and deadlines for submission.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

STEVEN R. WYUM – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR