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

The Board reviewed carry over business including evaluations, LEPC, personnel policy, GIS project, Sargent County $120^{\rm th}$ Anniversary Book, computer server, emergency human service levy, county emergency, selling a two-way radio and the main street building.

Travis A. Paeper, Sheriff met with the Board to discuss advertising a deputy's position in the paper, on Teletype and at Job Service. He has about 40 inquiries for the position. Approve advertising for a deputy at Grade 11/Step1-4. He visited with Milnor and Forman City councils about policing. Travis asked about hiring a part-time deputy to assist during the interim until another deputy is hired. Approve hiring part-time qualified law enforcement officer. (Wehlander/Wyum, unanimous)

Norm Preble informed the Board that agriculture values are projected to increase about 7% as per information from the tax commissioner. A bill before the legislature would decrease this amount to 3-4% if approved. This increase is based on production. Norm is considering a re-appraisal on the rural residential structures. The last appraisal was 7 years ago. Cenex is requesting a five-year exemption on a new building south of Forman. They also are considering the 15-year payment in lieu of taxes. After the application is filed, the Board will conduct a hearing on their request.

Lyle Bopp arrived at the meeting.

Discussed omitted property in Cogswell, namely E1/2 of Lots 1-2, Block 2, Camp's Addition was reviewed. Approve \$484 true and full value on said lots for 2002. (Wehlander/Brockman, unanimous)

Approve Quit Claim Deed to Bill Turner, Box 688, Cypress, TX for \$325, which includes the following property in Cogswell City: Lots 7,8,9, Block 9, Original Addition, Lot 7, Block 11, Milwaukee Addition, West 100 feet of Lot 1, Block 8, West 100 feet of Lot 1, Block 9, East 100 feet of Lot 2 except north 75 feet in Block 9, and West 100 feet of Lot 2, Block 9, all in McNeeley's Addition and Lots 4-5-6, Block 1, Camp's Addition. (Brockman/Walstead, unanimous)

Lyle provided lease papers, which he reviewed to lease a Volvo Motor Grader. He indicated that the lease meets all statutory requirements. The interest rate is 5.25%. Approve Resolution Relating to Lease with option to Purchase Agreement No. SAR1520 with Kinetic Leasing through First National Bank, Milnor, which includes no pre-payment penalty and a one-year lease with option to renew or purchase. (Wehlander/Walstead, unanimous)

Advertise for Request for Proposal for Insurance Agents to handle the county policy. Bids shall be opened at 9:30 a.m. on February 4, 2003. (Wehlander/Wyum, unanimous)

The Board reviewed proposals from engineering firms for construction engineering services for Bridge 105-1, 4 miles north and 5 miles west of Stirum located between Section 2 & 11-132-58. Approve proposal from Interstate Engineering, Inc. (Wyum/Wehlander, unanimous)

Damon DeVillers, Interstate Engineering, Inc. and Sparky Engquist met with the Board to discuss the project concept report on County # 2,4 and 7. The existing pavements are in poor condition. They are deteriorated with longitudinal and transverse cracking and alligator cracking. A chip seal alone would not sufficiently improve the project area. At a minimum, these roads need to be patched and overlayed. The bid letting is scheduled for April. A Preliminary Engineering Services Agreement for Bridge No. 105-01.0 was presented. Approve. (Brockman/Wyum, unanimous)

Instruct County Auditor to call for sealed bids in the official newspaper for furnishing supplies for the period beginning April 1, 2003 and ending March 31, 2004. Bids shall be opened March 18, 2003 as follows: Gravel-11:00 a.m.; Mixing, Laying & Drying Blacktop Surfacing-11:20 a.m.; Bituminous Materials-11:25 a.m.; Gasoline, Fuel, Biodiesel Blend/10% biodiesel with 90% petroleum diesel or "B10" & LP Gas-11:30 a.m. (Wehlander/Brockman, unanimous)

Approve December 17 and 31, 2002 minutes. (Brockman/Wyum, unanimous)

Gina Hillestad, Treasurer, met with the Board to discuss the Pledge of Assets for Sargent County. Sargent County Bank currently has \$4,145,000 and First National Bank has \$1,550,000 plus \$450,000 in bank deposit guaranty bonds. Approve as adequate according to law. (Brockman/Walstead, unanimous) The Personnel Board will be meeting each month on the first Monday at 2:00 p.m. in the commissioner's room.

Reviewed an Agreement to Provide Professional Human Resource Management Consulting Services for the Maintenance of the Classification and Compensation Study for Sargent County with Maximus, Inc. during 2003. Approve agreement. (Brockman/Wyum, unanimous)

Approve 2003 Sargent Senior Council Contract. (Wehlander/Walstead, unanimous)

Approve Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Michael J. Burns Architects, Ltd., Moorhead, MN for courthouse restoration. (Wyum/Walstead, unanimous)

The Board discussed the upcoming courthouse renovation project and prepared a letter to the editor informing the taxpayers of Sargent County of the scope of the project. Bids will be opened on February 4, 2003 at 1:30 p.m.

Additional office space will be available at the Main Street Building on February 1, 2003. The Ambulance Service at Forman will be offered the space.

The Board received information that funding for the Milnor Bike Path is not available at this time from the ND Transportation Enhancement Funds.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

	KAREN ANDERSON - CHAIRPERSON
ATTEST:	
SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR	