

Forman, North Dakota  
January 7, 2014

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

Approve minutes of December 17, 2013 meeting as revised. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous)

Reappoint Jay Jacobson, Milnor, Member-at-Large; Sandra Hanson, Forman, Township Representative; and Ronald Narum, Rutland, Cities under 500 population Representative to three year terms on the Sargent County Job Development Authority Board, terms ending December, 2016. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous)

Motion to authorize the County Auditor to execute the 2014 Master Support Agreement and addendum to include the Plus service agreement with NRG Technology Services, Bismarck. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

Approve reappointment of Karen Anderson, Havana to the Dickey-Sargent Housing Authority for a 5 year term. (Jacobson/Anderson, unanimous)

Lyle Bopp, States Attorney arrived at this time.

Melissa Blawat, Extension Agent and Cindy Klapperich, Family and Consumer Science Agent informed the commissioners of an upcoming course to be held on January 23 in the Sargent County Courthouse entitled "Smart Choice" which will increase attendees' capability to make a Health Insurance decision including information about accessing the new Marketplace options. Ms. Blawatt and Ms. Klapperich also provided narratives of highlights from October-December 2013 in their respective jobs.

Wendy Jacobson, Sargent/Ransom Social Service Director, visited with the commissioners on funding of the Public Administrator program set up by the 2013 Legislature. This funding request for 1/10 of a mill from Sargent County for each of the two years of the biennium was discussed, and Ms. Jacobson informed the Board that her department has not expended any costs on public administrators but Social Service employees have expended time to locate guardians for adult services and vulnerable adults if no family is available. The commissioners asked for documentation of time spent but according to Ms. Jacobson no tracking of time was required for these searches. The commission asked Ms. Jacobson to provide numbers for the 2015 budget.

The Board discussed the previous adoption and suspended implementation of the County's Distracted Driving Policy. A committee composed of States Attorney Lyle Bopp, Commissioner Steve Wyum and Sheriff Travis Paeper had met to review and discuss the advisability and necessity for the proposed policy. After reviewing the current state law concerning the use of hand-held communications devices while driving, a motion was made to rescind the motion of April 16, 2013, that had approved the draft Distracted Driving Policy, and to inform all county employees that they are subject to the requirements of North Dakota Century Code 39-08-24 while operating county equipment. (Waswick/Jacobson, unanimous)

Duane DeKrey, North Dakota State Game and Fish Dept (NDGF) met with the county commissioners to inform the county commission of the Game & Fish Department's intent to purchase a parcel of land in Sargent County. Gary Krause, Cayuga has offered 47 acres of land that is located in the NE1/4-31-130-53, as shown on a map provided by Mr. DeKrey, to the North Dakota Game & Fish Department. State law requires that, before NDG&F may purchase any land in a county, the Department must inform the County Commission of its intention. Mr. DeKrey's purpose for attending the meeting today is to explain to the county commission the procedure which NDG&F must follow: 1) NDG&F must send out letters to all land owners who own land within a mile of the land intended for purchase; and, 2) NDG&F must hire an appraiser to value the land. According to state law, NDG&F cannot pay more than 100% of the appraised value. According to Mr. DeKrey, Mr. Krause had indicated to NDG&F that this land has been wet for many years, and that he cannot get to it for farming purposes. He would like to sell it to NDG&F for public hunting, wildlife management and other NDG&F purposes. The North Dakota Game & Fish Department is the only agency of Federal, State or local government that is required to pay the full amount of real estate taxes and special assessments on property which it owns. Game & Fish Department revenues come from license fees and excise taxes on hunting and fishing equipment sold to sportsmen. No action concerning the proposed sale is required of this Board.

Sandy Hanson, Tax Director provided the 2014 County Average Value per all cropland acreage as set by the ND State Tax Commissioner's Office at \$860.40 per acre for 2014. This compares with \$768.49 in 2013. It appears that a 7% valuation increase will be necessary to comply with the tolerance percentage for value as set by the State Tax Commissioner. Sandy also informed the commissioners that she will meet with this Board on January 21<sup>st</sup> to review the soil modifiers for 2014. Vanguard Appraisals representatives are currently in her office to review the residential values for the upcoming year, a procedure which is part of the ongoing contract with that company. Also discussed proceeding with the commercial reappraisals and requested that Vanguard meet with the commissioners in the near future to discuss time implementation of this program.

Approve 2014 Sargent Seniors Council Contract and authorize Chairman to execute the same. (Jacobson/Walstead, unanimous)

Information was received and read that effective January 1, 2014 the federal GSA mileage reimbursement rate for privately owned vehicles will drop from \$0.565 to \$0.56.

Motion to approve County Deeds and authorize the Chairman and County Auditor to sign for the following sales: Lots 15 and 16, Block 5, Village of Brampton, for \$1.00 to Brampton Township; Lots 6-7, Block 2, Weber's Addition, Havana City for \$800 to Travis L and Cynthia S Bergh, PO Box 13, Havana, ND; North 30 feet of Lot 8, Block 4, Maplewood Addition, Gwinner City for \$2,000 to Tamara E Lugert, 137 Maplewood Drive, Gwinner ND and Lot 9, Block 4, Maplewood Addition, Gwinner City, for \$1.00 to City of Gwinner, a municipal corporation, PO Box 425, Gwinner ND. (Anderson/Waswick, unanimous)

Approve Games of Chance Permit #SC2014-01 to Cogswell Gun Club, Cogswell, ND for a raffle to be held on Sunday, February 23, at Silver Lake. (Jacobson/Anderson unanimous)

Commissioner David Jacobson asked questions about the status of some Road Department equipment that had been by the county shop, and about the status of some equipment that was still there. Road Commissioner Mike Walstead will inquire of Sparky Engquist, Road Supt. about said equipment.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

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STEVEN WYUM – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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