

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Lysle Coleman, Don Wehlander, W.E. Smith, Ray Brockman and Steve Wyum. Absent none.

Jim Brownlee, State Auditor's Office presented the county audit report for 1999. The general-purpose financial statement presents fairly the results of its operation for the year and is in conformity with general accepted accounting principles. The County had deposits in excess of FDIC Insurance and pledge of securities. It is recommended the County review their bank balances and pledges more frequently and secures additional pledges as needed to ensure that deposits are adequately covered.

Gina Hillestad, Personnel Board, met with the Board to discuss the salary step plan. The initial range was not correct from Rhodes and Shanley Associates. The plan has been corrected and all steps remain 2.5% between each step. The increases from 1999-2000-2001 will equal all salary increases allowed by the commissioners. The information has been explained to the department heads with instructions to review with their staff.

The Board received a letter from Lucille VanVlaenderen concerning a water problem in Geneseo. Sparky Engquist talked to Mrs. VanVlaenderen and did some transit work at the site. The culvert is correctly placed but the westend was crushed and silt build up resulted in water backing up. Sparky feels the problem has been corrected and the water should flow in the natural watercourse.

The Board proceeded to conduct the final hearing on the 2001 budget.

RESOLUTION NO. 1

Smith offered the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Wyum:

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Board to make appropriations for the current year beginning January 1, 2001 and ending December 31, 2001 of money in specific amounts for all offices, officials, improvements, roads, bridges, etc., which are supported wholly or in part by the county,
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sargent County commission approve and adopt the 2001 Budget.

Voting aye: All

Voting nay: None

Resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

Brockman offered the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Wyum:

WHEREAS, the Lake Agassiz Regional Council strives to assist in the planning and economic development of Sargent County and Lake Agassiz Regional Council as a whole, and

WHEREAS, planning and economic development are the objectives of the Board of Commissioners of Sargent County,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Sargent County approves and supports the planning and economic development program and budget of the Lake Agassiz Regional Council during the Fiscal Year 2001 in the amount of \$1500.

Voting aye: Brockman, Wyum, Wehlander and Coleman.

Voting nay: Smith

Resolution was adopted.

Lyle Bopp arrived at the meeting.

Don Nicholson, McLeod USA, presented information on long distance price comparison for Sargent County. After the presentation and further discussion, the Board asked Lyle Bopp to review the contract and instructed the Auditor to contact US Link, the current provider to obtain additional information.

Leeann Even, Mayor, Cogswell City, discussed building permit problems and property acquisition in Cogswell. The City has received complaints about farm animals in town. The City had the second reading on an ordinance for animal control.

Sandy Hanson, Colleen Sundquist and Gina Hillestad met with the Board to discuss a location for a lunchroom. The current lunchrooms are located in the various working areas. Looked at hallway in basement, judge's chambers, conference room and jail area. The hallway area that enters from the courthouse to the elevator addition would be a workable area. The Board asked them to submit a proposal for their consideration. They also inquired about a different phone system with voicemail. The current system can be added on and other features implemented. Bill Smith agreed to obtain information on the current system.

Doc Nelson, custodian, discussed replacing carpet in the Social Service Office. Total carpet needed is 141 yards. Doc obtained estimates for the carpet and installation. Approve carpet for the west room with bid from SEL Lumber and Russ Maine for installation. (Smith/Wehlander, unanimous) Discussion to remove old

carpet from both offices to provide a good work environment. Approve installation of carpet in the east room of the Social Service Dept. with same specs as previous motion. (Wyum/Smith, unanimous)

Roz Amerman, custodian, met with the Board to discuss the pay plan for Sargent County. Several employees are dissatisfied and do not understand the plan. She contacted other counties and received information on their salary increases for 2001. Roz feels that the commissioners should explain the plan to all employees.

Approve omitted property land value of \$2,562 on part of Station Lots 44-46-48-50 in SE1/4ofSE1/4-36-131-56 owned by Forman Grain Co., Inc. (Wehlander/Brockman, unanimous)

Reluctantly approve the 4% farmland value increase by the North Dakota State Tax Department contrary to the resolution adopted on February 1, 2000. (Smith/Wyum, unanimous)

Approve Game of Chance Permit No. 03-2000 to DeLamere Community Hall Association for a raffle on November 11, 2000. (Brockman/Wyum, unanimous)

Approve September 19, 2000 minutes as corrected. (Smith/Brockman, unanimous)

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

LYSLE COLEMAN - CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR