

Forman, North Dakota  
October 7, 2008

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Mike Walstead, Maurice Orn, Bill Anderson, Steve Wyum, and Jerry Waswick. Holly Jessen, The Sargent County Teller, was also present.

Approve minutes of September 16, 2008 meeting as corrected. (Wyum/Walstead, unanimous).

Several county officials and employees arrived at the meeting to discuss the county restructuring plan and provide input in the form of revised plans for staff positions. Discussion followed on various plans and will continue on October 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:30 a.m.

Norm Preble, Tax Director, met with the Board to set appraisal valuations on county lands and lots forfeited to Sargent County for non-payment of taxes. Motion to approve appraisals. (Walstead/Waswick, unanimous) A list of property and appraisals will be posted at the front door of the Courthouse on November 3, 2008. According to law, the time for hearing objections to the minimum sales price agreed upon was set for 1:00 p.m. on October 21, 2008. Discussed the property located in Cayuga owned by Rutland-Havana Farmers Co-Op Elevator Company. Motion to direct the county auditor not to proceed with a tax deed for Parcel No. 30-9267000 (42,120 Sq. ft) (Wyum/Anderson, unanimous).

Norm Preble informed the Board that on December 2-4, Larry Osborn, Richland County Tax Director will present a class in Bismarck on agricultural lands regarding soils. Sandy Hanson will attend and Norm encouraged one of the commissioners to attend and/or someone from the Sargent County Soils Committee.

The Board recessed to the conference room for a presentation from Greg Wilz, ND State Radio. Mr. Wilz presented information on fees for continuing 911 services through State Radio. Sargent County is one of 22 counties that contract public safety answering point (PSAP) service from State Radio. Due to rising costs, effective July 1, 2009, the state will increase its fees from 20 cents for each line to 38 cents per line. Mr. Wilz presented a narrative supported by charts and tables to explain how 911 fees are determined and set. He also indicated that the state is planning to prepare legislation for the 2009 Legislature to request changes to the 911 fees that can be collected locally.

The Board recessed at 12:10 for lunch.

The Board reconvened at 2:00 p.m. following the Sargent County Park Board meeting.

Gina Hillestad, Treasurer presented the newly created Ambulance Attendant position to the commission. Bill Anderson stated that Brian Tayer and Marwood Klein, Ambulance Coordinators will meet to review this proposed position and see how, or whether, this will fit into the 2009 budget.

Approve Pledge of Assets as presented by Gina Hillestad, Treasurer, showing \$2,225,000 at First National Bank, Milnor, and \$4,765,615 at Sargent County Bank, Forman ND, which is adequate according to law. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous).

A discussion followed on purchasing a postage meter for the county. Gina Hillestad ordered a meter on trial and reported that the cost would be \$49.95 per month with the first 6 months free. Dakota Mailing will offer trade-in for the existing scale in the Auditor's Office and add a scale and sealer on the meter. Gina reviewed features of the meter and discussed envelope prices. As the new postage meter will reduce costs and is within budgetary limits, there was no objection to leasing the new postage meter.

Gina Hillestad explained a new program available through our computer software company—the availability of a Property Tax Web Portal, allowing the county to make data available to taxpayers, local banks, appraisers and realtors over the internet cutting down on phone calls and office traffic. The cost would be a set up fee of \$1250 and a monthly fee of \$76.83. Motion to authorize Gina to proceed with putting tax information on line through North Dakota Property Tax.com as presented. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous)

Sandy Hanson presented a Proclamation Statement addressing the need and importance for a Multi-Hazard Mitigation plan. Approve proclamation and authorize Chairman to sign. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous)

Central Power Electric Cooperative requested a Road Permit to place 2 anchors approximately 9.5 feet into the 50 foot road right of way between Section 35 & 36-130-58 to service the Ludden substation for the Keystone Pipeline. Auditor Sherry Hosford was instructed to call Mr. Dave Leftwich, Local Government Engineer, NDDOT to inquire whether this permit should be approved based on previous instructions to keep all road right of way clear of encroachments and obstructions.

Due to General Election Day on Tuesday, November 4, the November commission meeting will be held on Thursday, November 6 beginning at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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MAURICE ORN – CHAIRMAN

ATTSET:

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SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR