

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

Karen Anderson informed the Board of repairs made to the boiler in the courthouse. Due to leaking, it was necessary to replace the lower set of tubes in the boiler at a cost of \$3,410. The work was completed October 31 and November 1.

Approve October 21, 2003 minutes. (/Wehlander/Wyum, unanimous)

Ron Narum, Rutland City, met with the Board to discuss tax property in Rutland.

The Board reviewed the listing of properties appearing in the Notice of Expiration of Period of Redemption. Discussed the property located in Rutland owned by Rutland-Havana Farmers Co-Op Elevator Company, c/o Mark Weber and Mike Kulzer. Motion to direct the auditor not to proceed with a tax deed for Parcel No. 29-9158001 (16,200 Sq. ft) (Wyum/Brockman, unanimous)

The Board proceeded to conduct a hearing on the minimum sales price for land forfeited to the county for non-payment of taxes. No one was present. The sales prices and the properties for sale shall be published under NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE FORFEITED TO THE COUNTY FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Approve appraisals. (Wyum/Brockman, unanimous)

The Board reviewed maps for precinct consolidation in Sargent County. Two proposals are being considered and will be discussed at a hearing on November 18, 2003 at 11:00 a.m. The recent federal legislation for HAVA (Help America Vote Act) gives states and counties tools and resources to significantly improve elections and election administration. Based on a target number of precincts established by the state plan, Sargent County is projected to reduce from six to five precincts. If counties choose to operate precincts, in addition to the targeted number calculated according to the formula outlined in the state plan, the county will be responsible for the full cost of upgrading the voting systems in those precincts. The projected cost per precinct is between \$10,000 and \$15,000. Maps of the proposed precinct consolidation are available for viewing at the County Auditor's Office.

Damon DeVillers, Interstate Engineering, Inc. met with the Board to discuss the upcoming safety project and Notice of Award. Authorize the Chairman and Auditor to sign the Notice of Award. (Wehlander/Wyum, unanimous)

Approve Construction and Maintenance Agreement and a right of way certification letter for Project BRO-0041 (007), bridge replacement-site located 5 miles west and 4 miles north of Stirum. (Wyum/Brockman, unanimous)

Sandy Hanson and Gina Hillestad, Technology Team, met with the Board to discuss the results of the survey conducted by county employees/officials. Julie Hassebroek has indicated that NDSU Extension Service has access to equipment that can be utilized by the county. Sandy Hanson, Chairman of the Technology Team, completed a survey that was being conducted by NDACo regarding computer-based training and web-based training. The Technology Team would like to know what direction they should take and if certain areas should be prioritized. The Board asked them to attend commission meetings when they have more information available.

Appoint Karen Anderson as the Sargent County delegate to the North Dakota State Fair Annual Meeting. (Wehlander/Walstead, unanimous)

The Board received a letter from ND Dept. of Transportation regarding a highway improvement that is being planned on the intersection of ND 11 and ND 32 on the south edge of the City of Forman. The Board agreed to send a letter to NDDOT commending them for this improvement and inform them that the project will provide a safer roadway for entrance and exit to the Sargent County Fairgrounds. The proposed stop signs will slow down the motor vehicle traffic as well as allow pedestrians safer access to the fairgrounds.

Lyle Bopp arrived at the meeting to discuss tax deed property, culvert sizing and a letter from Ohnstad Twichell, P.C.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 noon.

ATTEST:

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SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR