

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:30 a.m. with the following members present: David L Jacobson, Mike Walstead, Sherry Hosford and Bill Anderson. Absent: Jerry Waswick. Also present were Jeanne Sexton-Brown, the Sargent County Teller; and, Pam Maloney, Sargent County Auditor.

Pam Maloney, County Auditor, called the meeting to order to organize for 2016.

Nominate Jerry Waswick for Chairman. (Anderson) Move nominations cease and Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Jerry Waswick. (Hosford/Anderson, unanimous)

Nominate Bill Anderson for Vice-Chairman. (Hosford) Move nominations cease and Secretary cast a unanimous ballot for Bill Anderson. (Walstead/Hosford, unanimous.) Mr. Anderson proceeded to conduct the meeting.

Lyle Bopp, State's Attorney, arrived at the meeting at 9:50.

Approve November 17, 2015 minutes as revised. (Hosford/Walstead, unanimous)

Approve appointments for commissioner's portfolios for 2016 as follows:

Courthouse Commissioner: Jerry Waswick
Police Commissioner: Sherry Hosford
Fair Board Commissioner: Jerry Waswick
Emergency Medical Advisory Board: Bill Anderson
Road Commissioner: Mike Walstead

Set regular 2016 monthly meeting dates as the first and third Tuesdays of each month. (Jacobson/Walstead, unanimous)

Authorize Auditor to pay utility bills and withholding taxes. (Hosford/Jacobson, unanimous)

Authorize Treasurer to invest county funds. (Jacobson/Walstead, unanimous)

Commissioner Anderson updated the board on the progress of the ECD plan he has been working on. He had placed a call to Josh Belzer, Verizon Representative, who had met with the board back in March, but wasn't able to reach him and is awaiting a call back.

Motion to approve a new "Employment Applications Policy" to replace the current Policy #210 "Employment Applications Policy" in the Sargent County Personnel Policy. This policy change would now include criminal, traffic & financial background checks for all prospective employees of Sargent County. The Sargent County Sheriff's Office has agreed to perform these background checks. The auditor was instructed to send a cover letter to the department heads with the policy revision, informing them they should contact the sheriff's office to perform background checks on prospective employees. (Hosford/Jacobson, unanimous) Roll Call Vote: Yes – Hosford, Jacobson, Walstead & Anderson. No – None. Absent – Jerry Waswick.

Motion to authorize the County Auditor to request renewal of the permit that allows the shooting of muskrats within the road rights-of-way within Sargent County for the calendar year 2016. (Jacobson/Walstead, unanimous)

Approve beer and liquor licenses for 2016 to: Olivia and Austin Stenvold, CDPB, LLC, Tewaukon Township, rural Havana, providing there is no timely filed objection from the Sheriff or State's Attorney. (Hosford/Jacobson, unanimous)

Approve Games of Chance Permit SC-2015-02 to Tewaukon Rod & Gun Club, Geneseo, ND for a raffle on January 15, 2016 at Geneseo Hall. (Walstead/Hosford, unanimous)

Commissioner Waswick arrived at the meeting at 10:10 a.m. and served as Chairman for the remainder of the meeting.

Commissioner Waswick will be following up on a few ideas from the clerk of court's office for the Court Facilities Improvement Grant.

Motion to authorize the appropriate county officials to execute the annual Maintenance Certification for county federal aid projects for submission to the NDDOT. (Walstead/Hosford, unanimous)

Discussion and decision to replace the transom window above the front doors as it has been cracked for some time. The Courthouse Commissioner will authorize replacement of the cracked glass.

Discussion regarding absenteeism of one of the road department employees. Decision to meet with the employee at the next commissioner meeting, December 15 at 11:30 a.m.

Discussion was held on making a payment in 2015 on the Sargent County Water Resource Board's contemplated Drain #8 improvement project to which the board had committed \$100,000 from highway funds back in February of 2015. This project will make a substantial improvement to County Road #10 for the first 2 miles south of Rutland and to County Road #3 for several hundred feet west of the intersection with County #10. The commitment was to pay \$10,000 a year over a period of 10 years, or earlier if funds become available. Tabled until the next meeting when the County has more definite information about what funds will be available in the County Road Fund and in the County's Federal Aid Road Fund for 2015.

Approve beer and liquor licenses for 2016 to: Gerald Dill, Dilly's Bar and Grill, Stirum, providing there is no timely filed objection from the Sheriff or State's Attorney. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

JERRY WASWICK – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

PAM MALONEY – COUNTY AUDITOR