

Forman, North Dakota
December 6, 2016

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: David L Jacobson, Mike Walstead, Jason Arth, Sherry Hosford and Bill Anderson. Also present were Tibby Hinderlie, the Sargent County Teller; and, Pam Maloney, Sargent County Auditor.

Pam Maloney, County Auditor, called the meeting to order to organize for 2017.

The Oath of Office was administered to Jason Arth; & Bill Anderson, County Commissioners at Large, each for a four year term ending December 7, 2020.

Nominate Bill Anderson for Chairman. (Walstead) Nominate Dave Jacobson for Chairman. (Hosford) Request by Commissioner Hosford to vote by paper ballot. Commissioner Walstead pointed out that, traditionally, the chairmanship has rotated among the 5 commissioners, with each commissioner serving as chairman in turn, and this year Commissioner Anderson should serve as chairman. Commissioner Hosford stated that the practice was traditional, but that it was not in County policy and did not have to be followed. A vote by paper ballot was taken. Jacobson – 3 votes; Anderson – 2 votes. Dave Jacobson was duly elected chairman and proceeded to conduct the meeting.

Jayne Pfau, Assistant State's Attorney, arrived at the meeting.

Nominate Mike Walstead for Vice-Chairman. (Arth) Nominate Bill Anderson for Vice-Chairman. (Walstead) Request by Commissioner Hosford to vote by paper ballot. A vote by paper ballot was taken. Walstead – 3 votes; Anderson – 2 votes. Mike Walstead was duly elected vice-chairman.

Approve November 15, 2016 minutes as corrected. (Hosford/Walstead, unanimous)

The Chairman made appointments for commissioner's portfolios for 2017 as follows:

Courthouse Commissioner: Mike Walstead
Police Commissioner: Sherry Hosford
Fair Board Commissioner: Jason Arth
Emergency Medical Advisory Board: Bill Anderson
Road Commissioner: Dave Jacobson
Soils Committee: Jason Arth

Appoint Ronald Narum, representing cities under 500, to the Sargent County Job Development Authority. Term ending December 6, 2019. (Hosford/Walstead, unanimous)

Reappoint Bill Anderson and appoint Jason Arth to the Sargent County Social Service Board. (Walstead/Hosford, unanimous)

Set regular 2017 monthly meeting dates as the first and third Tuesdays of each month, other than in March and July. The first meeting in March will be March 10 instead of March 7. The first meeting in July will be July 7 instead of July 4. (Arth/Anderson, unanimous)

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

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

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

Approve beer and liquor licenses for 2017 to: Olivia and Austin Stenvold, CDPB, LLC, Tewaukon Township, rural Havana; & Paul and Jennifer Lugert, Geneseo Bar, Geneseo; providing there is no timely filed objection to the issuance of either license from the Sheriff or State's Attorney. Assistant States Attorney Jayne Pfau advised the Board that the States Attorney's Office had no objection to either application. (Anderson/Arth, unanimous)

Approve request for Julie Hassebroek, former NDSU Extension Ag and Natural Resources (ANR) Agent; & current 4-H Hippology coach; to be entrusted with a key to have access to the courthouse on evening & weekends for meetings/classes in the Second Floor Conference Room. (Anderson/Hosford, unanimous)

Travis Paeper, Sargent County Sheriff, arrived at the meeting.

Authorization for the chairman to sign a letter of support and for Sargent County to serve as sponsoring entity for Rutland City and Gwinner City's Local Transportation Alternative Program grant applications for sidewalk installation and improvements. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

Authorize Rutland City personnel to install a ND Cares program sign on County Road #10 right-of-way subject to approval and recommendation from the Sargent County Road Supervisor. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

The auditor was instructed to poll Sargent County employees to see how many would be interested in a webinar geared toward responding to rude and insulting comments in a manner that minimizes the chances of confrontation and conflict, presented by the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute.

Discussion on the offensive odor in the restrooms. The custodian has been working on the issue. Commissioner Walstead will follow up on the problem.

Motion to authorize out of state travel for the sheriff's office for prisoner transport from eastern Washington State back to Sargent County, if necessary. (Hosford/Anderson, unanimous)

Sheriff Paeper reported that Rick Bryant, Sheriff's Deputy, has received his final orders for deployment with the military and will be leaving in January. He has posted a job opening, but would like to visit with the commission at a later date to determine whether the position he offers will be just for the year Deputy Bryant will be gone, or if it will be a long term position. He will prepare some information and address it at a later meeting. He also reported that Vanessa Bayger, Deputy Matron, is back in the office after her family leave.

Charissa and David Rubey, Geneseo; Bruce Speich, Milnor; Lyle Bopp, State's Attorney; & Merrill Engquist, Road Supervisor; arrived at the meeting. Ms. Rubey asked Sheriff Paeper what his opinion was of the county roads in general. Sheriff Paeper replied that the road conditions have deteriorated over the past few weeks, along with the weather conditions. He also stated that flagging obstructions and/or soft spots on the roads should be 500' on both sides of the site along with a flag at the site itself. Mr. Engquist replied that the road crew does flag the sites, but that sometimes, the flags are knocked down or stolen from those sites. Ms. Rubey had complaints and questions about the graveling and maintenance of County Road #14. She stated that, in her opinion, the road is not getting the maintenance and care that it should be receiving. In her opinion, there is no crown on the road, and the gravel is either thrown in the ditch or mashed into the road. The road was graveled some this past summer, but it did not receive the amount of gravel that it needed, she stated. Mr. Engquist stated that, unless the road has been damaged by heavy vehicles during the recent wet weather, the crown is at the level recommended for gravel roads; and, that County #14 from County #1 to ND Highway #11 had been graveled with a minimum lift of 1" of new gravel in 2016, and that mag chloride dust control had been applied adjacent to all building sites near the County road, including the Rubey's farmstead and manufacturing plant. Ms. Rubey inquired if a third party could come in to measure the height of the center crown, because she doesn't believe it is at the right level. Mr. Rubey asked if just parts of the road could be done with a heavier application of gravel every year instead of doing a mediocre job on the whole road in one season. Mr. Speich commented that there is a big difference between County Road #1 and Richland County #16 just on the east side of the County Line. He stated that, in his opinion, the Richland County road has a better crown and that the condition of the road is considerably better than is the east end of Sargent County Road #1. Commissioner Jacobson told the Rubey's and Mr. Speich that one of the Road Departments goals next year will be to alleviate the problems with County Road #14.

The commissioners discussed other concerns with Mr. Engquist, such as: some areas on County Roads #10A, #5 & #2 blading; and roadside mowing that hadn't been completed by the land owner or operator on County Road #4 north of ND Highway #13. Mr. Engquist also reported on the Bobcat trade-in program with Lillegard's of Wahpeton and Berube's of Lisbon. He was instructed to get a firm quote from Berube's to bring to the next meeting. He is waiting for more information from RDO regarding the tractor lease program through the North Dakota Association of Counties. He will bring that information to the next meeting, also.

Jerry Waswick, former county commissioner; & Damon DeVillers, Interstate Engineering; arrived at the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

The park board manager and assistant manager job classifications were discussed. Motion to request a formal letter of recommendation regarding the grade & classification from Public Employment HR Consulting. (Anderson/Hosford, unanimous)

Mr. Waswick delivered documentation concerning the Court Facilities Improvement Grant that he had been working on with the States Attorney and the Clerk of Court to the incoming Courthouse Commissioner, and reported that the application was nearly ready to submit.

Mr. DeVillers wanted to make sure that Sargent County had received the progress estimate for Mark Sand and Gravel. It has been received and will be approved with other bills at the December 20th meeting. He stated that he will also meet with the auditor in the next couple of weeks to check/update records for HB 1176, SB 2103, & HB 1358 Surge Money Projects.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

DAVID L JACOBSON – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

PAM MALONEY – COUNTY AUDITOR