The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Bill Anderson, Ray Brockman, Mike Walstead, Steve Wyum and Jerry Waswick. Absent none.

Approve January 18, 2005 minutes as corrected. (Waswick/Brockman, unanimous)

An Application for Abatement of Taxes from the State of ND was reviewed. The State is requesting an abatement on a parcel of land (.82 acre) in the NE1/4-2-132-56 used for highway right-of-way. Whitestone Hill Township approved the application. Concur with the township. (Brockman/Anderson, unanimous)

Lyle Bopp arrived at the meeting and a discussion followed on preparing by-laws for the Sargent County Fairboard. He has prepared Articles and by-laws and they must be filed with the state. The Courthouse physical address will be used and the Chairman of the Commission will sign the documents. Copies of these items will be presented to the Fairboard members and commissioners.

The commission is planning a town meeting in Milnor on April 6 at 7:00 p.m. Letters will be sent to the city council and other officials inviting them to this meeting. This will be open to the public.

Discussed installing a phone in the courthouse elevator. Cost is \$485 to furnish the equipment and install a HANDSOFF phone. The phone enables communication between persons in the elevator and a 24-hour answering service. Authorize Chairman to sign the service order and instruct Dickey Rural Communications to prepare a dedicated (non-PBX) touch-tone business telephone line terminated in the machine room. An existing phone line will be utilized for this project. (Wyum/Anderson, unanimous)

Approve following re-appointments to the Sargent County Water Resource Board: Roger White, Stirum and Mark Breker, Rutland for three-year terms. (Wyum/Anderson, unanimous)

Approve County Deed to William L. Annoni, Burnsville, MN for Lots 1-2-3 and 10-11-12, Block 22, Auditor's Plat, Cogswell City for \$300. (Anderson/Waswick, unanimous)

Mike Walstead reported on a meeting he attended January 31 in Sisseton, SD with Red River Basin Commission and counties from South Dakota and North Dakota. The group met to learn about land and water issues for the area.

Approve Construction and Maintenance Agreement and a letter certifying the right of way acquisition for Project SC-4111 (064) – County Road from SD State line to ND 11 for a maintenance and bituminous overlay (11.620 miles). (Wyum/Brockman, unanimous)

Travis Paeper, Sheriff met with the Board to discuss quotes on a new vehicle. He is waiting on other quotes and would like permission to order the lowest quoted vehicle received through the state bid. Travis also presented letters on 1) Brenda Peterson, Deputy Matron, withdrawing her verbal resignation and her request to continue employment with Sargent County; 2) A notification from Sheriff Paeper that he had appointed Scott Buckhouse as Chief Deputy and recommends a pay grade at 13/5 and 3) A letter signed by Chris Sandvig and Sheriff Paeper reviewing areas in which improvement is needed by Deputy Sandvig. Acknowledge appointment of Scott Buckhouse to Chief Deputy position effective February 1, 2005 at Grade 13/Step 4. (Waswick/Wyum, unanimous) Travis Paeper discussed a billing for prisoner board and other medical costs.

Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

MIKE WALSTEAD – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR