

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Mike Walstead, David L Jacobson, Jerry Waswick, Bill Anderson and Steve Wyum. Absent: None. Paige Cary, the Sargent County Teller, was also present.

Approve February payroll in the sum of \$138,602.10 (Nos. 5463-5522 and 63841-63856) and the following bills. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

63741-63749		Health Department Expenditures	366.99
63750	Ransom County	VSO reimbursement	719.49
63751-63752		Health Department Expenditures	2045.90
63766	Ottertail Power Company	Electricity	3397.99
63767	City of Forman	Water/Sewer/Garbage	140.30
63768-63781		Human Services Expenditures	12,238.78
63782	Bopp Law Office	St. Atty. Rent and Phone	411.98
63783	Bopp, Mark (The Snow Man)	Snow Removal	150.00
63784	Buhl's Inc.	Cleaning Services	180.14
63785	Chunky's Standard Service	Co. Car Tires & Balance	678.00
63786	Creative Forms & Concepts	Warrant Checks	628.77
63787	Dakota Plains Coop.	Fuel, Propane, Fuel Nozzle	2144.88
63788	Dickey Rural Networks	Telephone & Long Distance	783.34
63789	Dickey-Sargent Housing Authority	Copies & Internet	961.20
63790	Dyste's Food Pride	Supplies	17.97
63791	Ed's Place	Fuel	106.97
63792	Forman Drug	Photo Development	17.28
63793	Hardware Hank	Paint, Supplies	92.16
63794	Information Technology Dept.	LERMS	50.00
63795	McLaen's Service, Inc.	Deputy Vehicle Parts & Service	1273.32
63796	ND Association of Counties	Marriage License, County Dues	5367.00
63797	ND Emergency Management Assoc.	Dues	30.00
63798	PNC Equipment Finance, LLC	Deputy Vehicle Loan Payment	1905.44
63799	Quality Vac & Sew	Parts	15.40
63800	Quill	Office and Computer Supplies	880.23
63801	Reardon Office Equipment	Copier Base Charges	450.00
63802	The Sargent County Teller	Printing	88.30
63803	ND Secretary of State	Voting Machine Maintenance/Support	1115.17
63804	SE Crime Conference	Membership Dues	40.00
63805	Stein's Inc.	Supplies	224.64
63806	AW Diesel Service, Inc.	Repairs	284.82
63807	Arrowhead Transport Inc.	Snow Removal	225.00
63808	Ed's Place	Fuel	4638.72
63809	Ekstrom Repair	Repairs	5109.20
63810	Interstate Engineering	Professional Services	45,399.85
63811	ND DOT – Fin. Mgmt. Division	Road Repairs	4088.24
63812	Nelson Bulk Oil	Fuel	6138.00
63813	Ray-Mac, Inc.	Parts	31.00
63814	Share Corp.	Supplies	968.65
63815	Wurth Service Supply	Parts	499.73
63816	Zep Sales & Service	Supplies	659.84
63817	Brian's Repair & Auto Parts	Sheriff Vehicle Service	121.00
63818	Computer Professionals Unlimited	Staff Support	946.00
63820	DRN	911 Contracts & Updates	259.00
63821	Gwinner One Stop Inc.	Gasoline	477.24
63822	Hardware Hank	Surge Protector	20.99
63823	Hewlett-Packard Company	HP iLo License	291.27
63824	Information Technology Dept.	ITD-WAN	469.80
63825	J & M Printing	Envelopes	109.48
63826	Lisbon Area Health Services	Blood Alcohol Collection	38.00
63827	Martinsen's Home Center	Supplies	15.27
63828	NDACo	911 Service Costs	533.40
63829	ND 911 Association	Membership Renewal	25.00
63830	NDACo Resource Group	Modems and Battery	375.37
63831	Willprecht, Todd M.	Snow Removal	1085.00

Colleen Sundquist, representing the SC Personnel Board, met with the commissioners to discuss a revision to the SC Personnel Policy. The recommendation is to change the Holiday Section (308) to include the following paragraph: Sheriff's Deputies receive Holiday pay on actual holidays instead of the recognized holidays for actual hours worked. Commissioners requested that States Attorney Lyle Bopp draft a new paragraph to be added to Section 308, concerning holiday pay for Sheriff's Deputies, in accordance with the recommendation from the Personnel Board, with the new paragraph language to be presented to the Commission for final review and approval prior to inclusion in the Policy Manual. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous)

Approve minutes of February 1, 2011 meeting as corrected. (Wyum/Jacobson, unanimous)

Gina Hillestad updated the Board on the 2011 Market Survey for the county pay plan.

Lyle Bopp, States Attorney, arrived at the meeting.

Sandy Hanson, Tax Director-911 Coordinator met with the Board and reviewed several Applications for Abatement or Refund of taxes for several residences in Milnor City's Renaissance Zone and clarified Milnor City's intention when the Renaissance Zone exemptions were first approved. The applicants are: Ashly Odegard (Lots 21-22, Block 6, Original Addition); Jeff Halmrast (Lot 14 and SE1/2 of Lot 15, Block 3, Swanson's Addition); and Wayne and Jeanette Buskohl (All of Lot 12, Outlot N, Auditor's Plat). These properties and others are located in the Renaissance Zone and, according to Milnor City, they were granted 100% tax exemption for 5 years instead of the original calculation of the tax exemption at 20% per year for 5 years. Also considered two Homestead Credit applications for Milnor City. Motion to concur with Milnor City's approval of the two Homestead Credit applications and approve the abatement applications for Jeff Halmrast and Wayne and Jeanette Buskohl, and hold the Ashly Odegard abatement application until further information is received on the Veteran's Credit Exemption. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous) Sandy also updated the commissioners on progress in the reappraisal of the residential properties by Vanguard Appraisals, Inc. and work being done by the soils study committee.

Jim Bosse, Richard Engst, Roger White and Mark Breker, members of the Sargent County Water Board, presented a draft resolution, prepared by their attorney, Sean Fredricks, regarding the Water Board's culvert replacement cost share policy, which they are considering adopting. The policy would apply to any requests from Townships within the County for culvert cost sharing. A lengthy discussion on hydrology studies and the responsibility for determining compliance with Stream Crossing Standards required by State law followed and it was agreed that the one-third cost share policy would continue as modified and clarified. Request that States Attorney draft a culvert cost sharing policy statement for the commission to review. (Wyum/Walstead. Roll call. Aye: Wyum, Anderson, Walstead, Waswick. Nay: Jacobson. Motion carried)

Water Board members also informed the commissioners that the Richland/Sargent # 1 County Joint Board members are looking to replace two crossings in Sargent County and they plan to begin with cleaning Short Foot Creek from the Wild Rice River to ND Highway 11. The Joint Board has taken over what was formerly known as Sargent County Drain No. 3. There are two bridges that are involved in these crossing replacements which are the responsibility of Sargent County. The Water Board will work with the county on these crossings.

The Board recessed at 12:10 p.m. for lunch.

The Board reconvened at 1:10 p.m. with Mark Breker and Jerry Woytassek present.

Barb Enderson, Sargent County Insurance, met with the commissioners to clarify coverage with ND State Fire and Tornado (NDSFT) with the Equipment Breakdown coverage through their company Hartford Steam Boiler. The elevator is not covered with NDSFT but the mechanical that operates the elevator is covered. If anything must be custom fitted with the State Fire and Tornado policy, there is no opportunity to do this. The other major difference is the deductible. This is new coverage to NDSFT and Barb's opinion is that it has not been tested but other than that she thinks that the policies are very similar except for the premiums. The premium with State Fire and Tornado Fund would be \$326.57 per year, and the premium with The Hartford would be \$1,444.00 per year. The county policy expires April 1, 2011 and the equipment breakdown coverage would be transitioned in on that date, if approved.

Mark Breker inquired about the Alkali Lake overflow drain project, and the size of the tile that is proposed for the project. Mr. Breker was informed that the exact size of the tile to be installed will be

determined by the Engineer's hydrology study, but original estimates for the project assumed that the tile would be 16 to 18 inches in diameter. Mark also asked about reimbursement for individuals cleaning snow from County roads. Mr. Breker was informed that there are procedures through the Road Supervisor for arranging and paying for snow removal by other than the road department. A few private individuals have been hired to keep some County road intersections and other bad spots open this winter.

Marwood Klein and Brian Tayer, SC Ambulance Coordinators met with the commissioners to present reports on the Milnor and Forman Ambulance Squads. Items discussed included: patient runs and income; training; vehicle replacement; Medicare reimbursement; pancake breakfast proceeds; staffing grant; and, volunteer compensation. At this time, both squads are adequately equipped, and staffed with trained personnel. The Milnor squad is evaluating the need to acquire a new ambulance in the near future.

Motion to request an extension for Emergency Drain Permit No. 3523 in the SW1/4-17-131-54[, to protect property by allowing for the removal of floodwaters from Buffalo Lake. (Walstead/Wyum, unanimous) Sparky Engquist will complete the application.

Authorize Chairman to sign the semi-annual report for Dakota Micro, Inc. and send to the Division of Community Service. (Jacobson/Anderson, unanimous)

Wanda Olson, Forman sent a letter to the commissioners regarding the curve on ND 13 between mile markers 347-349. The letter was forwarded to the NDDOT at Forman and to the NDDOT Fargo Division.

A phone call was placed to Damon DeVillers, Interstate Eng., regarding the requirement for local agencies to complete Detailed Damage Inspection Reports for eligible Emergency Relief sites. Mr. DeVillers agreed to serve as the local agent for Sargent County, and also reported that he has submitted several ER sites for the county.

The commissioners received notification from the Court Facilities Improvement Advisory Committee that Sargent County has been approved for a grant in the amount of \$4,307.30, which reflects the 25% contribution by the county. The project involves security enhancements, repairs to the judge's chambers and phone line repair.

Sparky Engquist, Road Supt. and Jerry Dill and Andy Seyer of Verner Township arrived at the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Jerry Woytassek inquired about the status of the ditch that was dug north of Buffalo Lake last year. He is concerned that water will back up through the ditch from Buffalo Lake, and block the road to his home this coming spring. Sparky assured Mr. Woytassek that the work will be done this week.

Jerry Dill and Andy Seyer, Verner Township met to discuss the township road east of Kraft Slough in the NE1/4-26 and the NW1/4-25. This road was used as a haul road to bring material to County Road 2 by Kraft Slough last summer and fall. The township anticipates a grade raise with gravel on this portion of township roadway will be needed if the county road goes out, and asks if the county could participate in the cost share to do the grade raise. Sparky will work with the township if ER monies are approved to classify it as haul road restoration.

Sparky reported on road department snow removal on county roads. He has contacted certain local farmers to use their snow blowers to take care of many of the spots and the cost to date is approximately \$7,500. Only those with prior authorization for designated problem areas to remove snow by the road superintendent will be approved for payment. He also discussed Emergency Repair roads with spring flooding. He reported good comments on the new road employee. Sparky also inquired about trading for a new motor grader and preparing specifications. It was decided to wait on a grader purchase.

Sandy Hanson returned to the meeting and the Board discussed the usefulness of declaring snow and flood emergencies at this time. Sandy updated the commission on responses from townships on depleted snow removal funding.

Adopt and declare the following Declaration of Emergency for Sargent County in consideration of the excessive snowfall. (Wyum/Jacobson, unanimous)

# Declaration of Emergency Sargent County

**WHEREAS**, Sargent County, to include cities and townships, has exhausted available snow removal resources within its jurisdictions due to excessive snowfall and cold temperatures;

**WHEREAS**, the impact of these conditions have caused a threat to the health, well-being, and public safety of the residents, public, and infrastructure within Sargent County;

**WHEREAS**, the costs of repairs, replacements, and safety measures taken for the protection of the residents, infrastructure, and traveling public within Sargent County have exceeded the available resources of the County and the local jurisdictions within the county.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Sargent County Board of Commission declare that a State of Snow Emergency does exist in Sargent County, North Dakota.

Dated this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2011.

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Jerry Waswick, Chairman  
Sargent County Commission

ATTEST:

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Sherry Hosford – Auditor

Adopt and declare the following Declaration of Emergency for Sargent County in consideration of the information presented and authorize the chairman to proceed with the necessary paperwork. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous):

## Declaration of Emergency Sargent County

Whereas, Sargent County, as well as many portions of North Dakota and The Great Plains region of the United States, have experienced weather conditions, beginning last fall and continuing through the winter of 2010/2011, that have set up a very strong possibility for spring flooding in the entire region;

Whereas, conditions of the forthcoming spring thaw, the effect of high moisture content snow on culverts and ditches, and other weather related conditions that affect overland flooding in Sargent county are unpredictable;

Whereas, Because of the conditions stated above, and the current National Weather Service predictions for the Red River Basin, including Sargent County, at this time overland flooding in Sargent County is a distinct threat and a real possibility;

**Whereas**, Sargent County, as well as the Cities and townships within the County, have reason to believe that the impact of this anticipated flood will cause damages that are a threat to the health, well-being, and public safety of the citizens and traveling public in Sargent County;

**WHEREAS**, Sargent County, as well as the cities and townships within the County, have begun measures to secure the protection and safety of the infrastructure that lies within the boundaries of such areas within Sargent County, and that the available resources of local townships, cities and the County will be exceeded before the flood threat subsides.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Sargent County Commissioners does declare that a State of Emergency does exist in Sargent County, North Dakota.

**Dated** this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2011 at the Sargent County Courthouse in Forman, ND.

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Jerry Waswick, Chairman  
Sargent County Commission

Bill Anderson asked Sandy Hanson about hazard mitigation buy outs of homes and farmsteads, and about flood protection diking programs that are, or might be, available.

Approve computer purchase for Tax Director/Emergency Management Director/911 Coordinator as requested by Sandy Hanson. (Wyum/Anderson, unanimous)

Meeting adjourned.

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JERRY WASWICK – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR