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

Jean Thielman, Sargent-Ransom Sr. Services met with the Board to discuss the seniors program. She provided statistics on the meal and transportation program and the Silver Quill newsletter. The Forman Sr. Club has disbanded and their money was returned to the County Senior Council. The meal program is very successful but the numbers are down some from 2001. The arrangement with Fairview Housing is working out very nice for the seniors.

The Sargent County Water Board and Jeff Volk, Moore Engineering, Inc. met with the Board to review the Tewaukon Watershed assessment area. Jeff explained the process for creating assessment areas for maintenance of drainage projects. Legal drains have a different set of rules for assessing maintenance. Last year the Water Board contacted the county commission about placing an assessment on the maintenance areas that are a part of the federal projects that include Nelson Dam, Brummond-Lubke Dam and Frenier Dam. A map with the area boundaries has been prepared by Moore Engineering. This also included a benefit analysis of various percentage factors. After a lengthy discussion on the process for establishing an assessment area, the county commission agreed that a public hearing should be conducted and all landowners contacted by mail regarding the hearing.

Cindy Leinen and Brian Tayer, SC Ambulance coordinator's met with the commission as per an earlier request to discuss the future of the ambulance service. The ambulance service would like to see a new person hired with at least 1-2 years of experience and Forman needs at least full-time. Milnor has 7 EMT's and Forman has 3 EMT's. The county has the authority to levy 10 mills but without personnel, there is still a problem. It is possible the private-pay service must be explored. Schedule a meeting with some private-pay ambulance services to present alternatives and fee schedules. A meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 18 at 1:00 p.m.

Travis Paeper, Sheriff, met with the Board to discuss the Deputy Sheriff position. He recommended Todd Hardy, Walhalla at a Grade 11, Step 1. Mr. Hardy has been in law enforcement since 1995 and can begin work before March 1. Approve hiring Mr. Hardy. (Wehlander/Brockman, unanimous)

Motion to continue with First National Insurance Agency as our insurance agent for the county policy with North Dakota Insurance Reserve. (Wehlander/Walstead, unanimous)

Lyle Bopp arrived at the meeting

The Board proceeded to open bids of county property offered for silent auction. Approve awarding all high bids and dispose of items that were not purchased. (Wehlander/Brockman, unanimous)

Sparky Engquist, road foreman and Damon DeVillers, Interstate Eng., arrived at the meeting and Sparky discussed the use of mineral melt for ice control, repairs to county equipment and use of gas and fuel and record keeping. Milnor City is in the process of improving their sewer system. The county will work with the surface pavement and gravel. Damon explained the hydraulic study of bridges in Marboe and Tewaukon Township. Several options were presented. Demonstration project funding request was sent to ND Department of Transportation for the Tewaukon Refuge roadway (Co. # 12) and also a funding request from the federal Transportation Equity Act will be submitted to Rep. Earl Pomeroy. These monies if awarded would be 80-20. Sparky also reported on the road project south of Crete.

Orville Nelson, SC Historical Society, met with the Board to present the 2002 financial report from the Historical Society.

Authorize Chairman to sign the Technical Support Agreement with NDACo. (Wyum/Brockman, unanimous)

Approve February 4, 2003 minutes. (Wyum/Walstead, unanimous)

Approve payment of the following bills and February payroll in the sum of \$73,686.05. (Wehlander/Walstead, unanimous)

Social Service Expenditures		2973.73
45598 Karen Anderson	Registration	35.00
45599 Buhl's	Cleaning service	212.34
45600 Cogswell Community Ass'n	Hall rental (Election)	30.00
45601 Dacotah Paper Co.	Supplies	107.28
45602 Dickey Rural Network	Phone service	591.57
45603 Dyste's	Supplies	40.07
45604 Empire Feed	28 ton coal	923.67
45605 Farmers Union Oil Co.	Gas and parts	655.22

45606 Fiala Repair	Supplies	52.00
45607 Forman Drug	Supplies	4.98
45608 Gwinner One-Stop Inc.	Supplies	16.97
45609 Hardware Hank	Supplies	93.84
45610 Lexis Nexis	Printing-books	51.05
45611 Martinsen's	Repairs and tools	1206.24
45612 McLeod USA	Long distance phone calls	265.99
45613 Mary Miller	Custody Investigation	24.75
45614 Minn-kota Communications	Radio and repairs	626.00
45615 ND Auditor's Ass'n	2003 Dues	50.00
45616 DOCS	Snow removal	100.00
45617 Travis Paeper	Supplies	55.45
45618 Quill	Supplies	304.40
45619 SC Abstract	Chemical & film	74.30
45620 Southeast Propane	Main St. building	277.04
45621 The Forum	Advertising fee	66.98
45622 The Teller	Publishing fees	441.36
45623 Verizon Wireless	Car phone	28.12
45624 Viking Office Supplies	Supplies	410.12
45625 AW Diesel Service	Repairs	129.18
45626 Atco Inc.	Supplies	317.80
45627 Berube's	Repairs	
45628 Home Shop		33.76
•	Hearing protectors	37.44
45629 Environ Tech Services	Mineral melt	2350.00
45630 Farm Plan	Repairs/tools	21.10
45631 Huron Culvert & Tank	Cutting edges	4356.00
45632 Interstate Eng., Inc.	Bridge services BR041(007)	5000.00
45633 Kustom Machine Inc.	Repairs	108.67
45634 Little Falls Machine	Repairs	25.47
45635 Meyer Equipment	Repairs	44.56
45636 Nelson International	Repairs	153.69
45637 Ray-Mac Inc.	Repairs	152.94
45638 RDO-Power Plan	Repairs	151.66
45639 John Schreiner	Paneling	40.00
45640 Sweeney Brothers	Repairs	673.76
45641 Astar Inc.	Website	165.00
45642 Michael J. Burns, Architects	Courthouse renovation project	10824.05
45643 CPU	Data Processing Charges	531.50
45644 Dickey Rural Telephone	911 charges	390.50
45645 First National Ins. Agency	Premium	47.00
45646 Julie Hassebroek	Travel	219.48
45647 ITD	T-1 and Anti-virus	393.00
45648 NDACo	County Support Contract	10560.00
45648 NDACo	Wireless contract	722.50
45649 ND VS0	2003 dues	40.00
45650 NDSU Ext. Service	Salaries and travel	7696.51
45651 Office Max	Supplies	10.99
45652 Qwest	911 charges	289.77
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Declare April 6-12, 2003 as National County Government Week. (Wehlander/Wyum, unanimous) The suggested activities are "Counties Care for Kids".

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

KAREN ANDERSON - CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR