

Forman, North Dakota
February 6, 2001

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

Sherry reported that the main printer in the Auditor's Office is not working. A price quote received for a new Epson DFX 5000 plus was \$1699. The old printer was purchased in December 1994 and could possibly be used as a backup if repairs are possible. Approve purchase of a new printer from Automation and Telecommunications fund. (Smith/Brockman, unanimous)

Approve January 16 2001 minutes as corrected. (Brockman/Anderson, unanimous)

Travis Paeper and Lyle Bopp, representing the Personnel Board discussed a memorandum with the commissioners on the January 18 employee meetings and the input, which was received by the Personnel Board. The employees would like to see an annual meeting with employees and the Board of Commissioners. The PB Board is looking for another consultant because of health problems with the original consultant. DMG Maximus recommended a company from Roseville, MN. A meeting is schedule for February 13th in Gwinner to interview another consultant.

Julie Hassebroek, Extension Agent, met to discuss support staff. If the date of hire for support staff would be delayed until 4-1-01 it would be \$63.88/day and would save \$1405.36. The fund would still be about \$900 short. April 23 would recapture the whole deficit. Commissioner Smith proposed hiring a regular part-time employee immediately to work 3 days a week except the months of August and September, which would be a 35 hours per week. Julie asked for some time to look at how this proposal would work in the office.

Norm Preble, Tax Director, presented the 2001 agricultural land valuations as per the Office of State Tax Commissioner. The Agricultural Economics Department of NDSU provides this information. The estimated agricultural value per acre in 2001 for Sargent County is \$385.30.

Norm Preble, VSO asked permission to attend a meeting in Aberdeen, SD on 2-22-01 where a new clinic will open for the veteran's. Approve out-of-state travel. (Wyum/Brockman, unanimous)

The muskrat permit was renewed by the ND Game & Fish Department through December 31, 2001.

The Board reviewed an abatement for taxes from Raymond Martinson to remove a structure assessment on his property. The structure is located on the Gruba property in the SE1/4-7-132-53. Hall Township approved the abatement. Concur with the township recommendation. (Smith/Anderson, unanimous)

The Board reviewed an abatement for taxes from Edward Zetocha on inundated land on SW1/4-19-132-57. Vivian Township denied the application because the application was filed too late for inundated reduction. Concur with township recommendation. (Brockman/Wyum, unanimous)

Marian Millerhagen, Project Director, Ransom-Sargent Senior Services met with the Board to review the 2000 statistics. She discussed the meal program, the Fargo Senior Commission, comprising six counties in southeast North Dakota, the Ransom/Sargent Senior Services Budget and the Senior Citizens Mill Levy Annual Report.

Approve reappointment of Dan Jacobson, District 3, Water Resource Board for a three-year term. (Smith/Wyum, unanimous)

Roger White met with the Board to discuss the Job Development Authority.

Approve reappointment of Randy Ptacek to a second term on the Water Resource Board for a three-year term. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous)

Approve Construction & Maintenance Agreement and right-of-way certification for various locations on 28.4 miles of seal coat (Brockman/Anderson, unanimous)

Kim Beckstrom, Dakota Landfill, Lyle Bopp and Earl W. Anderson Jr. met with the Board. Mr. Beckstrom proceeded to review the Host Community Agreement between Whitestone Hill Township and Big Dipper Enterprises. A copy of this report is on file with the County Auditor. Dakota Landfill plans to file an application in the next couple of weeks with the ND State Dept. of Health. A local hearing will be conducted and then consideration given for approval of the permit. The Board asked about the local permit and Mr. Beckstrom was unsure whether they had to apply for a local permit. Dakota Landfill feels they are zoned for the entire W1/2-10-132-56. Mr. Anderson stated that the law that mandated the ordinance intended to regulate not just brand new facilities but expansions of existing facilities. The county ordinance was drawn up with that in mind. Mr. Beckstrom stated that they have worked with the township on several occasions and received

approval for a variety of improvements. Currently Dakota Landfill is permitted for 32 acres of solid waste. Mr. Beckstrom accepted a permit application and will discuss with the Dakota Landfill officers.

The Board read a letter from NDDOT on signals for railroad crossings. They are requesting the county to identify locations on our road network where safety could be increased by installation of railroad signs and gates. Motion to proceed with application to NDDOT for a signal crossing at the intersection of County # 4 and the Red River Valley and Western Railroad 7/8 mile south of ND Hwy 13 and also on County # 12 north of Cayuga. (Brockman/Smith, unanimous) A letter will be sent to NDDOT outlining the reasons for the need for signals. The county is responsible for 10% of the total cost.

Julie Hassebroek and Marsha Mathias, Extension Service, met with the Board and Marsha reviewed the duties she has worked with since her employment in April. Julie asked why the Board feels that a part-time employee would be beneficial to the county. The Board is looking at the budget and dollars spent for the extension department. They feel that trying a part-time position would be worthy to see if it will work. Motion to fill the extension support staff with a full-time person effective May 1, 2001. (Wyum. Motion failed for lack of a second) Motion to hire a regular part-time employee 21 hours per week or equal to 60% of courthouse regularly scheduled hours. The hourly rate shall be between \$7.62 and \$8.12 per hour and further allocate the months of August and September at 35 hours per week. Probation period shall be 3 calendar months. Employment shall begin immediately after the normal advertising time. A job description and Personnel Board recommendation, after permanent status is granted, shall determine the wage. (Smith. Motion failed for a lack of a second). Motion to approve the previous motion to include the month of March at 35 hours per week. (Smith/Brockman. Roll call. Aye: Smith, Brockman, Anderson and Wehlender. Nay: Wyum. Motion carried)

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

DONALD WEHLANDER - CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR