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

Patricia J. Carlen, County Recorder met to inform the Board that she plans to retire on June 1, 2006. She is willing to help train her replacement. It is her desire that Joan A. Lee be appointed as her successor to fill out her term. Motion by Bill Anderson and seconded by Steve Wyum to accept Patricia J. Carlen's letter of resignation as of 6-1-06 with regret and commend her for her years of dedicated service to the citizens of Sargent County.

Approve January 17, 2006 minutes as corrected. (Orn/Anderson, unanimous) The Board received the January 2006 financial statement.

Correspondence from the ND Dept. of Insurance informed the Board that Sargent County's Blanket Bond has been updated to account for 25% of the total value of revenue and negotiable securities. The amount of the bond is \$1,200,000. The Board felt that this fund is not uniformly administered and will send a letter to our three legislators to express the concerns of this coverage.

Tammy Schillinger, Wahpeton, reported the Dept. of Corrections is revamping her duties on Parole and Probation and looking to discontinue her services with Community Services Program. She has discussed her position with the Sargent County Sheriff's Dept. and is recommending Brenda Peterson, Deputy Matron for her replacement. This would be strictly a county funded program. The county currently pays the department \$300 per month for this service and this agreement would be terminated upon mutual agreement between the department and Sargent County. The reason for the changes from Dept. of Corrections is due to budget cuts. Agree to terminate the Joint Powers Agreement with the ND Dept. of Corrections and Rehabilitation, concerning the Community Services Program as of March 31, 2006 upon notification of acceptance from the ND Dept. of Corrections. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

Lyle Bopp arrived at the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Jack Lalor, Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge, met with the Board to update them on the SE1/4-12-129-53-LTL owned by Melvin and Betty Kackman, South St. Paul, MN, which was discussed last fall. The refuge is interested in acquiring this quarter and has completed the appraisal and must follow the state process, which includes a public hearing. Mr. Lalor agreed to visit with the Kackman's about their deadline regarding the land purchase and will get back to the Board at a later date.

Norm Preble, Tax Director/VSO Officer met with the Board to inform them that he is meeting with the township officers this month and will meet with the cities in March. Assessment books are being reviewed and prepared for the equalization meetings. Maurice Orn asked Mr. Preble if there is any inequity between the township averages per acre values. According to Mr. Preble these values were established in the late 1970's based on sales ratio. In 1981 a change was made based on legislative action and since that time farming practices have changed. Mr. Preble feels there is some inequity and said the township boards can make adjustments, which are then approved by the County Board of Equalization

Damon DeVillers and Jackson Zaharia, Interstate Engineering, Inc. and Kevin Gorder and Willie Shocker, NDDOT and Sparky Engquist, SC Road Supt. met with the Board to conduct a Plan Spec & Estimate meeting on Project No. SC-4110 (057), which is a blended base and bituminous seal coat on County # 1 from State #32 east six (6) miles to SC # 10A. Information was received that a COE 404 Permit is not required for this project. The PS&E meeting concluded.

Briefly discussed a letter from NDDOT regarding a highway improvement project being planned on ND#32 and ND#11 approximately 1.5 miles south of Forman. This is a realignment of the 32/11 intersection and NDDOT is soliciting Sargent County's views and comments on the project.

The Board recessed for lunch.

The Board reconvened at 2:00 p.m. following the Park Board meeting.

Augie Ternes, State Auditor's Office reviewed the 2004 Sargent County Audit report with the Board and explained the statements, balance sheets and supplementary information contained in the report.

Lyle Bopp reviewed suggested changes to the Joint Powers Agreement between the cities and counties involved in the Sheyenne Valley Multi-County Correctional Center. Motion to authorize Jerry Waswick, Sargent County representative to vote in favor of the Joint Powers Agreement on the condition that the corrections suggested by States Attorney Bopp are adopted into the agreement. (Anderson/Orn, unanimous)

Approve Barnes County Correctional Facility agreement for 2006 provided that Sargent County's concerns are indicated to Barnes County about expenses for escaped prisoners and Sargent County reserves the right to review and approve expenses for escaped prisoners. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous)

Bill Anderson reviewed the Milnor Police Contract between Milnor City and Sargent County and noted that Section 3 of said contract indicates that the monthly payment of \$1200 shall be adjusted from time to time based upon the same cost of living adjustment granted to all county employees. Motion to waive the COLA for 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006 and begin implementing COLA with the 2007 year as per the contract terms. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous)

Approve appointment of Joan A. Lee to County Recorder effective June 1, 2006 to complete the term of Patricia J. Carlen which will expire January 1, 2007. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous)

Lyle Bopp left the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Damon DeVillers and Jackson Zaharia, Interstate Engineering, Inc. met with the Board to present information for the Board to consider for projects to submit as Future County Federal Aid Projects.

North Dakota Game and Fish Dept. has renewed the permit to snare, trap or shoot muskrats with shotguns, .22s and muzzle loaders (.45 caliber or smaller) that are burrowing inside road right-of-ways or easements that are sustaining muskrat damage as designated by the SC Road Supt. The NDGF Dept. must be provided with a list of names, addresses and phone numbers of muskrat damage control agents.

Julie Hassebroek, Extension Service, presented the 2005 Annual Highlights from NDSU Extension Service and noted that on February 22 the annual review will be conducted and in the past a commissioner or two has sat in to visit with the staff and Roger Haugen, Asst. Director with Ag and Natural Resources. All commissioners were invited and Commissioner's Orn and Anderson agreed to attend. Julie asked permission for out of state travel for the annual Horse Expo Bus Tour on April 28, 29 and 30 to St. Paul, MN. Approve. (Wyum/Anderson, unanimous)

Approve 2006 Total Support Technical Services Agreement with NDACo for \$22,500 and authorize Chairman to sign. (Orn/Walstead, unanimous)

Received final settlement on the John Deere Track hoe from NDIRF for \$24,603.27.

Mike Walstead reported that lights have been ordered for the front entrance of the courthouse and should arrive in approximately 4 weeks.

Approve reappointment of Richard Engst, DeLamere to the Sargent County Water Resource Board for a term of three years. (Wyum/Anderson, unanimous)

Approve renewal of Airport Authority Contract with Gwinner City for a three-year term for .50 mill. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

Approve removal and disposal of item #1413 (fax machine) from the county inventory. (Anderson/Orn, unanimous)

Jerry Waswick presented the 2005 Fair Board financial report. Accept the financial report as presented. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

ATTEST:

JERRY M. WASWICK – CHAIRMAN

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR