

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 9:00 a.m..
Commissioners in attendance were Jerry Waswick, Scott Johnson Lyle Bopp, Jason Arth and Chairman Wade Anderson. Also in attendance were Wendy Willprecht, EM/911 Coordinator; Brian Tayer, Milnor Ambulance Coordinator; Trent Mahler, Sargent County Ambulance Coordinator; Jayne Pfau, States Attorney; and Tia Bopp, Auditor.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Wade Anderson at 9:00 a.m..

The pledge was recited.

Motion to approve the agenda with additions. (Johnson/Bopp) Motion carried.

Motion to approve minutes from the March 4, 2025, meeting as presented. (Waswick/Johnson) Motion carried.

Wendy Willprecht, Brian Tayer and Trent Mahler were present to discuss reimbursement for the Gwinner First Responders between the present time and the start of 2026. After much discussion it was advised that they come back to the Commission with everything spelled out. It was recommended that they also verify that reimbursement doesn’t impact any potential funding opportunities in the future.

Jayne Pfau, State’s Attorney arrived at the meeting at 9:07 a.m..

Brian Tayer and Trent Mahler left the meeting at 9:22 a.m..

Discussion then turned to the burn ban. Motion to accept and sign the declaration as amended. (Johnson/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion passed unanimously.

FIRE EMERGENCY & BURN RESTRICTIONS DECLARATION
For
SARGENT COUNTY, North Dakota
March 18th, 2025

WHEREAS, Sargent County, North Dakota has and is expected to continue to endure periods of dry conditions with significant vegetative fuels available; and

WHEREAS, all available resources remain committed to protecting life and property; and

WHEREAS, Sargent County, has either sustained or been threatened with rural fires in the past and the local Emergency Management Office has been in consultation with local fire departments; and

WHEREAS, the impact of fires could threaten the health, well-being, and safety of the citizens in Sargent County; and

WHEREAS, the cost of response, inordinate equipment wear/tear and fire damages may be beyond available Sargent County resources; and

WHEREAS, Sargent County wishes to regulate activities within the county which pose a potential hazard for such loss, should the present weather conditions continue.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of the Sargent County Commissioners declare a Fire Emergency and Burn Restrictions effective when the North Dakota Rangeland Fire Danger Rating is in the (High, Very High or Extreme Rating and/or Red Flag Warning) has been issued for Sargent County, North Dakota, effective immediately until rescinded or through December 31st, 2025.

What’s Included: No Burning When Activity Matches Below	
Burning is Prohibited if the Fire Index is in Extreme Category as Issued by NWS (ND Administrative Code – Title 33.1 Article 15 Chapter 4)	
Low	
Moderate	

High	Campfires, controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture, garbage/pit, and unnecessary off-road motorized travel (anything other than paved or gravel surface).
Very High	Campfires, the ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture, garbage/pit, and unnecessary off-road motorized travel (anything other than paved or gravel surface).
Extreme	Campfires, the ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture, fireplaces and chimineas patio (organic material), garbage/pit, gas camp stoves, grills/smokers (gas, charcoal, pellet, wood fire), and unnecessary off-road motorized travel (anything other than paved or gravel surface).
Red Flag Warning	Campfires, the ignition of fireworks (aerial and ground), controlled burns (i.e., wood piles, tumbleweeds, tree piles, etc.), cropland/agriculture, fireplaces and chimineas patio (organic material), garbage/pit, gas camp stoves, grills/smokers (gas, charcoal, pellet, wood fire), and unnecessary off-road motorized travel (anything other than paved or gravel surface).

THE PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF THIS BURN RESTRICTION IS A CLASS B MISDEMEANOR (NDCC 37.17.1-10.1: MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF 30 DAYS IN JAIL AND A \$1,500.00 FINE).

All Controlled Burns, at any rating, must be called in beforehand to the fire chief or Sargent County Sheriff’s office.

The Daily Fire Danger Rating is available at the following website: <https://ndresponse.gov>

DATED at Sargent County, North Dakota this 18th day of March, 2025

Wade Anderson		Tia Bopp	
Chairman, Sargent County Commission		Sargent County	
Wendy Willprecht left the meeting at 9:34 a.m.			
Motion to approve March payroll in the sum of \$316,909.50 and the following bills. (Johnson/Arth)			
Upon roll call vote motion carried unanimously.			
88317-88318		Ambulance Squads Expenses	162.72
88334-88347		Health Unit Expenses	1,832.54
88348-88350		Ambulance Squads Expenses	1,774.16
	US Postage Stamp Fulfillment		
88352	Center	Auditor Envelopes	905.20
88354	City of Forman	CH/Shop Water, Sewer, Garbage	213.80
88355	Ottertail Power Company	Electricity	2,912.57
88356	Ransom County	VSO Salary/Benefits	2,744.32
88360-88368		Health Unit Expenses	1,448.54
88369		JDA Expenses	250.45
	American Solutions for		
88371	Business	Laser Check Stock	519.69
	Alcohol Monitoring Systems,		
88372	Inc.	GPS Monthly Fee	100.00
88373	Avid Hawk	Website Services	45.00
88374	Bogary, Amy	Name Plates	27.77
88375	Bopp, Tia	Auditor Travel	351.00
88376	Bryant, Rick	Sheriff Training/Travel	952.00
88376	Bryant, Rick	Sheriff Squad Car Camera	58.25
88377	Cenex Fleet	Sheriff/Tax/Coroner/GFR Travel	168.36
88378	Computer Express	Tech Support Feb-Mar	3,000.00
88379	Crossroads Electric	CH Maintenance	186.87
88380	Dakota Plains Cooperative	Sheriff/Tax/Coroner/Health Travel	931.41
88381	Dakota Water Solutions	CH 5 Gallon Water Jugs	32.00
88382	Dickey Rural Networks	Telephone Services	937.72
88383	EverSpring Suites	Tax Travel	99.00
88384	FedEx	Sheriff Office Supplies	20.32
88385	Forman Drug	Sheriff Office Supplies	25.13
88386	Graham Tire	Sheriff Squad Car Tires	639.12
88387	Hayen, Lajuana	Tax Travel	67.00

88388	Home Shop, The	CH Fire Extinguisher Inspection	205.60
88389	Information Technology Dept.	WAN Access/Netmotion/Office365	1,358.80
88390	Lexis Nexis Matthew Bender	ND Court Rules Annotations	64.86
88391	Loffler	Sheriff Office Supplies	30.25
88392	Marshall County Publishing	Publishing Fees	59.50
88393	ND Clerks Association	Treasurer Dues	100.00
88394	ND Department of Human Services	Prisoner Board/Medical Fees	481.15
88395	ND State's Attorney Association	State's Attorney Dues	400.00
88396	NDACO Resources Group	SmartZone Management	100.00
88397	Office of Attorney General	SCRAM 24/7	280.00
88398	Pfau, Jayne	SA Office Supplies/GoTo Meeting-Dec/Phone Reimbursment-Dec-Feb	213.98
88399	Qualification Targets, Inc	Sheriff Equipment	121.27
88400	Richland County Corrections	Prisoner Board	510.00
88401	Rutland Oil Company	Sheriff Fuel	1,018.13
88402	Schilling, Samantha	Tax Travel	68.00
88403	SE Fraternal Order of Police	Sheriff Membership Dues	325.00
88404	The Teller	Publishing Fees	748.74
88405	Verizon	Sheriff Mifi Cards	240.06
88406	Vestis	CH/Shop Supplies/Rug Cleaning	446.94
88407	Wild Rice Soil Conservation	Extension Rent-March	550.00
88408	Yagow, Cindy	Treasurer Travel	106.40
88409	A W Diesel Service, Inc.	Red DumpTruck Repairs	3,438.85
88410	Bobcat of Gwinner	Equipment Repairs	482.68
88411	Butler Machinery	Cat 150 Repairs	683.20
88412	Central Grocery	Road-Office Supplies	9.99
88413	Computer Express	Road-Thumb Drive	14.99
88414	Dakota Water Solutions	Road 5 Gallon Water Jugs	16.00
88415	Faber, Tim	Boot Reimbursment	145.65
88416	Hansen Lumber & Hardware	Shop Supplies	260.58
88417	Kimball Midwest	Shop Supplies	1,023.66
88418	Lee's Service Station	#101 Oil Change/Filter	368.95
88419	Napa-Lidgerwood	Small Tools/Signs	432.56
88420	Plunkett's	Road-Pest Control	69.44
88421	Rutland Oil Company	Road Fuel and Gas	7,459.07
88422	SD Local Transportation Assistance Program	Road-Travel	125.00
88423	Southside Automotive	Road/County Car Tires/Repair	675.14
88424	Welton's Tire Service	#121 Tire Replaced	1,500.50
88425	Innovative Office Solutions	Ext Office Supplies	79.98
88426	Sargent County Treasurer	Ext Postage	0.69
88427	Seykora, Melissa	Ext Misc Expenses	18.00
88428-88437		Ambulance Squads Expenses	24,885.90
ACH	JP Morgan	Various Department Expenses	5,650.55

A recess was taken from 10:04 a.m. to 10:12 a.m.

Tim Faber arrived at the meeting at 10:12 a.m.. Motion to approve Application for Drainage Work Within County Road Right-of-Way as submitted by Nick McLaen on behalf of Rutland Oil Company. (Arth/Johnson) Upon roll call vote motion passed unanimously. Said application is for a new field approach with a culvert on the east side of the NE1/4, Section 13, Township 55, Range 130, Rutland Township.

Approval was given for two RSR Human Service zone employees to switch offices.

Damon DeVillers, Interstate Engineering, arrived at the meeting at 10:17 a.m.. Damon presented the Commission with two Documented Categorical Exclusions (DCEs) for two bridges that are scheduled to be removed. The cost for the removal of the bridges is 100% funded by the state. Bridges impacted are 117-22-0 and 131-12-2. Motion to approve the two DCEs and authorize the Chairman and the Road

Supervisor to sign the same. (Arth/Bopp) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Bid openings for the projects Interstate Engineering are bidding is scheduled for April 7th at 10:00 a.m. Mr. DeVillers shared he attended another bid opening and bids were coming in lower than in the past. Prairie Dog funds have been sent to the counties.

The dual fuel for the county shed will be revisited closer to year end.

Commissioner Waswick stated he feels there are some differences between what projects the road department sees as priorities and what different commissioners feel are priorities. He would like to have a meeting with the road department and then bring the results of that meeting back to the commission to hopefully get all parties aligned. He further stated the Commission needs to help with some of the budget items which are out of Mr. Faber’s control.

Aaron Potts arrived at the meeting at 11:00 for the gravel bid opening.

Motion to accept all gravel bids as presented. (Johnson/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to consider Enderson Construction and Bear Creek Gravel’s bids after receiving proof of application date within ten days. (Johnson/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept Bituminous quote as presented. (Arth/Bopp) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept all fuel bids. (Johnson/Arth). Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

It was noted that Lee’s Service did not submit a bid.

Compliments were given to Road Supervisor, Tim Faber, for the work that had been done smoothing out some areas near railroad tracks.

Commissioners Waswick and Arth will meet with Road Supervisor Arth and Water Board member, Lucas Siemieniewski next Tuesday, March 25th to discuss available material for the county road 12 slope project.

No action was taken on the Lawrence Welk proposed proclamation.

Auditor Bopp will get more information regarding streaming services for meetings.

Motion to give away the surplus items to anyone that wants them and to dispose of any remaining items by month end. (Johnson/Waswick) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

At the present time, the Commission did not feel there was a need for any additional notary publics in the courthouse.

Damon DeVillers left the meeting at 11:58 a.m..

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:08 p.m..

WADE ANDERSON - CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

TIA BOPP – COUNTY AUDITOR