

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met on Tuesday, March 4, 2025, at 9:00 a.m..  
Commissioners in attendance were Jerry Waswick, Scott Johnson and Chairman Wade Anderson.  
Absent were Jason Arth and Lyle Bopp. Also in attendance were Neil Weaving, Custodian; Jayne Pfau, States Attorney; and Tia Bopp, Auditor.

Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order.

The Pledge was recited.

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

Motion to approve the minutes from the February 18, 2025, meeting as amended. (Johnson/Waswick)  
Motion carried.

Neil Weaving, Custodian provided an update to the Commission of projects that are going on around the courthouse. Mr. Weaving left the meeting at 9:14 a.m..

Discussion was held regarding the charge for open records requests. The amount is statutory so no change can be made.

State’s Attorney Pfau will be updating the letter we send out calling for bids on bulk materials for use next year.

Motion to approve a deed from Sargent County to Bryan Triebold for parcel 278396000 in Cogswell. Said property is located on 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Cogswell and is Lots 8-9 in Block 11 of Milwaukee Addition. (Waswick/Johnson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve updating the budgets from 2024 as listed below. (Waswick/Johnson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Dept #	Dept Name	2024 Budget	overage	Increased 2024 Budget
104	State's Attorney	\$119,313.00	\$1,561.81	\$120,874.81
108	Tax Director	\$112,064.00	\$4,739.00	\$116,803.00
111	Sheriff	\$673,589.00	\$12,937.73	\$686,526.73
112	EMS	\$40,165.00	\$1,136.76	\$41,301.76
119	Courthouse	\$106,375.00	\$95,191.12	\$201,566.12
208	Park	\$166,195.00	\$2,379.88	\$168,574.88
225	Health Insurance/Comp Med	\$402,400.00	\$13,616.40	\$416,016.40
201	Road	\$1,688,366.00	\$200,633.34	\$188,999.34
205	VSO	\$29,730.00	\$3,766.97	\$33,496.97
209	State Aid	\$20,522.00	\$3,828.57	\$24,350.57
216	Health Department	\$139,737.00	\$11,518.44	\$151,255.44
217	Disaster Assistance	\$0.00	\$74,673.34	\$74,673.34
232	Historical Society	\$10,500.00	\$648.90	\$11,148.90
233	Senior Citizen	\$77,652.00	\$233.32	\$79,985.32
274	Courthouse Blg Improvements	\$0.00	\$60,000.00	\$60,000.00
282	ARPA	\$0.00	\$630,268.42	\$630,268.42
8610	Drain 9 extension	\$0.00	\$35,391.65	\$35,391.65
8612	Drain #12	\$2,500.00	\$146,349.75	\$148,849.75
8614	Drain #11 I&S	\$519,000.00	\$433,900.49	\$952,900.49
8615	Wild Rice Maintenance	\$0.00	\$4,819.00	\$4,819.00
8620	Water Channel Improve #1	\$20,000.00	\$88,338.61	\$108,338.61
8621	Water Channel Improve #1 I&S	\$186,000.00	\$540.00	\$186,540.00
8691	Jackson Improvement #1	\$193,955.00	\$1,095.00	\$195,050.00
8810	GDCD	\$42,000.00	\$2,863.62	44863.62
8813	Advance Taxes - Tax Forfeited Properties	\$0.00	\$34,703.64	\$34,703.64
8823	Water Resource	\$158,600.00	\$5,322.09	\$163,922.09
8825	WR Soil Conservation	\$42,000.00	\$2,534.35	\$44,534.35
8842	Crooked Creek	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$100.00
8850	Milnor Ambulance	\$0.00	\$52,044.39	\$52,044.39
8852	Forman Ambulance	\$0.00	\$3,699.33	\$3,699.33
8854	Gwinner First Responders	\$0.00	\$4,555.85	\$4,555.85

Motion to approve and sign the updated Police Services Contract between the City of Forman and Sargent County. (Johnson/Waswick) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

It was shared that Prairie Dog funds will be distributed in March.

Tim Faber, Road Supervisor and Damon DeVillers from Interstate Engineering arrived at the meeting at 9:22 a.m..

April 7<sup>th</sup> was selected as the date the county will open bids for projects that Interstate Engineering is bidding out for the county.

Discussion was held regarding the material that will be needed to completed the county road 12 slope project. It will depend on how this project gets bid. Road restrictions are going on this Friday.

Commission Waswick made the following motion,

WHEREAS, Sargent County has a replacement schedule and lease program for the road maintainers but no other equipment;

WHEREAS, the three plow trucks are a 2000, 2003 and 2010 models and the road supervisor has advised they are in poor condition and would require, in his opinion, about \$100,000 to bring them in good repair;

WHEREAS, the road supervisor, Tim Faber, has provided the County Commission with a list of equipment he feels necessary to perform the duties of the road department in a far more efficient and effective means, and has submitted a "Sargent County Road Department Equipment Plan" dated February 20, 2025;

WHEREAS, the Equipment Plan submitted for 2025 doesn't increase the road department current budget but uses funds as outlined from the existing budget and those funds will meet the repayment structure of a loan over a five year period, therefore no additional tax levy is needed in the plan;

THEREFORE, be it resolved, the County Commission approves the Sargent County Road Equipment Plan submitted by the road supervisor for the purchase of equipment in the sum of \$455,000, the plan funding will be met by using existing line item budgeted dollars and additional line item funds not in the proposal to lower the amount of the loan required in the proposal. The future truck replacement plan should be followed but is subject to change by the Commission as needs, funding and circumstances may change.

Said motion died for a lack of a second.

Duane Peterson, Human Resources Director, arrived at the meeting at 9:47 a.m..

A lengthy discussion was held regarding the budgets that were reconciled from last year and overages that incurred. The expectation is that any department that is going to be over budget come to the Commission and make the Commission aware of the situation and what lead to the department being over budget.

Damon DeVillers and Tim Faber left the meeting at 10:04 a.m.. Duane Peterson left the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Motion to approve the ambulance bills as presented. (Johnson/Waswick) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding assessment books. The Gwinner City Council wanted to know when they will be receiving their books so they can have time to review prior to their meeting.

No action was taken on the county shop dual fuel proposal.

A recess was taken from 10:09 to 10:16.

Upon reconvening a Motion was made to go into executive session under NDCC 44-04-19.1(2). (Johnson/Waswick) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. Present in the executive session were Commissioners Waswick, Johnson and Chairman Anderson, State's Attorney, Pfau and Auditor Bopp. The executive session started at 10:17 a.m. and concluded at 10:36 a.m..

Upon calling the open commission meeting back to order, there was no further business so the meeting adjourned at 10:36 a.m..

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WADE ANDERSON - CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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TIA BOPP – COUNTY AUDITOR