

Forman, North Dakota  
May 5, 2026

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 5, 2026. Present were Jerry Waswick, Chairman, Wade Anderson, Scott Johnson (via electronic means), Lyle Bopp and Jason Arth. Also present were Jayne Pfau, State's Attorney; and Tia Bopp, Auditor.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jerry Waswick. Pledge of Allegiance was recited. First order of business was the Shuman Township hearing to receive public input on the county acquiring a portion of the township road leading to the buffalo lake boat landing from the county road. No one was present to air concerns. The commission will decide at the next meeting on how they are going to proceed.

Motion to accept the agenda with additions. (Bopp/Anderson) Motion carried.

Motion to accept the minutes from the April 21, 2026 meeting. (Anderson/Arth) Motion carried.

Discussion regarding the farmers market request. The organizer of the event will be required to sign a liability form. Motion to approve the Waiver of Liability for the farmers market and proceed with allowing the farmers market to be held June through September bi-monthly. (Bopp/Anderson). Motion carried.

Jerry received word that a contractor will be onsite May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> to install the windows and they will need a lift.

A Joint Powers Agreement was drafted by State's Attorney Pfau for use with the Oakes Public School for the upcoming primary election. Motion to approve the Oakes School District JPA with Sargent County for election purposes. (Arth/Bopp). Motion carried. JPAs will be established with the schools within the county later on in the year.

Motion to approve the Road Permit submitted by Dakota Valley Electric to do boring under 99<sup>th</sup> Street SE with one single phase 200 MIL URD cable for a new service. (Arth/Johnson). Motion carried.

Motion to approve the Otis Elevator quote for repairs to come from building maintenance line item under buildings and grounds. (Arth/Anderson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve and pay the bills presented. (Anderson/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the Employee Assistance Program Contract with The Village and pay the minimum price of \$2,000. (Anderson/Bopp). Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Robert Hanson, Retired Rural Fireman, Bureau of Land Management arrived 9:23 a.m.

Communication from Human Resources was shared that health stipends are allowable for counties under 50 people. Auditor Bopp will look into getting additional information as to what other counties in the state do.

Discussion around AI Centers and if the county should be looking at zoning considerations. Auditor Bopp will look for more information from the NDACO and report back.

Discussion took place summarizing the topics covered during the recent 5 county meeting held in Wyndmere on April 29<sup>th</sup>. A few of the topics discussed were: zoning requirements for AI centers; a regional dispatch center, a proposed regional jail, water projects and upcoming elections just to name a few. The next meeting will be held at a location in Sargent County mid-summer.

Zach Hatting and Damon DeVillers of Interstate Engineering arrived at the meeting at 9:44 a.m. Tim Faber, Road Supervisor arrived at 9:56 a.m.

Discussion turned to the soft spots north of DeLamere. A couple of options were discussed. Options included drain tiling; removing the top gravel and putting down mag chloride flakes and replacing the gravel; removing the gravel and putting in rock which had been quoted by Enderson Construction; and also using a new product called geomet. Minn-Kota is utilizing this road heavily presently and has expressed willingness to participate in the cost of repairing the road. The section of road is a 1.5-mile portion north of DeLamere.

County Road 2 was the next topic in the road discussion. Faber requested Jay Enderson put together quotes for fixing the area the pipeline damaged and should be responsible for repairing. The total of these quotes came to \$389,230.00. Faber's early conversations with the pipeline indicated the pipeline would potentially cover the costs of repairing the road. Chairman Waswick suggested that the pipeline work directly with the contractor and take the county out of the middle. State's Attorney, Pfau indicated this would still be considered a public improvement so it would still need to go through the bid process. Faber is not sure the pipeline is going to participate after talking to the pipeline representative a second time after receipt of the quotes.

Faber gave an update on work on the graveling they are doing. The pile at the county shop is nearly diminished. Job Erection wasn't able to get all the gravel put up last year that they were wanting to. They have submitted a bid to honor the \$5.00/ton price from 2025 for 15,000 tons of gravel totaling a purchase price of \$75,000. Additionally, they would then put up 10,000 ton at \$5.50/ton for an additional purchase price of \$55,000. The grand total for the 25,000 tons of gravel would be \$130,000.

At 10:15 a.m. the bid opening for the Mastic Crack Seal and Repair for Sargent County Roads 2, 4 & 12 was held and led by Interstate Engineering. All bids were in order and all credentials appeared to be in order, but will be verified by Interstate Engineering. The bids were split into five sections across the three county roads. Motion to accept all bids for all five sections and award the contract to the bidder recommended by Interstate Engineering contingent upon Interstate Engineering verifying all credentials and bid numbers are in order. This project is to be paid out of Prairie Dog funds. (Anderson/Arth). The project is to be completed by September 1<sup>st</sup>. Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

The Gladen Construction Contract for bridge removals being covered by federal aid funds was presented for consideration and execution. Motion to sign the contract contingent that the county doesn't have to pay the contractor direct the \$157,055.61; or in the event we do have to pay the contractor direct, that reimbursement will be received within 90 days from the state. (Anderson/Johnson). Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Discussion turned back to gravel. Motion to approve the Job Erection bid for 25,000 (15,000 @ \$5.00/ton and 10,000 at \$5.50/ton) ton of gravel for a total of \$130,000 to come out of the Prairie Dog funds. (Anderson/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Derek Van Dyke-BCBS and Duane Peterson, HR Director arrived at the meeting at 10:45 a.m. to discuss dental and vision plans. Plans were summarized and questions were answered. Both Peterson and Van Dyke left the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:13 am.

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JERRY WASWICK, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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TIA BOPP –AUDITOR