

Forman, North Dakota
March 10, 2017

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: David L Jacobson, Mike Walstead, Jason Arth, and Bill Anderson. Absent was Sherry Hosford. Also present was Tibby Hinderlie, the Sargent County Teller; and, Pam Maloney, Sargent County Auditor.

Approve February 21, 2017 meeting minutes and March 1, 2017 special meeting minutes as corrected. (Arth/Walstead, unanimous)

Jayne Pfau, Assistant State's Attorney, arrived at the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

The board has received four applications for appointment to the Sargent County Water Resource Board (WRB) to fulfill the term of Richard Engst who resigned from the WRB in February. Those applying are: Donald Rust, Brian Vculek, Theresa Erickson & Bruce Speich. The decision was tabled until a full board was present.

Ken Forster & Vanessa Bayger, Sargent County Fair Association Board Members, arrived at the meeting. Mr. Forster reported that the County Fair Association is doing well financially. Some of the 2017 fair events will be a rodeo, street dances, demolition derby & a motocross. Some of the improvements that the Board is looking into are: exhaust fans in the exhibit building; air conditioning in the auditorium; and surveillance cameras for some of the buildings. The commission commended the members of the fair board on the excellent job they are doing and are looking forward to the 2017 event.

Motion to approve the draft of a letter by the State's Attorney to the Clerk of the North Dakota Supreme Court encouraging the retention of Judgeship #1 in the Southeast Judicial District, and to authorize the chairman to sign the letter on behalf of Sargent County. The retention of the Southeast District judgeship is vital to the citizens of our area. To not fill the current judicial vacancy would have a detrimental effect on judicial administration in the District and the quality of judicial services in the District would seriously suffer. According to information obtained from Judge Daniel Narum, Presiding Judge of the Southeast Judicial District, there are presently 7 Judges in the District, and the Supreme Court Administrator's weighted case load study indicates that the Southeast Judicial District has a demonstrated need for the equivalent of 7.15 full-time Judges. (Anderson/Arth, unanimous)

Approve Games of Chance Permit #SC-2017-01 to Immanuel Lutheran Church, DeLamere, ND for a raffle to be held on Sunday, April 23, 2017 at Immanuel Lutheran Church. (Anderson/Arth, unanimous)

The annual Employees' Non-Agenda Meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, April 4 at 9:00 a.m.

Discussion on the request from Colonial Life Insurance Company to offer its benefits to county employees. As there were only a handful of employees interested, it was decided not to offer the insurance at this time. There should be an interest from 50% or more of employees to offer another benefit such as this.

Motion to authorize payment and to authorize the appropriate County officials to sign the final progressive estimate on County Roads #2-#10-#14 (CNOB 4103(060); CNOB 4125(067); & CNOB 4135(056)), as approved and recommended by County Engineer Damon Devillers of Interstate Engineering, authorizing final payment of \$80,528.35 to Mark Sand & Gravel, with payment to be made at the same time as other County bills, following the March 21 Commission meeting. (Anderson Walstead, unanimous)

Lyle Bopp, State's Attorney, arrived at the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Discussion on the telephone hearing appeal in the matter of Job Service of North Dakota's denial of Dennis Goltz's application for unemployment compensation benefits. The hearing will be held Wednesday, March 15, 2017 and Mr. Bopp encouraged all commissioners to attend.

Motion to execute the Rental Service Agreement for rugs used in the Courthouse, and for shop coats, grease rags and cleaning supplies used at the County Road Department Shop, from AmeriPride Services, successors to Buhl's of Britton, pending review and approval of the proposed agreement by the State's Attorney. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

Commissioner Jacobson reported that he had talked with Kent Sundseth, Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge Manager, about the potential Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP) projects in Rutland Township, north of Sprague Lake; and, in Marboe Township, southeast of Lake Tewaukon. Mr. Sundseth

thought that the project was very possible and was hopeful that the county and/or water resource board would be able to contribute financially to the 19.07% local match needed. Commissioner Jacobson plans to attend the next water resource board meeting to discuss possible cost sharing of the project's local match with the Water Resource Board.

Ehren Grupe, Full Circle Ag; Arlen Hanson, Forman Township Supervisor; and Sandra Hanson, Tax Director/911 Coordinator/Emergency Manager; arrived at the meeting. The county has received an Application for Property Tax Incentives for New or Expanding Businesses from Full Circle Ag, Forman. The application requests a 75% 5 year tax exemption; 80% for year 6; 70% for year 7; 60% for year 8; 40% for year 9; and 20% for year 10; of the taxable valuation of a 80 x 160 warehouse with 28 x 40 office lean, bulk seed and liquid fertilizer w/containment – iron clad building in Forman Township, west of the City of Forman and on the north side of ND Highway #11. Estimated full & true value of the structure is approximately \$800,000.00. The applicable State statute authorizes a 5 year exemption of up to 100% and a partial exemption for up to 15 years thereafter. The application submitted by Full Circle Ag requests an exemption that is considerably less than that which the statute allows. The facility will be used for distributing seed and fertilizer and will include conveyors, seed treater and automatic program to fill tanks and mix fertilizer. The building is owned by Full Circle Ag, but has been built on land leased from the Hanson Brothers of Forman. The structure is eligible for the exemption – the land is not. The County Tax Director stated that the Co-op's application appeared to be complete, with all pertinent information required by State law. The State's Attorney's opinion was that the application was submitted properly and in a timely manner, prior to the commencement of business operations. No one appeared at the hearing in opposition to the application, and no testimony, either oral or written, in opposition to the application had been received, either prior to or during the hearing. Motion to approve the application as applied for, pending receipt by Sargent County of documentation evidencing Full Circle Co-op's interest in the building and in the real estate upon which the building is erected. (Anderson/Walstead) Roll Call Vote: Yes – Arth, Walstead & Anderson. No – Jacobson. Absent and not voting: Hosford. Motion carried.

Mr. Bopp also informed the board that with the implementation of Marsy's Law, an amendment to the North Dakota State Constitution approved by the voters in last November's General Election, the state's attorney's office is busier than ever. Pursuant to the new Constitutional requirements, each county must have a victim witness advocate which will be an additional expense. Additionally, drug offense arrests have been on the rise in Sargent County, requiring more prosecutions and incarcerations. The States Attorney just wanted the County Commission to be aware that there may be considerable changes when he requests the Commission's approval for the States Attorney's 2018 budget.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

DAVID L JACOBSON – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

PAM MALONEY – COUNTY AUDITOR