

March 6, 2001
Forman, North Dakota

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Steve Wyum, Bill Smith, Ray Brockman, Karen Anderson and Donald Wehlander. Absent none.

Approve February 20, 2001 minutes as written. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous)

The employee/commission meeting held on March 1st was well attended by employees. Another meeting will be held in September.

Sandy Arends and Brian Arett, Aging Services, and Katie Wyum, Ransom-Sargent Senior Services met with the Board to discuss the process for awarding Older American funding. Only one contract would be awarded for each region, which includes Cass, Ransom, Richland, Sargent, Steele and Traill in this area. The contracts provide service for outreach, nutrition, transportation and footcare. The Fargo Senior Commission received the award for outreach and nutrition for 2000 with a renewal option for two consecutive one-year periods. Some of the legislation affecting Aging Services was reviewed. Mr. Arett discussed the Ransom-Sargent Senior Services budget and a service report for the six-county region. He commended Marian Millerhagen, project director, for her ability to maintain the sites for services throughout the county with the limited funding. Also discussed funding distribution, council composition and the contracted agency.

Norm Preble discussed inundated land applications and about 7,000 acres are involved this year. He talked to the FSA office and they will review whether the applicants were included in the flood plan. The deadline was March 1 but there is still legislation pending and question on eligibility if any type of payment has been received on the inundated land. The Board decided to wait for action from the legislature. Norm met with Gwinner and Milnor city councils and it appears the number of building permits is down from prior years. He attended the meeting in Aberdeen on February 22 to tour the primary care clinic for veterans. The clinic will open on March 12. Veterans will be contacted and informed of this new facility.

Approve Game of Chance permit No. 02-2001 to DeLamere Community Hall for bingo on March 10, April 7 and November 3. (Brockman/Anderson, unanimous)

Karen reported there is a light fixture at the front door that needs to be replaced. Approve replacing with a fan/light fixture. Discussed other repairs to the courthouse. Estimates will be obtained prior to approval. Approve proceeding with lunchroom plans based on an estimate of \$340. (Wyum/Brockman, unanimous)

The options on the job classification/pay plan from DMG Maximus were reviewed and pros and cons discussed. The Board called the consultant and asked if a meeting could be scheduled with the employees to discuss the present job plan and the Archer Matrix system. Dorothy Person is available on March 19 and would make two presentations during the day. The total expenses would include, Per Diem, mileage and lodging for approximately \$1,000. A notice will be sent to employees inviting them to the informational meeting on March 19.

Orville Nelson, representing the Sargent County Historical Society, presented a financial report for 2000.

Maurice Orn, Kent Carpenter, Joe Breker, and Duayne Baldwin, Wild Rice Soil Conservation Board met with the commission to discuss the support staff in the Extension Office. They wanted to know the reason for the part-time staff in that office. The commission explained the deficit with NDSU and past history of transfers from the county general fund. The mill levy was approved in June 2000 and these funds were used to repay the amount to NDSU. At the end of the 2000 there was a \$2,300 deficit. This Board decided to fill the position with a part-time position. WRSC uses the Extension Agent quite frequently for programs and education. She is the secretary for the soil conservation. WRSC would like to see the support staff at full-time. The commission will give the part-time staffs position a try.

The Board reviewed an application for abatement from Andrew M. & Renee L. Seyer for a structure improvement value of \$32,920 on a 10-acre parcel in W1/2 of NW1/4-17-131-58. Verner Township approved the removal of the structure because it is farm exempt. Concur with the township. (Smith/Anderson, unanimous)

Marla Bopp, Cindy Trucksess and Donna Eklund, Forman Ambulance, Carol Stockstad, Milnor Ambulance and Curtis Halmrast, Oakes Ambulance and Chris McFarland, Gwinner First Responders met with the Board to discuss rate changes for ambulance service. The new charge is \$250 base rate and \$5.00/loaded mile. The billing service has a set charge to coincide with Medicare. Discussed the purpose of intercepts and the billing rates. Curt and Chris explained the importance of intercepts and the necessity to get the patient the best care available. They reviewed ND treatment protocols for EMS providers.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

DONALD WEHLANDER - CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR