

Forman, North Dakota
April 1, 2003

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

County Government will be observed the week of April 7th with courthouse tours offered to the 1st - 4th graders from Milnor, North Sargent and Sargent Central. Each office will be asked to explain how "Counties Care for Kids". Cookies and punch will be served.

The Board discussed Job Development Authority funds. Authorize the budgeted \$35,000 for economic development transferred from Capital Improvements to Job Development Authority. (Wyum/Wehlander, unanimous)

A Minimum Payment Policy for Right-of-Way Acquisition on county projects was reviewed. North Dakota Department of Transportation recommends the adoption of a policy. This policy is intended for the acquisition of small tracts of land or temporary easements for county projects. Approve \$100 policy. (Brockman. Withdraw motion).

Gwinner City returned an Application for Abatement of Taxes for a parcel # 31-9777 for cancellation of special assessments. There is no provision for abating special assessments. Reject the application. (Wyum/Brockman, unanimous)

Approve Maintenance Certification with NDDOT that county is properly maintaining the projects that had federal aid for construction. (Wyum/Wehlander, unanimous)

Brain Tayer and Carol Stockstad, Milnor Ambulance Service and Cindy Leinen, Forman Ambulance Service met with the Board to discuss the future of the service. Brian reported on their meeting and the concerns of that squad. Instead of hiring another full-time person, they favor offering more pay to their current members for weekends. First Responders would be good but the cost of equipment for several additional units would be quite costly. Forman squad has problems with all shifts-days, nights, and weekends. The state licensing has been switched to Sargent County operating two services under one county license. The billing could also remain under the same identification numbers. A lengthy discussion was held on how to acquire more volunteers to keep both services active. There will be an EMS presentation at some of the schools next week for grades 10,11 & 12 to promote more volunteers.

Lyle Bopp arrived at the meeting.

Harlan Hogness and Norm Preble met with the Board to review an application for abatement filed by Mr. Hogness on an 8-acre tract in the center of SW1/4-26-132-53. Hall Township did not make a recommendation other than the location of the property, which is 3 miles from a major highway, be taken into consideration. Norm reported that the location was considered at the time of his assessment. He received 30% depreciation for the home, which was built in 1985 and also 10% for location of property. He compared this to other properties. Deny the application based on the information from the Tax Director. (Wyum/Brockman. Roll call: Yes: Wyum, Brockman, Anderson. No: Walstead, Wehlander. Motion carried).

Norm Preble informed the Board that Governor Hoeven signed Senate Bill 2390 on March 26. The capitalization rate is 9.5%. The 2003 revised agricultural land valuations were certified to the county.

Sandy Hanson presented the EMPG Allocation proposal for fiscal year 2003. The federal budget has been approved and 50% of the county requested amount (\$8723) have been approved. The Board concurred with the budget. Sandy asked about a cell phone for use with her department. She would purchase the phone under her personal plan and ask if the commission would consider an additional \$20/month. Sandy will contact other offices to see what is needed for the county and report at the next meeting.

Karen reported she had attended a meeting on wind energy and rural development in North Dakota in Bismarck on March 24th.

Approve March 18 minutes as corrected. (Walstead/Brockman, unanimous)

Authorize Chairperson to sign the Special Use Permit to relocate County Road No. 2 in the Kraft Slough area. Federal regulations require that a fee be charged for the issuance of this permit. The Bureau of Reclamation will waive this fee since Sargent County has agreed to construct a wildlife viewing area adjacent to the new road, which is a benefit to Reclamation. (Brockman/Walstead, unanimous)

Meeting recessed until April 3, 2003.

KAREN ANDERSON - CHAIR PERSON

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR

Forman, North Dakota
April 3, 2003

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners reconvened at 3:00 p.m. The following were present: Karen Anderson, Ray Brockman, Mike Walstead, Don Wehlander and Steve Wyum. Absent None.

The Board proceeded to discuss a policy for acquisition of right of way for county projects. Approve adoption of the following: (Brockman/Wyum, unanimous)

**MINIMUM PAYMENT POLICY FOR
RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION**

As per the North Dakota State Department of Transportation recommendation, the Sargent County Board of Commissioners, at a meeting held on April 3, 2003, has established the following County Policy for minimum ROW acquisitions on Federal Aid projects:

This policy does not supersede the County's policy to ask for a donation for the property for highway purposes.

This policy is intended for the acquisition of small tracts of land or temporary easements for Highway purposes. By establishing a minimum payment policy the property owners that do not donate their property have the ability to accept the minimum payment and waive their right to just compensation and a formal appraisal.

The minimum payment for Right-Of-Way shall be established by the County Engineer and/or County Commissioners and shall be between \$100 and \$500 depending on the property being acquired. Small parcels with few complications would be \$100 and larger properties with more complications would be \$500.

Meeting recessed to April 14, 2003.

KAREN ANDERSON CHAIRPERSON

Rutland, North Dakota
April 14, 2003

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners reconvened at 7:30 p.m. at the Lariat Bar. The following were present: Karen Anderson, Ray Brockman, Mike Walstead, Don Wehlander and Steve Wyum. Absent none.

The commission invited members from the Forman Ambulance, Milnor Ambulance and Gwinner First Responders to an Appreciation Supper and informational gathering.

Meeting adjourned.

KAREN ANDERSON - CHAIRPERSON