

Forman, North Dakota
April 1, 2008

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Mike Walstead, Maurice Orn, Bill Anderson, Steve Wyum and Jerry Waswick. Absent: none. Others present: Holly Jessen, the Sargent County Teller.

Approve March 18, 2008 minutes as corrected. (Waswick/Walstead, unanimous).

Board members further discussed the directive from ND-DOT concerning encroachments on County road rights-of-way the, process for determining whether a uniform easement width should be established for all County road rights of way and the process of making a map of existing rights-of-way. Steve Wyum agreed to meet with States Attorney Lyle Bopp to discuss the development and implementation of a written policy.

The Board discussed establishing a home rule charter for Sargent County. A motion was made to initiate proceedings to establish a Home Rule Charter for Sargent County and appoint a charter commission comprised of the following: one county commissioner, one county elected official, one county appointed official, one township official, one elected city official and two members at large, with the States Attorney to serve as the legal advisor. (Wyum/Walstead. Roll call vote: Aye: Walstead, Anderson, Wyum, Waswick, Orn. Nay. None. Motion carried.)

Norm Preble, Tax Director met with the Board and reported that he had been recertified by the state for another four years. A packet of documents has been received from Secure Software Solutions requesting metes and bounds descriptions for the soils classification project. The Auditor's Office is currently researching for the information requested. Chairman Orn asked for additional assistance from Norm and possibly Sandy Hanson to make sure that the work gets completed in a timely manner. Steve Wyum asked the Tax Director to provide a time frame and priorities to get the work completed. The Board directed Norm to establish a time frame for the completion of the work and to report back to this Board at the April 15 meeting.

The Board reviewed the estimated valuation of the pipeline that will go through the 4 westernmost Townships in Sargent County. Increases in valuation ranging from approximately 6% to approximately 120% have been estimated for the impacted Townships.

Wade Anderson, Havana met with the Board to discuss leasing the hay land at Silver Lake Park. The Park Board will meet later today to review a resolution prepared by the States Attorney to advertise the leasing of this hay land as well as the hay land at the fairgrounds.

Lyle Bopp will prepare a resolution for combining the offices of Treasurer and Recorder for the Board's consideration at the next meeting. Lyle also reported on collection efforts concerning the Brummond Construction bill and on the Tim Gates payroll overpayment.

Bill Anderson, Jerry Waswick and Lyle Bopp reported on the Five Star Dairy meeting that was held with Hall Township Board of Supervisors and representatives from the Prairie Ridge Management (PRM), Veblen, SD at Immanuel Lutheran Church, DeLamere, ND on March 28. Bill stated that PRM provided information on what they are paying in property taxes for other facilities they own and operate. PRM and the Hall Township Board of Supervisors negotiated a resolution of the Conditional Use Permit Fee disagreement with the understanding that PRM will submit payment to the Hall Township Clerk of \$15,000 for 2007 and another payment in September 2008. A maximum of \$5,000 of each annual payment may be retained by Hall Township and the balance shall be submitted to the Sargent County Auditor for pro rata distribution to other taxing districts having jurisdiction over the property involved.

Shuman Township Officers sent a letter to the county indicating that a bill for \$1355 they received from the county Road Department for pump rental at two FEMA sites was received too late for FEMA consideration. Therefore, the township is only willing to pay 15% of the cost for the two pumping projects. Steve Wyum visited with Sandy Hanson about the date of the bill. The Road Department will contact Shuman Township concerning this matter.

Road Commissioner Steve Wyum and County Road Superintendent Sparky Engquist met with the Ransom Township Officers on March 25 to discuss a bill for work that had been done on the Township road grade east of Bridge No. 130-15. The township agreed to pay one-half of the cost of spreading out the roadway from County #12 to the Wild Rice River. In addition to this work the township would like to do this same leveling on the west side. Mr. Wyum agreed that the county would pay one half of this cost with the township initiating this work.

Equipment rates were reviewed and the County Auditor instructed to file this in her office for future reference. The rates, updated by Road Superintendent Engquist, had been reviewed and approved by Emergency Management Director Hanson.

Reappoint Dr. Rup Nagala to a five year term on the Sargent County District Board of Health. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous)

Approve out of state travel for Julie Hassebroek, Extension Agent, to attend the 4-H Horse Expo Bus Tour April 25-27 in St. Paul, MN. (Anderson/Waswick, unanimous)

Steve Wyum reported on a tour that he and Maurice Orn attended with Foster County Commissioners to tour dairy facilities in this region.

Jerry Waswick reported that there was a request to put in an approach on County No. 2 by Dan Delahoyde. Mr. Delahoyde sold the farm site to his son and would like an approach for access to his pasture. The location of the requested new approach is about 400-500 yards from the existing approach. The county policy was reviewed and Jerry Waswick will inform Mr. Delahoyde of this policy.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:00.

The Board reconvened at 2:00 p.m. following the park board meeting with the following present: Lyle Bopp, Sparky Engquist, Rick Hoistad, Travis Paeper, Richard Ruch and Holly Jessen.

Rick Hoistad met with the Board concerning the removal of several rock piles and the delivery of bridge planks he alleged he had been promised as compensation for the bridge easement in Taylor Township that had been executed before the replacement of the "McLaughlin Bridge" prior to construction in 2005. Jerry Waswick suggested that Sparky Engquist, Steve Wyum and Rick Hoistad go out and locate the rock piles, mark them on a map and get this issue resolved. Sparky Engquist said weather permitting the road dept. can get the rocks removed after they are located and marked. Once the rock piles are gone, the county's obligation is done. It was agreed the three people would meet April 2nd to locate the rock piles.

Bruce Speich, Milnor met to discuss county roads and make a few suggestions on what can be done to maintain the crown on county roads. Mr. Speich said he spends a lot of time driving down the roadways and his personal opinion is that the roads need a higher crown; that everyone travels down the center of the road, pounding down the middle; the blade man places the spoil bank too close to the shoulder, and when retrieved he is pulling in too much; and, the blade is run too flat and not over far enough so the spoil is running in front of the moldboard. He would like to have a discussion on these matters and see what can be done. Sparky Engquist described the practices that are used by the road department and stated that he is pursuing the acquisition of some equipment to help resolve this problem. Mr. Speich also inquired about cleaning the ditch and removing willows by the former Alton Crandall farmstead now owned by his son. The Board informed Mr. Speich that he would have to work with the township to obtain any required permits.

Richard Ruch inquired about removal of trees on the County right-of-way south of Brampton and Sparky assured him that all of the offending trees had been removed.

Richard Ruch on behalf of the Cogswell Gun Club and Travis Paeper on behalf of the Rutland Sportsmen's Club presented a check to the Sargent County Park Board for \$5183.55 from proceeds of the Silver Lake Fishing Derby.

Sparky Engquist provided information to the Board on a Walk 'n' Roll, which is a grader-mounted compactor. Sparky provided financing information to purchase 2 90" segments. For a lease purchase with Kinetic Leasing the cost would be 4 years at \$10,700/year or 5 years at \$8,725/year with 4.5% interest. RDO lease purchase information would be 4 years at \$9070 or 5 years at \$7760 at 5.45% interest. Sparky wants to clarify some options with Walk 'n' Roll before proceeding with the deal. There is a sufficient balance in the Road Department's budget for equipment purchases to make the payments as contemplated in the financing options presented. Authorize road commissioner and Sparky Engquist to proceed with buying or leasing the grader-mounted compactor. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous)

Jerry Waswick attended a meeting in Valley City on March 26 on the Sheyenne Valley Correctional Facility. He presented financial projections, contributions from entities and commitments for a 34 bed facility. The new proposal presented at the March 26 meeting is for each county to commit an additional \$46,025 for 5 years. All seven counties and the City of Valley City planned to present this information to their respective Board's at the April meeting. Each participating county would get 365

bed days per year and after that is used up it would cost \$85 per day for a bed. Both Barnes County and Valley City have committed to fund anything over and above the total operating and debt service amount. Following a lengthy discussion it was the Board's consensus that Sargent County stays with the proposal and visit with other counties at the Southeast County Commissioners Association meeting later this week.

Jerry Waswick reported that the Gwinner First Responders are aware that a group from Rutland & Cayuga is forming the Rutland-Cayuga First Responder's. Gwinner First Responders has a vehicle that they would donate free of charge if the Rutland-Cayuga group wants it. The information has been given to the Rutland-Cayuga group.

Sargent County Fairboard asked if the commission would sponsor or pay for anniversary cake during the free food activity at the 85th Anniversary of the Sargent County Fair. The Commissioners agreed to provide the cake, as long as they don't have to bake it.

Travis Paeper reported that the Mayor of Milnor has communicated with Commissioner Bill Anderson that the City has agreed to add 5 additional hours of patrolling per week at the current contract rate of \$21.30 which would generate \$5538 per year. He reviewed the financial status for a new deputy position and would still have a shortfall of \$2200. Gwinner City has agreed to pay 75% of the cost to finance a deputy, including a vehicle and any salary increases. A notice has been posted for a possible position that may be available with Sargent County and 12 applications have been requested.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

MAURICE ORN – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR