

Forman, North Dakota
April 14, 2020

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners reconvened at 9:03 a.m. in the Conference Room with the following members present: Jason Arth, Richard Ruch, and, Jerry Waswick. Also present were Wendy Willprecht, Emergency Manager; Denise Ferderer, Tax Director; Merrill Engquist, Road Supervisor & Pam Maloney, Sargent County Auditor. Present via technology were: Bill Anderson, Commissioner; Jayne Pfau, State's Attorney; Candy Hansen, Extension; Briana Spellerberg, Health Unit; Joyce Chapin, Health Unit; Alison Toepke, Treasurer/Recorder/Clerk of Court; Margie Johnson, State's Attorney Legal Assistant; Bob Banderet and Paul Mathews, county residents; Brian Tayer, Sargent County Ambulance-Milnor Squad; & Mary Engst, Sargent County Teller.

Ms. Pfau had set up a GoToMeeting for those unable to attend in person.

Lyle Bopp, Commissioner, arrived at the meeting at 9:06 a.m.

The commissioners proceeded to discuss the motor grade bid decision. Commissioner Arth & Road Supervisor Engquist had gone through all the bids and discussed the decision with the rest of the road crew. They are recommending to purchase the 2020 John Deere 772G with snow equipment for a purchase price of \$370,000 and trading in the 2014 John Deere 672G with a trade-in value of \$120,000. Total purchase price would then be \$250,000 with a 7 year warranty. Commissioner Arth has talked with Austin McLaen, Sargent County Bank, about negotiating a lease through SCPB. Motion to trade the 2014 John Deere 672G and purchase the 2020 John Deere 772G with snow equipment for a total purchase price of \$250,000 paying \$40,000 down and setting up a lease payment plan over 7 years with SCPB. (Arth/Anderson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

The board reviewed an Application for Drainage Work Within County Road Right-of-Way from Bowen and Forman Township. They want to drain water off 90th St down the west side of County Road #6 approximately 100 yards south along the east side of Section 3, Twp 130, Rng 56 – Forman Township. Mr. Engquist approves of the request as it will be beneficial for County Road #6. Motion to approve the application contingent on NRSCS approval. (Anderson/Arth) Upon roll vote, motion carried unanimously.

Sean Fredricks, Ohnstad Twichell Law Office and Sargent County Water Resource Board Attorney, called into the meeting. He discussed with the board the Joint Powers Agreement for the Drain #11 project. He stated that interest rates are low right now and he does not anticipate a rate higher than 3.5%. The Board asked if there could be a prepayment clause added to the original agreement as they would like to have the option to pay off early if funds are available. Mr. Fredricks will add that prepayment clause to the agreement and will provide the new agreement before the commissioner's next meeting on April 21 for their review.

Brenda Peterson, Health Unit Administrator, called into the meeting. She asked if the board would still like her to notify them of new positive cases of COVID-19 within the county. The board stated that phone calls were not necessary, but an email or text would be appropriate.

The last paragraph of the FFCRA policy was discussed. Ms. Pfau and Ms. Peterson have had several discussions regarding this throughout the week and believe there is no policy change that needs to be made. Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Wendy Willprecht, Emergency Manager, reported that she has been working pretty much full time during this pandemic and that overtime hours may be necessary. She has received and shared the Public Assistance Funding Request for COVID-19 Project Application and will be accumulating expenses related to the pandemic for this application.

Travis Paeper, Sheriff, arrived at the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

Ms. Peterson has notified her regional epidemiologist and stated that Sargent County would be willing to be a mass testing site.

Motion to activate Sargent County's Virtual Emergency Operations Center (EOC) with the assignment of roles to be defined upon the recommendation of the health unit administrator, Brenda Peterson. (Ruch/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. Ms. Peterson will consult with the sheriff and emergency manager in the defining of roles within the EOC. Ms. Willprecht has offered to be in contact with the three county schools and with the Sargent County Food Pantry regarding their anticipated roles in the EOC.

Although overtime pay was approved at a previous special COVID-19 meeting, FEMA does require that Sargent County has an overtime policy in place for reimbursement of overtime, so State's Attorney Pfau will work on this before the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10.32 a.m.

JERRY WASWICK – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

PAM MALONEY – AUDITOR