

Forman, North Dakota
April 3, 2001

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 March 20, 2001 minutes. (Brockman/Wyum, unanimous)

Julie Hassebroek met with the Board about the year end evaluation. The meeting is scheduled for April 26. She also discussed some dates that the office will be closed. Approve out-of-state travel to attend the Horse Expo bus tour in Minnesota. (Wyum/Anderson, unanimous) The computer programs that were replaced had increased in price. These amounts will be paid out of Automation and Telecommunication Fund. Heather Hoing, new support staff, is working out great.

Discussed a letter from NDCCA requesting Sargent County send a letter of support for the immediate adoption of Navigational Support Guidelines, which will help to raise water levels on Lake Sakakawea. Tabled until more information is received.

The SC Water Board met with the commission to discuss a proposal to create assessment districts on the watershed areas that flow from Brummond-Lubke, Nelson and Frenier Dam. There is a state law that provides for an assessment on the area at a maximum of \$.50/acre if both the Water Board and county commissioners approve said proposal. A map revealing the area was reviewed and much discussion on pros and cons. The county commissioners requested more detailed information on development of an assessment district. The Silver Lake project was discussed and conditions do not allow for an inspection at this time. Two culvert locations were reviewed and a solution requested. The areas are between Section 9/10 in Herman Township and Section 27/28 in Hall Township. The commissioners will visit with Sparky about the sites.

Norm Preble, Tax Director, met with the Board to discuss state policy on equalization. The Office of State tax Commissioner recommends that assessment officials avoid striving to reach only the outer limit of acceptable assessments. House Bill 1206 provides that county commissioners must include a written explanation of the rationale for its decision to reject an application for abatement. Senate Bill 2068 on inundated land redefines its agricultural land containing a minimum of ten contiguous acres, if the value exceeds the average ag value of non-cropland for the county. Additional criteria including a March 31 deadline for submission is included in the bill.

Sparky Engquist, Personnel Board, presented information regarding the proposed pay plan. Several departments have talked to him and indicated that they are in favor of changing the plan. The commissioners proceeded to discuss in detail the options available to choose from changing the pay plan.

Patty Carlen, Register of Deeds, met with the Board to discuss the new marriage license program that NDACo has developed. She talked to other counties and they are planning to go on line with the program. The cost is \$275 per county until April 16. The price increases to \$400 after that date. Approve purchasing the program. (Wyum/Anderson, unanimous)

Approve placement of anti-virus protection on all computers in the courthouse. Cost is \$1/month/computer. (Brockman/Wyum, unanimous)

Travis Paeper met with the Board to discuss the pay plan. Through his contacts, he felt the employees would like to see a new pay plan in place.

Approve purchase of a new computer in the Auditor's Office for \$1298. (Smith/Wyum, unanimous)

Appoint Sherry Hosford, County Auditor as the county technology contact person for ITD. (Wyum/Anderson, unanimous)

Reviewed property policy with Hartford Steam Boiler Co. Increase building coverage to \$1,626,890. (Wyum/Smith, unanimous)

Steve Wyum spoke to Dorothy Person, DMG Maximus regarding the pay plan and said they do not have new job descriptions in the original plan so the total would exceed \$23,000. After additional conversation, DMG said they would make some changes to the proposal for some cost savings. The entire process could be completed in 4 months. Discussed combining some positions and the need to change these job descriptions. Enter into a contract with DMG Maximus to create a compensation system based on the Archer Matrix System for Sargent County to begin at DMG's earliest opportunity, subject to approval of the written contract. (Wyum/Smith. Roll call. Aye: All ayes. Nay: none. Motion carried.)

Discussed replacing carpet in the Judge's office. Tabled.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00.

DONALD WEHLANDER - CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR