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

Approve March 16, 2004 minutes. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

Approve Change Order No. 2 for 2003 Bituminous Overlay Projects for replacing mailbox supports and installation because the county will install the supports as per specification 766.01. The project bid price will be reduced \$2,940. (Wehlander/Walstead, unanimous)

Authorize the Chairman to sign a Release of Mortgage for Mitchell and Laura Gibbon Milnor C-Store and approve the reassignment. (Brockman/Anderson, unanimous)

Cindy Leinen and Brian Tayer, Sargent County Ambulance Coordinators, met with the Board for an update on the ambulance. A File of Life form is being distributed to some residents for medical data information. Scheduling is still a problem for the Forman Squad. The Milnor Fire Dept. is looking at housing an additional ambulance and utilizing existing space. Discussed options for relocating the ambulance and using the First Responder Units. Milnor Ambulance Squad has concerns about filling the staffing problems for Forman Squad. Brian talked to state personnel about protocol for relocating ambulances and assigning different areas for emergency care. The commission recommended that Brian and Cindy, along with respective squad board members, meet with Sandy Hanson, EMS, to discuss restructuring/redistricting ambulance service and meet with the commission on April 20 for additional input.

Norm Preble, Tax Director, met with the Board with two tax abatements. Infinite Balance, Inc., Pahrump, NV requested that the value is lowered to \$900 on Lot 5, Block 1, Devlin's 2<sup>nd</sup> Addition, Cayuga City and taxes reduced accordingly. Cayuga City denied the request based on lack of communication with the former owner of the property. Concur with the city. (Wehlander/Anderson, unanimous). Stanley J. Manikowski, Geneseo removed a building in 2002 on Lots 1 & 2, Block 8, Village of Veda and requests the value is removed. Kingston Township approved the request. Concur with the township. (Brockman/Anderson, unanimous)

The Department of Insurance requested input regarding interest in Loss of Income coverage. The commission did not feel that this coverage would apply to government entities.

Travis Paeper, Sheriff stopped briefly to introduce Wes Beck with the area Task Force.

Sandy Hanson, EMS updated the Board on several fires that have occurred in the county in the last week and discussed a Fire Proclamation for Sargent County. The Commission is encouraging everyone to be fire wise at this time when approaching fire, fighting fire and control burns. Approve Fire Proclamation for Sargent County. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous). A copy is on file in the Office of the County Auditor. Discussed 911 services – Sargent County has reached the twelfth year since the initial vote on implementation of an Emergency Services Communications (911) Fee. The commission proposes the continuation of the existing 911 fee and directs that the following measure be placed on the county ballot for the statewide primary election scheduled for June 8, 2004: Should the current emergency services communication fee of up to \$1.00 per month per wireless access line and telephone access line for the operation and maintenance of the emergency 911 communications systems be continued? Voter approval would allow a fee, not to exceed \$1.00 per month per wireless (cellular) access line and telephone access line, to be continued for an initial six-year period, with the revenue dedicated to maintaining and operating the emergency services communication system as required by State law. A "YES" vote means you approve the continuation of the fee. (Anderson/Wehlander, unanimous)

The Board attended a power point presentation by the Extension Office including a review of the activities the department has been involved during the past few months.

Travis Paeper, Sheriff and Scott Buckhouse, Deputy Sheriff met with the Board. Scott began work with the county on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Discussed approved leave for deputy matron and the Board asked Travis for a written proposal of the leave plan.

Damon DeVillers, Interstate Engineering, Sparky Engquist and Lyle Bopp met with the Board to discuss work on the safety project on County No. 2. Interstate Engineering, Inc. is proposing that Sargent County does the day to day inspecting and they will do all the submission of reports. This will reduce the engineering costs by 40%. Approve joint venture between Sargent County and Interstate

Engineering, Inc. (Brockman/Anderson, unanimous). A pre-construction conference is scheduled for April 26 at 9:30 a.m. Bridge 105-01 in Denver Township is scheduled for replacement in mid-July. Schedule the pre-construction conference at 10:30 a.m. on April 26. Damon informed the Board if storm water pollution plans were required through EPA more work and costs would be assessed against each project. Discussed replacement of Bridge 118-20 located 3 miles north and 1.5 miles west of Havana on SC No. 5 and approved Preliminary Engineering Contract with Interstate Engineering, Inc. (Brockman/Anderson, unanimous) The SC Water Board agreed to fund 50% of the county's local share for said bridge replacement.

The meeting recessed to a non-agenda employees meeting.

The meeting reconvened with the following present: Bob Adermann, Joel Grothe, John Mlnarik, John Schreiner and Sparky Engquist, Road Dept., Lyle Bopp, States Attorney and all county commissioners except Donald Wehlander. The Road employees expressed concerns they have with the Supervisor and discussed several situations that have occurred over the past years. Road commission Steve Wyum stated most of their concerns had already been addressed with the Road Supervisor. The Board encouraged better working relationships between the Supervisor and staff. The Board emphasized appreciation for both Supervisor's and employee's efforts to improve Sargent County's road system.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

STEVEN R. WYUM, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR