

April 6, 2021
Forman, North Dakota

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 8:00 a.m. in the Commissioner's Room with the following members present: Jason Arth, Lyle Bopp, Mark Breker, Richard Ruch, and Jerry Waswick. Also present was Pam Maloney, County Auditor.

Chairman Bopp called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those present.

Motion to approve the agenda as presented. (Arth/Breker) Motion passed unanimously.

Motion to approve March 16 minutes as presented. (Waswick/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion passed unanimously.

Mary Engst, Sargent County Teller, arrived at the meeting.

More discussion was held on the migration of the on-premise Exchange server to an online Exchange server. The commissioners had received an updated quote regarding this migration and also some additional information regarding free email accounts through the state. Amber Schriock, NRG Technology Services joined the meeting through technology and answered any questions that the board had. Motion to accept the updated quote from NRG for Exchange Migration and Server Update. (Ruch/Breker) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Jayne Pfau, State's Attorney; & Jill Mulder, Human Resources Director; arrived at the meeting.

Discussion continued on the Human Resources Director position. Commissioner Bopp had spoken with Ms. Mulder and she indicated that she would be willing to accept a part-time position with Sargent County. The motion from the last meeting reads: Motion to offer Ms. Mulder 20 hours/week at Sargent County. Motion to amend the current motion to 24 hours/week at Sargent County. (Waswick/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. Upon roll call vote, the amended motion to offer Ms. Mulder 24 hours/week at Sargent County carried unanimously.

Hope Electric is interested in installing LED lighting in the Sargent County District Health building. It was decided not to update the lighting at this time.

Tim Faber, Road Supervisor, arrived at the meeting.

Discussion was held regarding responsibilities of department heads and the HR Director. The department head is responsible for managing their employees and the HR director is available for resources, consulting and/or advising.

Discussion was held on the motor grader bids received at the last meeting. Commissioner Arth had provided a spreadsheet outlining the purchase amounts and trade-in values. As Butler Machinery has the low bid and the equipment operator has no preference whether or not there is a steering wheel, motion to acquire the Caterpillar 150JOY-BR Motor Grader from Butler Machinery and to finance the purchase through SCB Public Finance with a seven year financing option. (Arth/Breker) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Jeff Breker & Gary Anderson, Tewaukon Township Supervisors, arrived at the meeting. They were there to request that Sargent County adopt 139th Ave between 101st & 102nd Streets and incorporate into the county road system. As this road has been maintained many years by the county already, does connect to a county road in South Dakota and is important to be maintained as a radio tower is on the east side of this road, motion to adopt 139th Ave between 101st & 102nd Street as a county road, providing the county receives a written request from Tewaukon Township. (Arth/Ruch) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Wendy Willprecht, Emergency Manager/911 Coordinator; arrived at the meeting. Brenda Peterson, Health Unit Administrator, joined the meeting through technology. Ms. Peterson stated that there are presently 6 active cases, but she was aware that more active cases would be added for today's count. The

Health Department will be going into the county schools to vaccinate those 16 & older wishing to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Ms. Willprecht reported that the rapid testing in Gwinner would be ongoing throughout the month of April.

Ms. Willprecht also stated that she had attended the meeting of the Gwinner First Responders. They are unsure what more is needed from them in regards to becoming a county entity. It was decided that a committee of the Jayne Pfau, State's Attorney; Mark Breker, Commissioner; Brian Tayer, Milnor Ambulance Coordinator; and representatives from the Gwinner First Responders would meet to discuss the terms of the contract and to decide if the by-laws were sufficient.

Ms. Willprecht presented Sargent County's Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan approved by the state. Motion to approve said plan and to submit news release of the approval. (Waswick/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

The commissioners reviewed the changes made to the Fire Emergency and Burn Ban. Motion to approve the changes made to Sargent County's Burn Ban as approved at the March 16 meeting. (Waswick/Ruch) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

FIRE EMERGENCY AND BURN BAN TIED TO DAILY FIRE DANGER RATING

For

SARGENT COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

March 16th, 2021

WHEREAS, Sargent County, North Dakota is currently in Moderate Drought, with some areas in Severe Drought, and has experienced high winds, as well as continued, forecast dry weather conditions; and

WHEREAS, several rural fires have occurred due to current conditions; and

WHEREAS, the County of Sargent has permanent burn restrictions in place through an adopted fire code; and

WHEREAS, all available resources remain committed to protecting life and property; and

WHEREAS, the impact of fires could threaten the health, well-being, and safety of citizens in Sargent County; and

WHEREAS, the cost of response and the inordinate equipment wear may be far in excess of available County resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Sargent County Commissioners declares a Fire Emergency and Burn Ban effective when the North Dakota Rangeland Fire Danger Rating is in the High, Very High, Extreme Rating, and/or a Red Flag Warning has been issued for Sargent County, North Dakota, effective immediately thru October 1st, 2021.

What's Included

Open Burning: Includes burning of leaves, grass clippings, garbage/pits, construction debris, fallen trees, crop residue or hay land, sloughs and campfires/bonfires.

What's Excluded

Controlled Devices: Only when device (gas, charcoal, or wood-fired grills, patio fireplaces and chimineas, gas camp stoves, and smokers) is on a hard, non-organic surface and 15' away from vegetation and an extinguisher or water is available on site.

T H E

PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF THIS BURN BAN IS A CLASS B MISDEMEANOR (NDCC 37017.1-10.1: MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF 30 DAYS IN JAIL AND \$1,500 FINE).

The fire Danger Rating is available at the following website: <https://ndresponse.gov>

Discussion was held on the CodeRED contract which will expire on July 17th, 2021. Ms. Willprecht's recommendation is to discontinue the service as the utilization of the service has not justified the cost. Motion to discontinue and not renew the contract with CodeRed for emergency notifications. (Waswick/Ruch) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Authorize the County Auditor to request another permit from the ND Game and Fish Dept. authorizing the shooting or trapping of muskrats out of season to protect roadways experiencing road damage

resulting from muskrats undermining roadbeds. (Waswick/Breker) Upon roll call Vote, motion carried unanimously. Only twelve muskrat control agents are allowed per county.

Motion to re-appoint Amy Melinda Mund to the Sargent County Health Board with term ending April 19, 2026. (Arth/Breker) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to transfer ownership of the Emergency Manager Command Center trailer to the Forman Fire Department with the stipulation that if they sell it within four years after ownership transfer, the funds will be deposited into the county treasury. (Arth/Ruch) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve Raffle Board Permit to Sargent Central High School Trap Team for a raffle board on April 17, 2021 at the No Name Bar, Forman, ND. (Ruch/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to authorize the chairman and auditor to sign the Final Certification of Local Match for Project SC-4100(005) CMC 4111 from ND 11 at Cogswell north to ND 13; CMC 4111 from SD border north to CMC 4120; CMC 4125 from CMC 4110 north to ND 13 S of Milnor; CMC 4129 from 2 miles south of Cayuga north to ND 11. (Arth/Waswick) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

The commission asked Ms. Willprecht if there were any FEMA regulations regarding the Emergency Manager Command Center trailer transfer of ownership to the Forman Fire Department. She stated that the trailer could not be sold for more than \$4999. Motion to amend the previous motion regarding the transfer of ownership of the Emergency Manager Command Center trailer to the Forman Fire Department to add that the trailer would have to be sold for less than \$4999. (Arth/Ruch) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Bopp left the meeting at this time and Vice-Chair Ruch took over presiding the meeting.

Marwood Klein, Sargent County Ambulance-Forman Squad coordinator, joined the meeting through technology. He stated that the Forman Squad has had 31 runs so far in 2021, which is 10 more than last year at this time. He has a potential squad member that will be taking their EMT test this month, but once May arrives, the squad will be short on drivers throughout the summer. The rig itself has posed no problems recently.

The board discussed with Mr. Klein the proposal that the FCDC brought forward at the last meeting regarding housing the ambulance in a new building they are proposing to build. Mr. Klein believes this to be a good idea, however, he is concerned if there is enough space where they are building to incorporate an ambulance garage, along with living & storage space. It would be great if all items needed for the rig could be stored in one area in the garage, as now there are things in the ambulance garage, in the courthouse and also in the apartment. The board thanked Mr. Klein for his comments & feedback and will keep them in mind moving forward.

State's Attorney Pfau presented an agreement between the Sargent County Commission and the Forman-Havana Rural Fire District for the fire district to take ownership of the Sargent County Emergency Manager Command Center Trailer. Agreement states: 1) Sargent County will transfer ownership of the Sargent County Emergency Manager Command Center Trailer at no cost to the Forman-Havana Rural Fire District; 2) The Forman-Havana Rural Fire District will forfeit any money to Sargent County if they decide to sell the trailer within the four years after the date of transfer of ownership; 3) If the Forman-Havana Rural Fire District does sell the Emergency Manager Command Center Trailer at any point in time, they agree that the sale price will not be in excess of \$4,999.00 per FEMA regulations. Motion to approve the agreement drawn up State's Attorney Pfau and to authorize the chairman and auditor to sign said agreement. (Arth/Breker) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to request that the county auditor send a letter to ND Game & Fish Department requesting that they modify the muskrat control agent program to increase the number of agents to one agent per township. (Waswick/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

After discussion regarding a letter received by the commissioners from a taxpayer, the board will request to meet with the Sargent County Water Resource Board at their next regularly scheduled meeting on April 15th.

Meeting adjourned at 11:52 p.m.

LYLE BOPP – CHAIRMAN

RICHARD RUCH – VICE CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

PAM MALONEY – COUNTY AUDITOR