

May 1, 2001
Forman, North Dakota

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Steve Wyum, Bill Smith, Ray Brockman, Donald Wehlander and Karen Anderson. Also present. Clarence Harff, Milnor; Jan Swanson, Cogswell and Lyle Bopp, States Attorney. Absent none.

Clarence Harff presented a petition to the Board regarding the junkyard adjacent to the Sargent County Museum. The petition represents a volunteer committee that is responsible for the operation, care and maintenance of the museum. They are asking the Board for support and encourage any action that can be made to persuade the owners of the unsightly junkyards, one on each side of the state highway, to consider cleaning them up. They are proud of the museum and would appreciate the cleaning of these areas for a more attractive and pleasant outing for visitors and the community. The Board informed Mr. Harff that current zoning regulations are the responsibility of the governing bodies of the cities and townships. Mr. Harff left the meeting.

Jan Swanson reported to the Board about a water problem located in Section 9-131-57. Sparky Engquist arrived at the meeting. In 1997 the problem started with the excessive moisture. Sparky reported they are continuing to work in this area.

Sparky Engquist, Darlene Colbert, Gina Hillestad and Roz Amerman, members of the project focus group joined the meeting. Lyle Bopp, chairman of the group presented a market survey draft recommendation of 15 counties comparing the population and per capita income. DMG Maximus prepared this for the pay plan. There is also a recommendation for 15 positions on benchmark position titles. These are the recommendations to the Board from the focus group based on the market survey. The current plan for Sargent County included 37 job descriptions. The ratio of benchmark positions to total jobs for Sargent County exceeds most survey samples done by DMG; thus the 15 recommended position titles are adequate. Adopt the market survey draft recommendations revised with input from the county's compensation project group on April 26, 2001. (Wyum/Smith, unanimous)

Don Wehlander has been contacted by Milnor City Council regarding extending the shoulder of Main Street (Co. # 10). He will attend their next meeting.

Brian Litton, Network Center Communications conducted a presentation on a new phone system. Colleen Sundquist, Patty Carlen, Chuck Gates, Gina Hillestad and Lyle Bopp were also present.

Norm Preble, Tax Director and Ed Zetocha appeared before the Board to continue discussing the abatement filed by Mr. Zetocha on SW1/4-19-132-57. Norm said that after reviewing the adjacent land, he would concur with the township recommendation that the value remain the same because it is in comparison with the surrounding land. Concur with Tax Director and Vivian Township. (Brockman/Wyum, unanimous) Norm discussed with the Board the inundated farmland bill SB 2068 that was passed. After further discussion, the Board agreed to leave the application process as previously

Approve April 17, 2001 minutes as corrected. (Brockman/Wyum, unanimous)

Reviewed County Deeds for following property: Lots 1,2,3,4,5,6, Block 5, Original Addition, Cogswell City and Lot 5, Block 1, Devlin's 2nd Addition, Cayuga City to Gregory Cann, PO Box 224, LaVerkin, UT 84745-0224. Reluctantly honor the purchase. (Smith/Wyum. Voting yes: Smith, Wyum, Brockman and Wehlander. Voting no: Anderson. Motion carried)

Erv Sahr, Marketing Department, Otter Tail Power Co., Jamestown met the Board to discuss alternate heating sources in the courthouse. The Board approved Mr. Sahr's request to investigate and prepare a proposal for the Board to review.

Approve Road Permit to RC Communications, Inc. to proceed with cable improvements on County No. 14 between Sections 9 & 10 (two areas) and 15 & 16 129-53 LTL. (Wyum/Anderson, unanimous)

Approve Contract for Deed to Clayton Hoffmann, 557 2nd Ave. Cogswell for West 43 feet of South 192 feet of Lot 1 and East 50 feet of Lot 2, Block 6, McNeeley's Addition, Cogswell City. (Brockman/Anderson, unanimous)

Discussed HB 1197, which increases the State Mileage reimbursement rate in NDCC 54-06-09 from 25-cents to 31-cents per mile. This bill has an emergency clause that made it effective when it was filed with the Secretary of State (April 18, 2001). The impact of this to counties and county employees is due to another section of state law. NDCC 11-10-15 sets the state rate as the minimum that counties can use for reimbursing employee and officer mileage. Due to the mandate for NDCC 54-06-09 and the illustrious legislature, the new rate for mileage reimbursement in Sargent County shall be 31-cents effective April 18, 2001. (Smith/Wyum, unanimous). A memo shall be sent to all county offices with this action and inform them that Board does not want to amend any of the 2001 budgets and ask that they review their necessary travel plans.

The Board proceeded to review the CPU's for appointed office heads and other officials.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

DONALD WEHLANDER - CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD -AUDITOR