

Forman, North Dakota  
May 6, 2014

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: David L. Jacobson; Bill Anderson; Steve Wyum; Mike Walstead; and, Jerry Waswick. Absent: None. Also present were: County Auditor Sherry Hosford; Paige Cary with the Sargent County Teller; and, Trent Nelson, Forman.

At 8:30 a.m. Melissa Blawat and Cindy Klapperich with the Sargent County Extension Service provided rolls and coffee for the Board to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Smith Lever Act, which established the Cooperative Extension Service on May 8, 1914. They also informed the Board that cake and refreshments will be served to the public on Friday, May 9, from 2:30-4:30 p.m. in the Conference Room on 2nd floor of the Courthouse to celebrate this occasion.

Alison Perleberg, Administrator, Sargent County District Health, informed the Board that an RN had been interviewed and offered the part-time nursing job in the Health Unit at Grade 12 Step 3. The applicant has over 30 years of experience and the Health Board is requesting the position go to Step 4 with 14 hours per week at the additional cost of approximately \$335.00/year for the step increase. Commissioner Waswick reminded Ms. Perleberg that, with the Longevity plan in effect, this person would not be eligible for any additional step increases until the fourth year of employment with Sargent County, but would be eligible to receive COLA increases, as approved. Ms. Perleberg noted that the new hire was aware of the pay plan. Motion to approve the pay grade and step requested. (Waswick/Anderson, unanimous)

Approve the revised draft of the minutes of the April 15, 2014, commission meeting. (Walstead/Waswick, unanimous)

Damon DeVillers, Interstate Engineering, Inc., arrived at this time.

Board members reviewed a price quote on a new phone system from Minn-Kota. It was suggested that department heads be contacted to review the quote for the proposed new phone system, and for their comments on this proposed system. Jerry Waswick, Courthouse Commissioner, will invite a representative from Minn-Kota to the May 20th meeting. Also reviewed quotes on GPS units and the purchase of a Walk N Roll packer to be installed on one of the new John Deere motor graders. Motion to purchase the Walk 'N' Roll equipment outright, with funds from the Road Department's equipment budget, for \$24,995. (Walstead/Waswick. Motion carried) With the acquisition of this "Walk 'N' Roll," each of the County's 4 motor graders will be equipped with a packer. Delivery of the unit is expected in 10-12 weeks.

Approve Gaming Site Authorizations to: El Zagal Viking Patrol, Inc., Gwinner, for Dilly's Bar 'N' Grill, Stirum ND, beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015; and, to the American Legion, Bullis Post # 84, Lidgerwood, for Geneseo Bar, 317 Main Ave., Geneseo ND, beginning July 1, 2014, and ending June 30, 2015. (Anderson/Jacobson, unanimous)

Lyle Bopp, States Attorney and Sparky Engquist, Road Supt. Arrived at this time.

The Board proceeded to open bids for Aggregate Surfacing of various Sargent County Highways. Representatives were present from Webster Scale, Webster SD; and, Wm D. Scepaniak, Inc., Holdingford MN. Bids were also received from Central Specialties, Inc., Alexandria, MN; and, Mark Sand and Gravel Co., Fergus Falls MN. States Attorney Bopp reviewed the Contractors Bond accompanying each bid, and Engineer DeVillers opened and read each bid. At the conclusion of the bid opening a motion was made to authorize Interstate Engineering, Inc. to tabulate the bids and provide results at the May 20th meeting. (Walstead/Jacobson, unanimous)

Damon DeVillers provided a final estimate on Sargent County 2 CMC Route 4103, for ER work completed by Riley Bros. on County Road #2 near Kraft Lake, for \$8,321.87, as final payment of work completed on this project. Motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the certification on this final estimate. (Anderson/Jacobson, unanimous)

Travis Paeper, Sheriff, informed the Board that the 2014 Ford Police Interceptor which was ordered last fall has arrived at the dealership, and is in Fergus Falls getting the law enforcement specific equipment installed. He asked whether the 2011 Expedition should be traded in, taken to the auction or rotated into the county fleet. After further discussion the Board asked Sheriff Paeper to obtain more information, including: the estimated auction value of the 2009 Dodge Durango; the estimated auction value of the 2011 Expedition; whether a third seat can be installed in that vehicle; and, the Blue Book values of both the 2009 Durango and the 2011 Expedition. Travis will bring this information to the May 20th meeting.

Jim Bosse, Luke Siemieniewski, Richard Engst and Roger Zetocha from the Sargent County Water Board met with the commission to discuss the Drain No. 7 crossing improvements at Main Street aka County Road 10 in Milnor City. The culvert is deteriorated and needs replacing, and the Water Board has acquired plans, specifications and estimates to proceed with this project. The location of the culvert on County Road 10, according to state law, requires the county to participate in 40% of the cost of the project, which would be approximately \$115,870 for Sargent County. Motion to proceed with this project with the county paying [its] portion of the cost share with funds from the County's Road budget.

(Walstead/Anderson, unanimous) Also discussed another project that involved replacing bridges across Shortfoot Creek, which is in the Richland/Sargent # 1 district. This project is being done in phases, and at this time is still in planning stages, and a construction date has not been determined at this time. The Water Board will keep the county commissioners informed as more information becomes available. Another water problem in Shuman Township, an application to run field drainage water in the County #1 road ditch, was also discussed. The Water Board is waiting for more information from the applicant before any action will be taken by the Water Board. Commissioner Anderson inquired if any plans were being made to clean and maintain Drain #8 from Rutland to the Wild Rice River. Jim Bosse stated that the Drain #8 assessment area is very small, and it takes a long time to accumulate enough revenue in the fund to do the work, and that the last time the drain was cleaned, about 2 decades ago, the Water Resource Board and the City of Rutland cost-shared a cooperative project. He suggested that the City of Rutland should contact the Water Resource Board to discuss a Drain #8 cleaning project.

Brian Tayer, Milnor Ambulance Coordinator, Marwood Klein, Forman Ambulance Coordinator and Sandy Hanson, Emergency Manager met with the Board and discussed the activities of each ambulance squad; training services; the desperate need for more volunteers; and, the loss of several EMT's from the Forman squad. Ambulance Coordinators Brian Tayer and Marwood Klein have met with the Forman Ambulance Squad, and 3 members of the Emergency Service Committee: Emergency Manager Sandy Hanson; Ambulance Coordinator Brian Tayer; and, Commissioner Bill Anderson; have met to discuss how to address these problems, and have placed ads requesting volunteers in the paper and on several internet web sites, distributed posters soliciting Ambulance Service volunteers; considered offering additional compensation to certify EMT's; and, other suggestions including rotating the location of the Forman ambulance between Forman and Gwinner. The Ad Hoc sub-committee will meet again following this meeting to continue their discussion with more suggestions, and will keep the commission informed of its progress.

Donald Marquette, Rutland, met with the Board to stat] that his actions were not appropriate during the incident which he was involved in on March 26, regarding the operation of a county motor grader, and to offer his apologies. Mr. Marquette stated that he was disappointed with the tone of all the sensationalized media coverage of this incident. He stated that he has since sought professional help, and is doing much better.

Commissioner Dave Jacobson addressed the use of county vehicles for personal use and stated that using the vehicles to commute to and from work is "personal use," and the fair market value of any personal use of County vehicles should be calculated, and these amounts should be added to the employees W-2's. County Policy 522 prohibits the use of county vehicles for personal use, and, without a resolution changing this policy to authorize personal use of County vehicles, he feels that there is a violation of this policy. The States Attorney reported that he had contacted a Certified Public Accountant concerning the question, but had not yet received a response. Commissioner Wyum reported that he had checked with Richland, Cass, Dickey and Lamoure Counties, and had been informed that those Counties also assign vehicles to Road Department personnel for Road Department purposes, and that some counties also authorize Sheriff's Deputies to park law enforcement vehicles at their home addresses when not on duty and assign vehicles to their Emergency Manager and Veterans Services Officer to use in the performance of their duties, as well. Commissioner Waswick stated that, in his opinion, driving a County owned vehicle from the shop to an employee's home in the evening, and back again in the morning, without any road related work on the way, constitutes personal use and should be stopped, if it is occurring. Commissioner Walstead pointed out that personal use of County vehicles has never been authorized, either by the County Commission or by the Road Commissioner, and that the only use that has been authorized has been "for Road Department purposes." Commissioner Anderson stated that specific evidence of a violation of the County's policy concerning personal use of vehicles should be presented to the Commission. Any action taken should be based on verifiable evidence, not on gossip and innuendo. Commissioner Jacobson stated that on several occasions (December 8, 15, and 21, 2013 and March 15, 17, 20, 22, 24, and 2014) the county pickup was parked at the county employee's personal residence when all the county road equipment was parked at the county shop. Chairman Wyum asked Road Commissioner Walstead to speak with the Road Department employees using the vehicles in question and report back at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

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STEVEN WYUM - CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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SHERRY HOSFORD - COUNTY AUDITOR