

Forman, North Dakota
June 2, 2009

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Mike Walstead, Maurice Orn, Bill Anderson, Steve Wyum, and Jerry Waswick. Absent: none. Holly Jessen, The Sargent County Teller, was also present.

Damon DeVillers, Interstate Engineering, Inc. met with the Board to inform them that the contractor for Bridge 127-20 (Breker Bridge) would like to start the project on June 15. Before construction can begin an engineering agreement must be signed. Authorize the Chairman to sign the Construction Engineering Agreement on Project BRO0041 (011). (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous) A Pre-Construction conference was scheduled for June 11, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. FEMA projects and other road projects were also discussed.

Approve minutes of May 19, 2009 meeting as corrected. (Waswick/Orn, unanimous).

Mike Walstead, courthouse commissioner reported on the installation of the air conditioning/heat units that are currently being installed in the courthouse. Completion is expected in the next couple weeks.

The Board reviewed the county mileage reimbursement rate that will increase on August 1, 2009 to 100% of the General Services Administrative (federal) rate. If it was effective today, it would be \$0.55 per mile. This is an unfunded mandate of the ND Legislature.

Norm Preble, Tax Director arrived at the meeting. The Board of Review and Equalization proceeded to organize for 2009. Wallace Johnson, Milnor, met with the Board to request a decrease in his valuation on his land in the SW1/4-12-132-54 which has been inundated for several years. Milnor Township Board of Equalization discussed Mr. Johnson's request and concurred with a reduction but did not make a recommendation on what percent to reduce. Following input from Mr. Johnson and Mr. Preble, a motion to reduce the value of the SW1/4-12-132-54 to \$51,500 based on Mr. Johnson's testimony and to concur with Milnor Township Board action. (Anderson/Orn. Roll call: Aye: Anderson. Nay: Walstead, Orn, Wyum, Waswick. Motion failed). Chairman Wyum assured Mr. Johnson that he would visit with the Water Board Chairman about any corrective action that could be done to alleviate this problem. Mr. Preble informed the Board the township and city assessment books are not completed and he would like the Board to recess to June 16th. Norm Preble also reported that, in his opinion, no change in the valuation of agricultural land or commercial property is required to be within the State's valuation guidelines but a 1% increase appears to be in order for residential property. The Board recommended leaving all classifications of property with no changes for 2009. Other topics discussed included changes by the ND Legislature to the 2 year new home exemption, Homestead Credit qualifications and inundated land. Mr. Preble presented one application for the SW1/4-26-132-53 (Parcel #06-2374000) for 80 acres. He has inspected this land and reported that it is creek bottom and does not meet the qualifications for inundated land. Motion to deny this request based on not meeting the qualifications. (Waswick/Anderson, unanimous) Motion for the Board of Review and Equalization to recess until June 16, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

At 11:00 a.m. the hearing for input to streamline County Government without reducing responsiveness to the electorate of Sargent County was opened. Chairman Wyum read the preliminary resolution passed by the county commission on May 5, 2009 and asked for public input. Hearing no input the hearing was closed at 11:25 a.m. Mr. Wyum further read North Dakota Century Code 11-10.2-02 and suggested that this resolution be adopted.

Commissioner Orn introduced the following resolution and moved for adoption:

WHEREAS, the Sargent County Commissioners are seeking to streamline County Government without reducing responsiveness to the electorate of Sargent County, and

WHEREAS, the Sargent County Commission has for several months discussed and analyzed a proposed plan for combining elective county offices, taking into consideration the proposed change on each affected office as required for 11-10.2.03 of the North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) which includes an analysis of:

- a. The existing offices organization, functions, and procedures established for providing governmental services;
- b. The proposed office organization, function and procedures; and
- c. How the proposal may improve the effectiveness and efficiency of County government and its responsiveness and accountability to local citizens and

WHEREAS, the proposed plan does not propose to diminish the term of office of any elected or appointed office without the consent of such office holder and

WHEREAS, the plan does not diminish the general responsibility of County government to perform any function or provide any service that is required by law to be performed or provided by County government.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sargent County Board of Commissioners hereby approves a plan to combine and offices of Sargent County Treasurer and Sargent County Recorder into an elected office to perform the essential functions of County Treasurer, County Recorder and Clerk of Court in accordance with Chapter 11-10.2 of the NDCC effective with the 2010 election.

Commissioner Anderson seconded the resolution. Roll call vote: Aye: Walstead, Anderson, Orn, Waswick and Wyum. Nay: None. The resolution was duly declared carried and adopted.

Approve Gaming Site Authorization to Lidgerwood Columbus Hall Association, Inc. at Geneseo Bar and Café beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

The Board received Notice of Comment in the matter of the Chambering of a New Judgeship in the Southeast Judicial District which was passed by SB 2121 in the 61st Legislative Assembly. The legislation provides for an additional district court judge in the Southeast Judicial District with the chambers to be assigned by the Supreme Court. Comment period will expire on July 1, 2009. No comments from this Board.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

STEVEN R WYUM – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR