

Forman, North Dakota
June 4, 2002

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: W.E. Smith, Karen Anderson, Steve Wyum, Ray Brockman and Donald Wehlander. Absent none.

Appoint Donald Wehlander as Chairman of the County Canvassing Board. (Smith/Wyum, unanimous)

Sheriff Chuck Gates delivered to the Board a copy of the policies and procedures from the Sheriff's Department.

Approve May 21, 2002 minutes as corrected. (Wehlander/Anderson, unanimous)

The Board proceeded to open bids for furnishing one new motor grader. Sparky Engquist, Lyle Bopp and three sales representatives were also present. Bids were received from Butler Machinery Co. - \$169,743.75 without snow equipment, RDO Equipment Co. - \$134,625.00 without snow equipment and Sweeney Brothers - \$132,443.00 with snow equipment. The Board discussed the machine specifications and met with each salesperson.

Received six abatements from SE Water Users for 2001 taxes requesting taxes be abated based on exempt property. The townships all approved the applications. Accept abatements based on 2001 legislative action that made water user organizations political subdivisions and are therefore exempt from real estate taxes. (Smith/Wyum, unanimous)

The Board of Review and Equalization proceeded to organize for 2002. Present were Tax Director Norm Preble, Lyle Bopp and Harry Hempler. Norm explained the changes in the townships and cities agricultural, residential and commercial values. He also explained the reassessing of agricultural land to residential and the inundated farmland acres. The total county taxable increase is \$123,024 plus inundated value (\$52,259). He recommends a 5.5% increase in agricultural land and residential structures to meet state guidelines. Accept the local changes as presented by the Tax Director. (Smith/Wyum, unanimous) Harry Hempler inquired why a mill levy increase couldn't be considered instead of increasing the value of the property. The legislature has been approached and it is not acceptable to them. Further discussed the values of agricultural and residential structures for 2002. Motion to concur with the Tax Director and increase the agricultural and residential structures 5.5% to coincide with the state minimum requirements. (Wyum/Smith, unanimous) Discussed the inundated land applications. Norm suggested that the cropland applications be denied. The Board proceeded to review the inundated applications. Accept all inundated applications as presented. (Wyum/Smith, unanimous) Adjourn "SINE DIE" as Board of Review Equalization.

The Board proceeded to open bids for the exterior repairs to the courthouse. Bids were received from Building Restoration Corporation, Roseville, MN and Comstock Construction, Wahpeton, ND. After further review of the bids, motion to reject both bids and rebid on January 7, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. (Anderson/Wehlander, unanimous)

Received a letter from State Fire and Tornado Fund on coverage for buildings and contents. Effective July 1, 2002 the new minimum deductible options will increase from \$250 to \$500 and the maximum deductible will increase to \$5000. Approve \$500 deductible for Sargent County buildings and contents including the park board buildings. (Smith/Wyum, unanimous)

Each even-numbered year the Board of County Commissioners is responsible for certifying, to the State Treasurer, the total number of township road miles for Township Road Fund Distribution monies. Based on information submitted by the twenty-four townships, certify the total mileage of 812.25. (Smith/Anderson, unanimous)

The motor grader bids were reconsidered and Sparky Engquist provided additional information on the specifications. After much discussion the Board authorized the road commissioner and road superintendent to view the motor graders at various locations. The bids were tabled for 30 days.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

RAY BROCKMAN - CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR