

Forman, North Dakota  
July 1, 2008

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Mike Walstead, Bill Anderson, Steve Wyum and Jerry Waswick. Absent: Maurice Orn. Others present: Holly Jessen, the Sargent County Teller.

Approve June 17, 2008 minutes as corrected. (Waswick/Wyum, unanimous)

Gina Hillestad, Treasurer and Joan Lee, Recorder met with the Board to further discuss combining these two offices. Gina provided three salary options with certain grade classifications. Joan Lee explained her reasoning for proposing to appoint both a Recorder and Clerk of Court and to achieve staff reduction by eliminating the position of Deputy Treasurer. Gina's proposal is to have one department head and two deputies[, and Joan's proposal is to have 3 appointed department heads with no deputies and the 3 appointees having, as part of their duties, the obligation to assist each other when job loads require it. Bill Anderson stated that this transition is not about who is in office now but changes need to be made irrespective of who is or who is not in a job or whether or not they want to take on any new duties or lose any duties. The main objective is how to structure Sargent County government to most effectively and efficiently deliver County services to the public. More discussion followed on the changes which may be included in a proposed Home Rule Charter and possible staffing reductions for county offices. The earliest that a Home Rule Charter would be presented to the voters would be at the Primary Election of 2010, and Commissioner Wyum commented that general fund budget constraints may force action before that time. Steve Wyum and Jerry Waswick agreed to work on a draft proposal for restructuring.

Lyle Bopp, States Attorney arrived at 9:20 a.m.

Unfinished Business: Discussed the Tim Gates and Mike Marquette overpayments, the Field Deputy/Police Services Contract and the Haul Road permit for Keystone Pipeline.

The Board recessed at 10:30 a.m. for the Sargent County Park Board meeting.

The Board reconvened at 11:35 a.m. following the Park Board meeting.

The Board opened three bids for the five window air conditioners that had been advertised for sale in The Sargent County Teller. Accept Jerry Waswick clarification of his bid and accept 3 bids for the sale of four air conditioner units. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous) Auditor authorized to dispose of remaining window air conditioner.

Approve Games of Chance SC-2008-03 to Cogswell Gun Club for a raffle on September 7, 2008 at the Cogswell Trap Grounds. (Waswick/Anderson, unanimous)

Discussed the NDACo President's Tour scheduled for Sargent County on July 24<sup>th</sup>.

Sparky Engquist, road supt. explained to the Board the process for over weight permits for the Keystone Pipeline project. Steve reviewed the North Dakota statute and agreed that all counties should have a uniform policy on over weight permits. Sparky will meet with States Attorney Lyle Bopp to prepare a permit policy for Sargent County.

A discussion followed on mileage reimbursement rates. There was some confusion among employees as to whether the County mileage reimbursement rate was based on the IRS tax deductible mileage rate or the GSA mileage reimbursement rate. For clarification of mileage reimbursement for Sargent County, a motion was made that the county reimbursement rate will be 87.5% of the US General Services Administration rate. This is based on guidelines for mileage reimbursement versus an Internal Revenue Service allowance rate. (Waswick/Anderson, unanimous)

In light of skyrocketing oil and fuel costs for Sargent County road maintenance, Steve Wyum shared some information on an excess levy that can be voted on and placed on the taxes for two years if approved. This would be 50% of the legal limitation of the general fund – 11.5 mills which would generate approximately \$180,000 per year.

Meeting recessed until Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

ATTEST:

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SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners reconvened at 10:45 a.m. on July 3 with the following present: Maurice Orn, Jerry Waswick, Steve Wyum, and Mike Walstead. Absent: Bill Anderson. Also present Sparky Engquist, SC road Supt. and Travis Paeper, SC Sheriff.

Sparky Engquist provided copies to the Board of proposed overweight permit forms. The Board reviewed the forms and made some changes. Sparky indicated that Ransom County plans to hand out blank permits to the pipeline truckers for them to complete and pay the permit fees. Travis Paeper suggested that Sargent County do the permits as needed and not provide blank copies. The hauler can call the Sheriff's Office to request a permit and his department would complete the permit including the date of use; time of call and vehicle license. A permit is needed for each vehicle for each over weight trip.

A motion was made to establish an over weight procedure that would exceed 105,500, which is an exception to the county policy. Disbursement and enforcement of the permits shall be the responsibility of the Sheriff's Department. (Wyum/Walstead, unanimous)

Also discussed hauling on undesignated roadways and Sparky informed the Board he talked to the foreman and the drivers will be contacted immediately to discontinue using these unauthorized roadways.

The meeting recessed at 11:25 a.m. subject to call by the Chairman.

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MAURICE ORN – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR