

Forman, North Dakota  
July 3, 2007

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

Approve June 19, 2007 minutes as corrected. (Walstead/Orn, unanimous).

Nathan Schlecht, Forman Drug, met with the Board to explain and discuss the method of operation of Caremark, a prescription discount company. Recently Sargent County signed a contract with Caremark to offer uninsured and underinsured county residents a discount card. Mr. Schlecht further explained that this company does not offer the discounts, nor does drug manufactures, drug wholesalers or these types of companies. The only discount that is received comes from the operating margins of the local pharmacy. He explained that he frequently must decide if a contract for discounted drugs will be in the best interest for his pharmacy. For those who choose to participate in Caremark, they not only take their business out of the county but put their medical care in the hands of some faceless, unknown, out of state pharmacy provider who is nearly impossible to reach when a problem arises. The Board explained why Sargent County chose to participate in this program through the National Association of Counties as a way to assist county residents with their prescription costs. Mr. Schlecht provided the Board with the name of a company that Forman Drug promotes to its customers for prescription drug discounts. The Board assured Mr. Schlecht that these cards will only be available through county offices.

The Board reviewed the recommended changes presented by the Alliance Management Consulting (AMC) for 602-Medical Leave and 604-Family Leave. Gina Hillestad, Risk Manager met with the Board to further explain these changes. Motion to adopt 604-Family Leave policy as recommended by AMC. (Walstead/Orn, unanimous) Further discussion followed on Medical Leave. Motion to adopt 602-Medical Leave as recommended by AMC. (Orn/Wyum, unanimous)

Discussed credit or purchasing cards for county Departments, as allowed by North Dakota statute approved by the 2007 Legislature. Tabled.

Kingston Township Board is requesting cost share on a 36" culvert between Section 27/34-129-53 to replace an existing culvert that washed out. The Sargent County Water Board approved 1/3 cost share on the purchase price of the culvert. Concur with the Water Board and approve 1/3 cost share. (Wyum/Walstead, unanimous)

Todd Reinertson and Beth Fritz, Forman Park Board met with the Board to inform them that they received a grant from the Minnesota Twins organization to upgrade the ball field located on the Sargent County Fairgrounds. The Forman Park Board is planning a three phase project including installing new fencing around the field, new backstop, and shore up the outfield fence. These monies and matching funds total \$10,000. The ball diamonds have not been thoroughly maintained for many years and the Forman Park Board would like to make these improvements. They are seeking permission to proceed with this project and would a clear and defined yes or no from someone. They have talked to the Fair Board members, took measurements and want permission to move ahead with this project. They also would like to move in a building to store equipment and mowers. Fair Board members are not prepared to give any direction for this project and the Forman Park Board is asking this Board to assist in giving them the go ahead. The Board suggested that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) be drawn up between the Sargent County Fair Board and the Forman Park Board. Todd Reinertson agreed to prepare the MOU, present it to the Fair Board for their input and approval.

Jan Swanson, Stirum, stopped by briefly to inform the Board of a water problem she has on her land in Harlem Township. She has visited with Sparky Engquist, road supervisor and he will meet with the Board later this morning to explain the remedy to this problem.

Norm Preble, Tax Director explained an abatement filed by Wayne Hurt, Gwinner on Lot 10, Block 4, Original Addition, Gwinner City. Gwinner City Council denied the application based on whether Mr. Hurt actually resides at this premises. Following discussion, Mr. Preble will visit with Gwinner City and postpone a recommendation until the August 7 meeting.

Norm Preble informed the Board about HB1303, a new legislatively mandated deadline to establish all agricultural land values through the use of soil survey data. The State Tax Commissioner will issue an analysis of what will be considered necessary to be in compliance with this mandate.

The Board discussed the Property Tax Credit for Qualifying Veterans and Disabled Persons Confined to the use of a Wheelchair. Norm Preble, Tax Director published a notice informing the county residents of this credit.

HB 1332 and SB 2032 were reviewed and motion to authorize the County Auditor to send a letter to all delinquent tax payers in Sargent County. This letter will inform them of the changes the number of years a property can have delinquent taxes from five years to three years and also the right to receive a credit on 2007 income tax based on paid 2006 property taxes. (Wyum/Orn, unanimous)

Sparky Engquist, SC road supervisor, Gene Gerdon and Ray Bauer, Harlem Township Supervisors and Lyle Bopp, States Attorney arrived at the meeting. Sparky explained to the group a problem that he is experiencing with County No. 4A and County 1, between Section 4 and 9 of Harlem Township. He is proposing to remove an 18" culvert and replace with a 24" between Section 3 & 4, remove 2 18" approach culverts in the road ditch on the south side of Section 4, place a berm and add a 30" culvert under the County Road 1 on the west end between Section 4 and 9. He also proposes to remove a 30" culvert between Section 8 and 9 and replace with a 36". Following discussion there is concern about placing the berm on private land and the need to obtain easements. Motion to proceed with the culvert work, remove the approaches and do the necessary cleaning as defined above and approved by the Water Board. (Walstead/Orn, unanimous)

The Board recessed for lunch.

The Board reconvened at 1:40 p.m.

Authorize the Chairman and Auditor to execute a temporary easement between Gary Krause and Sargent County for drainage of water to avoid damage to County # 14 by Alkali Lake. (NE1/4-130-53). (Walstead/Orn, unanimous)

Approve Games of Chance Permit No. 2007-05 to Cogswell Gun Club for a raffle on September 9, 2007 at the Cogswell Gun Club Trap grounds. (Orn/Wyum, unanimous)

Approve Gaming Site Authorization for El Zagal Viking Patrol, Inc., at Stir'Um Up Bar and Grill at Stirum beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008. (Orn/Wyum, unanimous)

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

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BILL ANDERSON – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR