

July 7, 2020  
Forman, North Dakota

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:01 a.m. in the Conference Room with the following members present: Bill Anderson, Jason Arth, Lyle Bopp, and Jerry Waswick. Also present were Jayne Pfau, State's Attorney and Pam Maloney, County Auditor. Present through technology were: Merrill Engquist, Road Supervisor; Charissa Rubey, Herman Township Resident; and Mary Engst, Sargent County Teller.

Chairman Waswick called the meeting to order.

Commissioner Richard Ruch arrived at the meeting at 9:04 a.m.

Ms. Rubey called into the meeting to find out when County Road #14 would be graveled. She stated that it was on the list to be graveled last year, but it was not done. She is also concerned about the insufficient road crown. UPS and FEDEX have stated that they will discontinue to deliver to her business if the road does not improve. County Road #14 is on the list to be graveled this year and Mr. Engquist stated that the contractor has tentatively promised that it will be done the first part of August. Ms. Rubey also inquired about road counts and was provided a link to check on those herself. Ms. Rubey then asked whether the Five Star Dairy had been assessed and put back on the tax rolls, as had been discussed at a previous meeting. It was determined that the dairy is considered an ag business, therefore is exempt from real estate taxes. She stated that the dairy's trucks have done considerable damage to County Road #14 and even some of Herman Township's roads as well. She suggested that along with the proposed gravel map that the road supervisor provides to the commission, he should also provide a completed gravel map at the end of the graveling season, so all can see if the work has been completed.

Motion to approve June 2, June 16 & June 25 minutes as presented (Ruch/Bopp). Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bopp reported that he has called Ransom County to set up a date to interview those interested in the Human Resources Director position.

The board received an easement from Dickey County for road purposes in, on, over and/or across the SW1/2 of Section 19; S1/2 of Section 29; & the N1/2 of Section 30, Twp 131N, Rge 58W – Verner Township. They have applied for & been granted an Emergency Surface Drain Permit No. 5466 from the Office of State Engineer to locate, excavate, construct and maintain a surface drain, ditch, control structure, outlet and all appurtenant facilities thereto in order to mitigate flooding and damage to County Road #3 in Dickey County. Motion to grant a temporary easement that will last as long as Surface Drain Permit No. 5466 is valid. (Anderson/Ruch) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

The auditor questioned whether SCB Public Finance had been contacted regarding financing for the Walk'n'Roll. Mr. Engquist will contact the bank today.

Motion to re-appoint Sandra Hanson, Forman to the Planning Commission. Term ending June 15, 2023. (Anderson/Ruch) Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the following resolution. (Anderson/Ruch) Roll Call Vote: Yes – Anderson, Arth, Bopp, Ruch and Waswick. No – None. Motion carried and resolution adopted.

## **SARGENT COUNTY RESOLUTION FOR SARGENT COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

WHEREAS, the 49<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly passed the “North Dakota Disaster Act of 1985: (NDCC 37-17.1) enacting an emergency management law embodying all aspects of disaster/emergency preparedness for all types of hazards which could seriously affect this county; and

WHEREAS, the law mandated the formation of local disaster organizations responsible to provide effective response and recovery capabilities to reduce the loss of life and property of our citizens from the effects of disaster or emergency; and

WHEREAS, the law provides that each county shall maintain an emergency management organization that serves the entire county, and each city shall provide an emergency management organization of its own, or it shall participate in the county wide emergency management organization; and

WHEREAS, the State Law requires the cities and counties to notify the North Dakota Department of Emergency Management of the manner in which their jurisdiction is securing an emergency management capability,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the County of Sargent will be a participant in the Sargent County Emergency Management Agency.

Milnor City has been awarded Transportation Alternatives funds for its “Milnor Safe Route to School Project”. Sargent County will be the pass-through agency needed for the grant funds. Motion to act as the pass-through agency for TA funds for Milnor City. (Anderson/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Sargent County has been notified that Bridge 41-114-20.1 is in need of some repairs. Mr. Engquist will flag the area and will hire a contractor to make the repairs as soon as possible.

There has been a request to allocate earned interest to the Jackson/Sargent Drain monies within the county funds. Motion to authorize the treasurer to allocate interest to the Jackson/Sargent Drain monies held within the county’s funds. (Anderson/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve an Application for Drainage Work Within County Road Right-of-Way received from Roger Bopp, contingent upon application approval by the Sargent County Water Resource Board, if needed. Description of work: Tile SE1/4 of Section 11-131-57 in Harlem Township – Outlet in SE corner of SE1/4 of 11 on County Road #4 – Drain south along County Road #4 through E1/2 of Section 14-131-57 into existing slough. (Anderson/Bopp) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Wendy Willprecht, Emergency Manager; and Alison Toepke, Treasurer/Recorder/Clerk of Court; arrived at meeting for the COVID-19 update. Also arriving through technology, Cindy Klapperich, NDSU Extension Service. Ms. Willprecht reported that the schools are still undecided which route they will take this fall. Ms. Toepke stated that things are going well in court and in their offices with people respecting social distancing and wearing masks when required. Ms. Klapperich stated that things are going well out at the extension service, as well. The building is closed and the public may come in by appointment only. Commissioner Waswick inquired that maybe we should purchase some disposable masks to have available for public visitors to the courthouse to utilize if they don't have one, especially because the courtroom still requires them. Motion to purchase 100 masks to use when necessary. (Bopp/Anderson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

At this time, AJ Snyder from NRG Tech Services, arrived at the meeting with the commissioner’s new laptops. Quick tutorials and help was given to those present.

Commissioner Ruch reported that the auditorium at the fairgrounds is in severe disrepair. There is black mold in several places, the foundation has moved & crossbeams are coming down in the stage area. The fair board would like to see it demolished or removed from the site. Motion to give the fair board authorization to demolish the building and to clean up the site & to consider the use of county staff and resources for the project. (Arth/Ruch) Upon roll call vote: Yes – Arth, Bopp, Ruch and Waswick. No – Anderson. Motion carried.

At this time, Brenda Peterson, Sargent County District Health Unit Administrator, joined the commission through technology. She stated that the outlook for the fall is not looking good & that it is anticipated that COVID-19 cases will spike. In Sargent County, there is one new case, so at this time, there has been a total of 7 cases – 6 recovered and 1 active.

The commissioners finished reviewing departmental budgets for 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

---

JERRY WASWICK – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

---

PAM MALONEY – COUNTY AUDITOR