

Forman, North Dakota  
August 3, 2004

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

Approve July 20, 27 & 28, 2004 minutes. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous)

Karen Anderson asked if John Schreiner could be reimbursed for windshields on two of his vehicles that were cracked and chipped on County No. 4 due to lose gravel that hadn't been swept. Steve Wyum responded that States Attorney Lyle Bopp said the county is not responsible.

Remove item # 1404 GO Video from inventory. (Wehlander/Brockman, unanimous)

Approve reappointment of Nancy Glarum, Rutland, Sargent County Combined Commission District No. 1 to the SC Weed Board for a 4-year term. (Brockman/Walstead, unanimous)

The Board received a letter from MAXIMUS providing the county with information to assist in determining annual increase to the salary structure. For the Midwest Region of the US, the changes in indices for the previous year are 2.5% for the Consumer Price Index and 1.9% for the Employment Cost Index. An increase to the salary ranges of 1.9%-2.5% is justifiable in order to maintain the competitive nature of the County's pay plan. Also discussed a recommendation to re-evaluate three positions on the county pay plan and total number of steps on the plan.

Forman City is recommending Darwin Flihs to replace Mark Bopp on the SC Planning Commission. Approve appointment. (Anderson/Brockman, unanimous)

Approve 1% increase to the county retirement compensation plan for each employee who participates to the maximum in the plan. If an employee contributes the maximum 7%, the county will contribute 6%. If an employee contributes less than 7% the county would pay one-half of the employees contribution. (Brockman/Anderson. Roll call: Aye: Brockman, Anderson, Walstead, Wehlander, Wyum. Nay: none. Motion carried.)

Approve 2.2% cost of living adjustment for all eligible employees for 2005. (Wehlander/Walstead. Roll call: Aye: Wehlander, Walstead, Anderson, Brockman, Wyum. Nay: none. Motion carried)

Norm Preble, Tax Director met with the Board to discuss a 2002 and 2003 abatement from Claye Seelye on Lots 23 and 24, Block 29, Original Townsite, Milnor City. Mr. Seelye is asking the city to remove the special assessments for 2002 and reduce the structure from \$17,800 to \$13,712. He is also asking that the reduction on the structure be approved for 2003. The City of Milnor agreed to waive the special assessments for 2002 but denied the reduction on the structure for both 2002 and 2003. Concur with Milnor City. (Wehlander/Walstead, unanimous)

Jack Lalor, Tewaukon Refuge met with the Board in regards to the letter the Board sent to Mary Jo Solid denying her request to sell the SW1/4-25-130-58 to US Fish and Wildlife. The Board denied the sale based on information that the formula currently being used does not adequately compensate the county for loss of taxes. Mr. Lalor explained that the formula has not changed and equals about 50% of the local values. All of this money paid is divided between the schools (75%) and townships (25%) as per state law. USFW Service would pay a lump sum of \$4,819.28 to the county for the purchase of the land. Mr. Lalor commented that the USFW Service has other avenues they can pursue to purchase property without county approval. The Board commended the Tewaukon Refuge on their fire fighting efforts and weed control in Sargent County.

Julie Hassebroek and Lisa Knox, Extension Service asked approval for Lisa to attend the ESRI conference in San Diego, CA, August 6-13. This is an environmental systems research conference for National 4-H Technology Leadership Teams and teaches user education for GPS. All travel will be paid by NDSU. Approve out-of-state travel for Lisa Knox. (Wehlander/Walstead, unanimous) Discussed a proposal for a teaching bank of ten laptop computers and five digital cameras at a total cost of \$18,000 with NDSU matching 50% and local 50%. These would be used for computer/camera training in the county. The 4-H Foundation will provide \$4,000 grant monies and the additional \$5,000 from extension equipment fund and county technology monies. Authorize amending the 2005 proposed budget for technology cost share for a total of \$3700 and instruct Julie to contact NDSU for the funding. (Wehlander/Walstead, unanimous)

Sandra Hanson, Brian Tayer and Mike Marquette met with the Board and Sandy informed the Board that Marwood Klein, Munich, ND has accepted the position as Assistant Ambulance Coordinator and plans to begin work full-time on November 1. He will report to Brian Tayer, Ambulance Coordinator. The Board placed a call to Mr. Klein to confirm his acceptance and answer any questions that he might have on the offer made by Sargent County.

Approve transfer of \$15,000 from Capital Improvements to County Park as budgeted. (Brockman/Wehlander, unanimous)

Sparky Engquist called via cell phone. The commission reminded him that no new equipment/supplies should be sold to individuals. Only townships and cities are allowed to purchase from the county. Karen reported that a multi-fuel engine is missing and Sparky responded that it went with the 1964 IHC semi-tractor truck that was sold to Todd Ekstrom. Sparky said the motor was not replaced before the sale because it was still running. He did not list the motor in the ad for selling the trucks and pickup. The Board requested clarification on purchases/sale of items on future transactions. American Iron would like to cost-share the mag-chloride on County No. 8. One small area has been treated at this point and there is an extreme amount of truck traffic in this area. Also, the ND Highway 32 construction project between Gwinner and Lisbon has added to the traffic volume and he plans to put on some gravel. The county will not do any major cost sharing for the mag-chloride but would allow American Iron to do the work themselves after the gravel is in place. Discussed other ongoing projects and other areas that need additional work. Also discussed Bridge No. 136-24.1 (by Edwin Anderson's) and instructed Sparky to inspect the bridge and make necessary repairs immediately.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

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STEVEN R. WYUM – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR