

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

Approve minutes of September 1, 2009 meeting as corrected. (Waswick/Orn, unanimous).

Approve September payroll in the sum of \$149,992.26 (nos. 3649-3712 and 61273-61284) and the following bills. (Anderson/Waswick, unanimous):

61171	Otter Tail Power	Electricity	\$ 1306.43
61172-61179		Health Dept. expenses	1885.71
61185	Forman City	Water/sewer/garbage	165.30
61193-61204		Human Service expenses	14734.64
61205	Adamson Industries	SUV partition	574.90
61206	American Express	Card purchases	485.95
61207	American Solutions	1099's	42.82
61208	Buhl's	Cleaning	166.45
61209	Carpet Connection	Cleaning	1754.00
61210	Dickey Rural Networks	Phone calls	777.99
61211	Ed's Place	Gas	39.89
61212	Farmers Union Oil	Gas, supplies	775.19
61213	Forman Drug	Note pads	3.08
61214	Gwinner One-Stop	Gas	436.63
61215	Hansen Lumber	Keys	6.00
61216	Sandra Hanson	Meals	32.50
61217	Hardware Hank	Paint, supplies	139.19
61218	Institute of Local Govt.	CEUS	15.00
61219	Jacobson Plumbing	Labor	200.00
61220	Lexis Nexis	ND Traffic Law	49.47
61221	Martinsen's	Supplies, tools	136.54
61222	Midstates Wireless	Remove/install equipment	2748.93
61223	ND Assn. Assessing Officers	Registration	30.00
61224	Otis Elevator	Annual service contract	1164.80
61225	Otter Tail Power	Rental-electricity	11.65
61226	Quill	Supplies	238.73
61227	Reardon Office	Supplies	89.92
61228	Sargent County Insurance	Premium	61.00
61229	The Sargent County Teller	Publishing	423.45
61230	Secretary of State	Notary	36.00
61231	SEL Lumber	Lock repair	20.00
61232	Shirt Shop	Uniforms	101.94
61233	Streicher's	Carbine	785.00
61234	White Banner	Uniform	68.49
61235	AW Diesel	Valve	8.45
61236	CRA-Titan	Repairs	43.69
61237	Crandall Construction	Clay	1875.00
61238	Ekstrom Repair	Wheels/tires	200.00
61239	Huron Culvert & Tank	Cutting edges	14887.00
61240	Johnston Fargo Culvert	Culverts	7207.59
61241	Kustom Machine	Repairs	203.12
61242	Nelson Bulk	Fuel	4255.59
61243	Southeast Propane	Propane	52.40
61244	Swanston Equipment	Motor	362.80
61245	Barnes County Corrections	Prisoner board	2080.00
61246	Bernard Mahrer Construction	Gravel	38561.24
61247	CPU	Staff support	1022.23
61248	Crandall Construction	Gravel, rock	8536.40
61249	Dakota Improvement	Hauling gravel	450.00
61250	Lisa Dawson	Travel	228.95
61251	Dickey Rural Networks	911 Contracts	291.00
61252	Julie Hassebroek	Travel	699.00
61253	Sherry Hosford	Convention expense	30.00
61254	ITD	WAN	474.60

61255	Lisbon Area Health Services	Blood alcohol	36.00
61256	NDACO	Wireless 911	1432.80
61257	NDDOT	SC-4111(065)	1494.68
61258	NDACO Resources	Software	612.00
61259	NDSU	Registration	228.00
61260	Oakes Community Hospital	Blood draw	20.00
61261	Qwest	911	191.88
61262	Starion Bond Services	GO Bond payment	12011.50
61263	ND State Land Dept	Unclaimed property	23.82
61285-61290		Weed Board Expenditures	32652.88

Authorize the treasurer to write off and submit to ND Unclaimed Property Division the following uncashed checks: (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous).

#55452	Charlene Knutson	8-17-2006	\$11.88
#56187	Crystal Wagner	11-30-2006	\$11.94

Lyle Bopp, States Attorney arrived at 10:00.

Norm Preble, Tax Director met to discuss new single-family residential property, excluding land, which provides for an exemption of up to \$150,000 true and full value. This includes single-family and condominium and townhouse residential property for the first two taxable years after the taxable year in which construction is completed, when the residence is owned and occupied for the first time. Previously approved resolutions under old section of the North Dakota Century Code expired August 1, 2009 and Sargent County and all seven cities were allowing \$75,000. After further discussion a motion was made to request that Lyle Bopp, States Attorney, draft a resolution increasing the exemption to the new, \$150,000.00, limit for the Board to consider at the October 6th meeting. (Anderson/Walstead, unanimous)

A letter was received from Bowman County Commissioners discussing the process for 911 services or an established formula for determining the price. As it is now, the proposed contracts are very vague and at the discretion of State Radio. Bowman County Commission is extending an invitation to the 22 counties in the state that contract with State Radio for services to meet to discuss a draft contract for dispatch services. The Sargent County Commission is in favor of meeting with this group while in Bismarck in October.

A conference call was placed to the Ransom County Commissioners to discuss sharing the services and costs of a Veterans Service Officer (VSO) with Ransom County. Sargent County Commissioners informed the Ransom County Commission that they were impressed with current Ransom County VSO Tom McKinnon following their meeting with him on September 1, and that they are in favor of adopting the proposed agreement to share services and costs, with said agreement to include a provision for a joint review, as needed. Motion to enter into the Agreement between Ransom County and Sargent County for Sharing Veteran's Service Officer, with the VSO to be an employee of Ransom County and Sargent County to be billed, monthly, for its share of salary, benefits and costs. (Anderson/Orn.) Roll Call – Aye: Walstead, Anderson, Orn, Waswick, Wyum. Nay – none. Motion carried. Ransom County Commission also approved the agreement prior to the termination of the conference call.

Lysle Coleman, Oakes was in attendance for the 11:00 a.m. 2010 Final Budget Hearing. Sherry Hosford, Auditor, explained the budget summary and total amount to be levied. Mr. Coleman inquired about health insurance premiums and amount levied. After further discussion the following resolutions were introduced:

RESOLUTION NO. 1

Commissioner Walstead offered the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Anderson:

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Board to make appropriations for the current year beginning January 1, 2010 and ending December 31, 2010 of money in specific amounts for all offices, officials, improvements, roads, bridges, which are supported wholly or in part by the county.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sargent County commission approve and adopt the 2010 budget.

Voting aye: Walstead, Anderson, Wyum, Waswick, Orn.

Voting nay: None.

Resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION NO. 2

Commissioner Anderson offered the following resolution and moved its adoption, seconded by Commissioner Orn:

WHEREAS, the Lake Agassiz Regional Council strives to assist in the planning and economic development of Sargent County and Lake Agassiz Regional Council as a whole, and

WHEREAS, planning and economic development are among the objectives of the Board of Commissioners of Sargent County,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Sargent County approves and supports the planning and economic development program and budget of the Lake Agassiz Regional Council during the Fiscal year 2010 in the amount of \$1500.

Voting aye: Walstead, Anderson, Wyum, Waswick, Orn.

Voting nay: None

Resolution was adopted.

The following is a summary of the taxes to be levied for 2010:

	GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	TOTAL ALL FUNDS
BUDGET REQUEST	838,060	4,663,570	5,501,630
BUDGETED TRANSFERS OUT		175,000	175,000
CASH RESERVE	76,555	568,846	645,401
SUBTOTAL	914,615	5,407,416	6,322,031
ESTIMATED CASH BALANCE (12-31- 09)	135,995	1,858,538	1,994,533
ESTIMATED TRANSFERS IN		65,000	65,000
ESTIMATED REVENUE	384,400	1,726,664	2,111,064
TOTAL RESOURCES	520,395	3,650,202	4,170,597
LEVY REQUIRED	394,220	1,757,214	2,151,434
ALLOWANCE FOR DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTIONS	19,000	77,071	96,071
TOTAL AMOUNT LEVIED	413,220	1,834,285	2,247,505

Reviewed the Special Policing Policy for Sargent County. Authorize the Chairman, States Attorney and Sheriff to sign said policy. (Waswick/Anderson, unanimous)

Discussed pay classifications for staff restructuring. Motion that all combined positions in any of the reclassifications be a vertical step from the current Grade and Step to the new grade and same step. (Anderson/Waswick, unanimous)

A county open forum was discussed and a motion to proceed with another forum on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 at the Crete Elevator beginning at 8:00 p.m. (Orn/Walstead, unanimous) Notices of said forum will be mailed to Gwinner and Cogswell cities, Oakes, Sargent Central and North Sargent school districts and the surrounding townships.

The Board recessed for lunch.

The Board reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Gina Hillestad, Treasurer met with the Board to discuss the combination of the Treasurer's office with the Recorder and Clerk of Court and the implementation of the County's restructuring plan in the respective offices. Joan Lee, Recorder was invited to attend this meeting but was unable to attend. Ms. Hillestad reported that she would like to move forward with training for the three offices and is unsure where to start. She would like to see the training here at the courthouse and not in another county. The Treasurer suggested that all three offices should have some training now, possibly one

day a week for each office and that she would prefer to do the training in house, with the cooperation of the Recorder. The Board agreed to prepare a letter from the commission to the Treasurer and the Recorder to discuss a plan to implement this transition, stressing the importance of moving ahead with cross-training, immediately.

Rob Bundy, new Manager at the Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge arrived at the meeting and introduced himself to the commission. The commissioners welcomed him and stated that they look forward to working with him on matters of mutual interest to Sargent County and the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Scott Mund, Russell Martinson and Mary Engst, Hall Township officials met with the Board to discuss the needs in Hall Township to get a roadway moved and eliminate a bridge to allow the Jason Kottke family access to their home in Section 35-132-53. Also attending the meeting was Sparky Engquist, Road Supt and Damon DeVillers, Interstate Eng. Lyle Bopp has been working on acquiring right of way deeds and reported that a portion of this area is in a family trust. Lyle has sent an easement to the landowners but it sounded like it should not be a problem to get it signed. Mr. Bopp has made an offer for this land of \$4840 for 2.4 acres. According to Scott Mund, Chairman of Hall Township the township is looking for the county to cost share and pay for some of this. FEMA funds are available to fix the existing roadway, and Hall Township will use these funds totaling \$16,883 for gravel, embankment materials, rock and a culvert. Hall Township is requesting assistance to bury power lines, (\$3000), cost of easements (\$4840), 18" equalization culvert and installation (\$400), removal of the roadway north of the driveway to bottom of hill (\$800), provide road maintainer with packing wheels to pack gravel on new road (county road department) and move the bridge improvement/replacement project on 149th Ave SE up on the list for replacement. Commissioners agreed that this project must proceed as rapidly as possible, to allow the displaced family access to their home. Sargent County's participation in this project will allow for the removal of bridge 135-5.2 across the Wild Rice River, resulting in a substantial future saving for County taxpayers. A motion that Sargent County participate in this project up to \$10,000.00, and that any changes that result in an increase in the cost of this project must be reviewed and approved by the commissioners prior to the changes being made. (Waswick/Walstead, unanimous.) The Commission commended the township officials, County EMD Sandy Hanson and States Attorney Lyle Bopp for their continued work on this project. Motion to approve payment of \$4840 for easements for land on said project when Hall Township submits the bills. (Walstead/Orn, unanimous)

Those present sang Happy Birthday to Sparky Engquist, Road Supt. celebrating "Double Nickels".

Damon DeVillers reviewed possible replacement of bridges. Bridge 135-06 located between Section 35 in Hall Township and Section 2 of Herman Township is on the list for replacement funds but needs justification due to a 54.3 rating. The Board is proposing to remove this bridge from the replacement list and add 135.5 and 135-5.1 located between Section 25 and 26 of Hall Township on the Bridge Replacement Program and ask for approval from ND Dept. of Transportation in October in Bismarck. Bridge 123-20 is being proposed for 2013. This is located 4 miles south and 2 miles west of Rutland.

Damon DeVillers also presented a proposed list of highway improvement projects for 2010-2013. These projects include magnesium chloride application, bituminous maintenance overlay, gravel, Base 1, seal coats and mine and blend. The Board will meet with NDDOT on October 12th to identify these projects.

Sparky Engquist, Road Supt, reported on: ER Project reimbursement; work that has been done on roads for Keystone Pipeline; the reimbursement received by the county from Keystone; dust control applications' and, that the seal coat will begin on County # 1 tomorrow, September 16. Steve Wyum reported he received a phone call from Shane Breker regarding water held up in the NW1/4 of Section 24 in Tewaukon Township along County Road #7. Sparky was aware of this problem and will look into correcting it. Joel Grothe, road department employee since 1999 has tendered his resignation effective November 30, 2009. Sparky would like to put Jamey Lien on fulltime to fill the vacancy created by Mr. Grothe's retirement. Following discussion a motion to move Jamey Lien from regular part time to full time effective October 1, 2009 at Grade 6 Step 2. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous) Maurice Orn reported to Sparky Engquist that Joe Malstrom had reported a hole along the roadway on County #10, about 5 miles south of Rutland. Sparky replied that the holes have been filled in, but that they get pounded out again from the traffic.

Scott Mund, Hall Township Chairman returned to the meeting to inquire about dust control on County No. 14 by the dairy farm. Mr. Mund received a complaint from a landowner asking for more mag chloride on this roadway. Sparky will inspect the area. He also informed the Board that the culverts on County No. 12 north of Cayuga are sunken down. Sparky reported that the road department was working on these sites today, September 15.

The Board received and reviewed a proposal from Ken Forster for removal of scrap iron items on the Sargent County Highway Dept. grounds located on the east end of the Sargent County Fairgrounds. Mr. Forster proposed to sort the materials to get the most dollars for the scrap, load and haul items to American Iron, Milnor. Sargent County is to have all large scrap items identified with a red x no later than September 28, 2009. Mr. Forster presented two proposals 1) 50% to Ken Forster and 50% to Sargent County or 2)40% to Ken Forster, 20% to Sargent County Fair Auditorium Fund and 40% to Sargent County. Motion to accept the 40/20/40 proposal from Mr. Forster. (Waswick/Anderson, unanimous)

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

STEVEN R WYUM – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR