

Forman, North Dakota
September 21, 2016

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 1:00 p.m. for a special meeting to discuss Sargent County Job Development Authority funding and monetary request. The following members were present: Jerry Waswick, David Jacobson, Mike Walstead, and Bill Anderson. Absent was Sherry Hosford. Also present was Trent Nelson and Donna Eklund, county residents; Nathan Berseth, Crossroads Community Advisors; Sandra Hanson, SCJDA Secretary/Treasurer; Mary Engst, The Sargent County Teller and Pam Maloney, Sargent County Auditor.

Commission Chairman Jerry Waswick stated the purpose of the meeting. The SCJDA had requested funds to be sent to First National Bank to open up a separate checking account to pay the bills associated with the spec home being built by the SCJDA. The JDA Board has allocated up to \$100,000 for housing development projects within the county. The JDA has authority over, and responsibility for, the proper allocation and disbursement of funds levied for JDA purposes, however, it has been the practice in Sargent County that all bills should be audited by the County Auditor before being approved by the appropriate board, and authorized for payment by the appropriate board prior to being paid by the County Treasurer. The Commission neither reviews nor approves the bills of County boards, although the Commission does have budgetary authority over all County boards. The Auditor had questioned the appropriateness of establishing a separate account for JDA housing projects at the Commission's regular meeting on September 20, 2016. As there are several contractors waiting for payment, this special meeting was held in order to expedite the payment of these bills. Mr. Berseth explained the way the financing of the project works, with the SCJDA, as owner of the project, paying the first 25% of the bills, and a loan from Lake Agassiz paying the remaining 75%. It is anticipated to be a \$250,000 home, so the SCJDA would be responsible for the first \$62,500. Ms. Hanson, after visiting with other JDA boards in neighboring counties, suggested opening a separate account, so it would be less work for the auditor's office. However, the auditor and treasurer have reservations that the state auditors would not approve of this separate checking account with county funds. After much discussion, it was decided that the SCJDA would present the bills from the contractors to the auditor's office as they come in, with the checks being written once a week. Once the SCJDA has paid the \$62,500, remaining bills from the contractors will be submitted to Lake Agassiz for payment. No action by the Commission was needed.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

JERRY WASWICK - CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

PAM MALONEY – COUNTY AUDITOR