

Forman, North Dakota
September 4, 2007

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9 a.m. with the following members present: Maurice Orn, Jerry Waswick, Steve Wyum, Bill Anderson and Mike Walstead. Absent: none

Approve August 21, 2007 minutes as corrected. (Waswick/Wyum, unanimous)

Approve Sunday Alcoholic Beverage Permit to Geneseo Bar and Grill for a twelve month period commencing September 4, 2007. (Orn/Walstead, unanimous)

The Board discussed vote by mail options and instructed the Auditor to send a news release to the Teller to seek public input on election by mail.

Julie Hassebroek, Extension Service, met with the Board to discuss her department 2008 budget. She answered questions on reimbursements from NDSU and indicated that her budget won't allow for any additional cuts, over and above the 31% cut made in the 2007 budget and the cuts already made by the Commission for 2008.

Tracey Anderson, Lake Agassiz Regional Council, Sparky Engquist, Road Supervisor and Charissa Rubey, Dakota Micro, Geneseo met with the Board. Tracey Anderson explained the proposed Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) financing for Dakota Micro expansion. There is an equipment loan, a preferred ownership loan, and a road loan for a total of \$250,000. The steps involved in this proposal include: 1) Sargent County agreeing to sponsor CDBG application for Dakota Micro, 2) financial plan is finalized, 3) Sargent County holds public hearing, 4) Application is submitted to ND Division of Community Services. Other participants involved are Lincoln State Bank, ND Development Fund and Bank of ND. Following discussion of this financing plan a public hearing was scheduled for September 18, 2007 at 11:00 a.m. for Sargent County CDBG sponsorship of Dakota Micro Expansion.

Norm Preble, Tax Director, met with the Board and reported that he is working on comparable sales for older apartment buildings but lacks information on new apartment buildings. Norm discussed retirement plans and he yielded to the Board for their recommendation. The Board is looking down the road and needs some lead time for filling a vacancy in light of the new soil survey data and schooling that is required for his position. Norm is not looking at retirement at this time but he does not want to be involved in the process if assessing the values of farm real estate based on soils classification as required by the last session of the Legislature and feels that a new person should be employed to implement the soil classification requirement. Norm agreed to contact some companies about the soil survey and obtain the minimum requirements necessary to implement the new requirement.

Sandy Hanson, Emergency Manager discussed her 2008 budget with the Board and reviewed various line items. She agreed her department she can carry out its essential duties with the 20% cuts requested by the Commission.

Travis Paeper, Sheriff discussed his 2008 budget with the Board and noted that he feels the cuts made might affect the efficiency of his department. After further discussion, both Sheriff Paeper and Board members agreed on the proposed budget for the Sheriff's department, in which non-salary line items are cut by 24% for the 2008 budget year.

Lyle Bopp, States Attorney contacted the Board to discuss his 2008 budget. He pointed out that most of the items had not been increased since 1998 and that his office has not been billing the County for mileage in the performance of his duties as State Attorney. The Board discussed the line items and made reductions as agreed.

The Board recessed at 12:25 p.m. for lunch.

The Board reconvened at 2:05 p.m. following the Park Board meeting.

Damon DeVillers, Interstate Eng., Inc., Sparky Engquist, Road Supervisor and Charissa Rubey, Dakota Micro Ag met with the Board. Mr. DeVillers presented the Sargent County Highway Improvement Program for 2006-2010 and reviewed the various projects with costs. A lengthy discussion followed on proposed work on the county roads. Mr. DeVillers will attend the September 18 meeting to present a firm proposal on road projects and to finalize the 2008-2009 County Federal Aid Program.

Sparky Engquist reported that Mike Marquette resigned from the road department effective September 24, 2007. He plans to utilize the services of Dennis Goltz to fill in on a part-time basis for the remainder of the year.

Lorraine Jacobson, County Coroner met with the Board to discuss her 2008 budget. The Board questioned the line items and explained the General Fund situation to Lorraine and the necessity to reduce individual requests. Reductions were made to the coroner's budget.

Approve Local Permit SC-2007-06 to Four Seasons Health Care Center, Inc., Forman for a raffle to be held on September 16, 2007 at Stirum Community Hall, Stirum. (Wyum/Orn, unanimous)

Jon Mund, Milnor called to request permission to place a 4' x 8' sign north of Milnor on the county road # 10 in recognition of Milnor City's 125th Anniversary. Tabled a decision until more information concerning the proposed location of the sign is obtained.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

BILL ANDERSON – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR