The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Lysle Coleman, Don Wehlander, W.E. Smith, Ray Brockman and Steve Wyum. Absent none.

Lyle Bopp met with the Board regarding his 2001 budget. He questioned the allocation for SEMCA and suggested that this money should be provided by the state as is in the larger counties. He does not support this program and is not impressed with the cases that they have handled. The commissioners felt they need to respond to SEMCA on their views. Lyle asked that this be removed from his budget. Lyle also discussed his salary and the percentage of his time that is spent on county business. The SC Salary Plan was reviewed and calculations for each step discussed.

Jerry Nankevil, Parole & Probation Officer and Tammy Schillinger met with the Board to review the status of the program in Sargent County. Mr. Nankevil reported the statistics for the county and a net gain of \$6,392. Most hours for community service are worked for the public sector. Discussed the Deputy Matron responsibilities in assignments and Mr. Nankevil reported that he schedules the community service after the hearing with the judge.

Chuck Gates met with the Board regarding his 2001 budget. The budget requests an additional deputy and a contract with City of Forman. This position would be financed through a three year COPS grant. The grant has not been approved at this point. The Board is concerned about the future of the position. Sheriff Gates stated that the person is hired with no obligation. Chuck will meet with the City of Forman to get written documentation on their intent to proceed with a contract. Other budget items were discussed and clarified.

Norm Preble received correspondence from the State Board of Equalization. The State Board is requesting a 9% increase in agricultural land. Gary Rodine met with the State Board regarding inundated land that was filed after the March 1, 2000 deadline. A reduction is recommended on Mr. Rodine's acres. Norm has reviewed the maps and agreed with the claim. The Board discussed their initial resolution of 0% increase. Norm requested a 4% increase at the August state meeting. The State Board will meet on September 7, 2000 to further discuss the assessments of property.

Damon DeVillers, Interstate Engineering, Inc. met with the Board to discuss a meeting with NDDOT. The Board will meet on October 10 at 2:30 to discuss the 2001-2003 Federal Aid Program.

W.E. Smith introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption: Under the auspices of a healthful environment for employees and the general public whom work or visit Sargent County's historical courthouse, the Courthouse building will be Smoke-free. The effective date shall be immediately. Wyum seconded the resolution. Motion carried.

Steve McLaen, Jiggs Dyste and Lyle Bopp arrived the meeting at 1:50 p.m. The Forman Development Corporation is seeking financial support from Sargent County for purchase of Sargent Manor. Lyle informed the group that the county couldn't loan monies unless there is a job development authority. Lyle left the meeting. Steve explained the request of a $2^{\rm nd}$ mortgage loan in the amount of \$100,000 to purchase the Sargent Manor. The purchase price is \$450,000 and other funding is being requested through other financial institutions. The current owner is in bankruptcy and the business is in a state of decline, possibly closure. FCDC would like to buy it and get it back in local control and ownership.

Approve creation of a job development authority (Smith/Brockman, unanimous)

Sandy Hanson met to discuss the 2001 budget for Emergency Management and Hazardous Chemical Preparedness. Clarification was requested for the various line items. Sandy asked permission to attend a meeting in Watford City for ND DEM Local Program Managers on September 12. Permission granted. Information received that Gov. Schafer issued a fire emergency proclamation for the entire State of North Dakota. She also explained the Crooked Creek cleanout and reason that it was approved for FEMA funds a few years ago. FEMA does not pay for agricultural problems but will allow funding for individual and safety issues.

Marla Bopp and Cindy Trucksess, Forman Ambulance Squad met with the Board. Cindy applied for the coordinator position and the Board interviewed and hired her effective 9-1-00. The Board approved the recommendation and set the salary at Grade 4 Step 1.

Gina Hillestad explained the SC Pay Plan and asked for clarification on the step changes. The consultant feels the salary grade Step 1 should be adjusted by the salary increase and then maintain a 2.5% increase between each additional step. Some employees feel this amount is not correct. After calculations and discussion, the Board agreed that salary increases should be made in percentage

of base pay (Grade Step 1) and the distance between each step should be 2.5% according to the policies approved in 1998 and 1999.
Roz Amerman met to discuss vacation benefit and suggested a revision to the current policy.
Approve August 15, 2000 minutes as corrected. (Wyum/Wehlander, unanimous)
The Board discussed personnel issues.
Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.
LYSLE COLEMAN - CHAIRMAN
ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD