

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following members present: Bill Anderson, Steve Wyum, David L Jacobson, Mike Walstead and Jerry Waswick. Absent: None. Also present was Paige Cary, the Sargent County Teller.

The following were present to discuss a proposed drain project crossing County No. 14 south of Geneseo between Sections 1 and 2 of Kingston Township: Mark Breker, Richard Engst, and Jim Bosse, Sargent County Water Board/Richland/Sargent No. 1 Joint Board; Arv Burvee, Richland/Sargent No. 1 Joint Board; Bill Gaukler, landowner, Geneseo; Mike Bassingthwaite, Interstate Engineering Inc.; Sparky Engquist, Sargent County Road Supervisor and Lyle Bopp, States Attorney. Mike Bassingthwaite reviewed the proposed project that included installing 2 additional culverts through the county road and relocating 2 existing culverts to allow the water to flow through County road #14 and into the legal drain now designated as RS1, formerly County Drain #3. A lengthy discussion followed on how to proceed with this project as Sargent County is the road authority for this project. Several suggestions were discussed and minimum Stream Crossing Standard requirements were reviewed. The Sargent County Board of Commissioners instructed the States Attorney to research this project and contact Attorney Corey Quinton to see what avenues may be pursued to move this project along, and, if it is necessary, to have a special meeting to expedite this project.

Opened the bid for the coal bin, coal and conveyor. One bid was received from Robert Olafson for \$50. Reject bid. (Anderson/Wyum. Motion carried). Sparky Engquist commented he was under the impression that he had made an offer to Mike Walstead to buy the items for \$2,000 which included the bin, coal and conveyor with removal date by October 1st. States Attorney Lyle Bopp will research the legal requirements for a sale of this type of County property.

Wendy Jacobson, Social Worker, Sargent County Human Services, met with the Board to request an addition to the 2011 Social Services Department budget. Items include computer equipment for the Economic Assistance project totaling \$2,120. The reimbursement from the state is \$954. Approve addition of \$2,120 to the Capital Outlay line item. Also, a new employee has been hired for her department and will begin work on September 9th. Morgan Eberhardt, Fargo will fill the vacancy of the Family Focused Social Worker position. The salary range on the State Merit System requires for a Social Worker III at Grade 11 is \$3134-\$5223 but on the Sargent County Plan the position is a Grade 13. To be in compliance with the State Merit System Wendy is requesting the Grade 13/Step 3 which is \$3162.25/month. Approve request for budget change and step 3 for new employee. (Wyum/Walstead, unanimous)

David Ruch, Sargent County Fair Board arrived to meet with the commission to provide an update on the 2011 fair. He provided a financial report and inquired about paying some outstanding bills. There is also an open forum scheduled regarding the future of the Auditorium on September 25 from 5-8 p.m. at the fairgrounds to discuss what the public would like to see done with the building. David invited as many of the commissioners to attend the meeting as possible. Motion to pay one half of a bill from Bernard Mahrer Construction for gravel applied to driving lanes at the Fairgrounds—one-half from the road fund and one-half from the General Fund/Fairboard line item. (Walstead/Anderson, unanimous)

Approve minutes of August 16, 2011 meeting. (Jacobson/Wyum, unanimous)

Travis Paeper, Sheriff, met to discuss a request from the SEMCA Board (Crime Prevention Project) to increase the 2012 allocation from Sargent County. Currently, \$1200 is being contributed and SEMCA would like Sargent County to pay \$2,000. Travis reviewed the history of this Board and agreed that if it means the difference of whether or not this Board can continue that he agrees that the funding should be increased for 2012. Motion to approve this increase in allocation. (Wyum/Anderson, unanimous)

Board recessed at 12:15 for lunch.

The Board reconvened at 1:10.

Roz Amerman, Custodian, met with the Board regarding removal of the coal bin from the Courthouse grounds. She would like the bin removed by October 1st due to snow removal concerns. Consideration should be given to enclose the fan that blows cold air in and removes the hot air from the furnace room. It will require building a frame around the fan to protect it from the dirt and cotton debris. Engineers recommend that a steel frame should be built on the outside and bring a vent up for the air to go in and out and small screens to keep the cotton out. She has been working on quotes for this frame. Roz also mentioned it is 82 degrees in the furnace room and that the heat that is inside the furnace room could be vented out into the basement to heat the whole basement. There is now only one

register in the whole basement, and it does get cold downstairs. Roz also mentioned that due to the high water table there is water coming into the floor of several of the basement offices and this condition should be fixed soon. The Courthouse Commissioner will check into these items.

Board members reviewed the Emergency drain Permit obtained from the ND State Engineer in April, 2010 to control the flooding around Buffalo Lake. The Board would like to extend the permit which expires October 12, 2011. Motion to request renewal of the permit from the State Water Commission as this does have potential to protect County Road No. 1 and 10 from overflow from Buffalo Lake. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous)

Dunbar Township is requesting a one third cost share for 74 feet of 48 inch culvert located on the south side of Section 33-131-55. A Hydraulic Study was completed by Interstate Engineering, Inc. and reviewed by the Sargent County Water Board. Motion to approve one-third cost share of this culvert for Dunbar Township. (Anderson/Wyum, unanimous)

Approve Application for Special Permit to Sell Alcoholic Beverages at a Special Event to Little Gold Mine, Forman, ND. The event will be held on September 18, 2011 at the Rutland Sportsman Club near Rutland for a turkey shoot to benefit Forman/Havana Fire District. (Jacobson/Walstead, unanimous)

Authorize Chairman and County Auditor to sign an Agreement for Participation in the North Dakota Highway Safety Plan for Occupant Protection Enforcement and Impaired Driving Enforcement for Sargent County Sheriff's Department. (Jacobson/Walstead, unanimous)

Reviewed Plan No. 1 adopted by the Sargent County Redistricting Board regarding the five (5) county commission districts. The public hearing was conducted on August 9, 2011, input received and the adopted plan was filed with the County Auditor.

Lyle Bopp returned to the meeting and a phone call was placed to Corey Quinton, Attorney to discuss the request of the Water Board earlier today. Mr. Quinton recommended that a joint meeting should be scheduled with: the State Water Commission; Sargent and Richland County Water Boards; the Sargent County Commission; Mr. Quinton; and others with an interest in the matter; to discuss a solution to the problem that is both practical and legal. Lyle Bopp was directed to contact the Water Board and set up a meeting with the State Water Commission.

Discussed use of sick leave by former employee Jamey Lien. The Sargent County Personnel Policy is vague with respect to sick leave use and is currently being reviewed by the Personnel Board. Motion that a letter be drafted and circulated amongst the commissioners stating, generally, that the commission is of the opinion that better judgment should have been used by the Road Supt. in monitoring and permitting the use of sick leave hours by Mr. Lien, and, if the letter was approved by a majority of the Commissioners, it should be sent to the Road Superintendent and a copy of said letter be placed in Mr. Engquist's file. (Anderson. Motion died for lack of a second.)

Sandy Hanson, Tax Director/EMS/911 met with the Board to discuss an upcoming FEMA audit for 2006, soil modifier meeting, bridges for FEMA consideration or abandonment and the 2012 budget.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

JERRY WASWICK – CHAIRMAN

SHERRY HOSFORD - AUDITOR