

Forman, North Dakota
November 15, 2022

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 8:58 a.m. with the following members present: Lyle Bopp, Mark Breker, Scott Johnson and Richard Ruch. Jason Arth was absent. Also present was Pat Olofson, Sargent County Teller and Pam Maloney, County Auditor.

Vice-Chairman Richard Ruch called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion to approve the agenda as amended. (Bopp/Johnson). Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve November 1 & 2, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. (Bopp/Johnson). Motion carried unanimously.

The burn ban that had been established at the special meeting on November 2nd was discussed. Motion to rescind the burn ban effective immediately and to revert back to the procedures in place from October 1 until November 2. (Breker/Bopp) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Ruch reported that Comstock Construction started work on the Drain #7 crossing on County Road 12 yesterday & will hopefully finish up the project tomorrow.

Commissioner Bopp reported that ServiceMaster will be cleaning carpets on the basement level on Friday, November 18th.

Alison Toepke, Treasurer/Recorder/Clerk of Court; and Jayne Pfau, State's Attorney; arrived at the meeting. Discussion was held on the proposed legislation for a unification of the Clerks' Offices across the state, which would segregate the Clerk of Court office (if combined) and make all Clerk offices state employees. Ms. Toepke stated that the NDACo is recommending a Study to be done prior to any legislative action. Commissioner Lyle Bopp introduced the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

**A RESOLUTION OPPOSING LEGISLATION MAKING THE
SARGENT COUNTY CLERK OF COURTS' OFFICE A STATE OFFICE**

WHEREAS, there is legislation being proposed pertaining to the transition of contract county clerk services to state funding and other legislative priorities; and

WHEREAS, such legislation would make the Sargent County Clerk of Courts' Office a state agency and the employees thereof state employees, which would take away local control and governance of such office and employees; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioner of Sargent County, North Dakota, is desirous of keeping the Sargent County Clerk of Courts' Office as a county office; and

WHEREAS, Sargent County has experienced loss of vital services in Sargent County when the State of North Dakota takes control of county services, and

WHEREAS, the loss of services in Sargent County creates a hardship on the elderly, low income, and disabled individuals,

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR SARGENT COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA, that the following resolution be adopted as follows:

- 1) That the Board of County Commissioners of Sargent County directly opposes the passage of legislation pertaining to the transition of contract county clerk services to state funding and other legislative priorities; and
- 2) That the Board of County Commissioners of Sargent County resolves to keep the Sargent County Clerk of Courts' office a county office.

The motion for adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly seconded by Commissioner Scott Johnson. On roll call vote, the following Commissioners voted in favor of the motion: Lyle Bopp, Mark Breker, Scott Johnson and Richard Ruch.

The majority having voted in favor of the motion and the motion carried the resolution was duly adopted on November 15, 2022.

Trent Mahler and Tim Owen, Sargent County Ambulance-Forman Squad; and Brian Tayer, Sargent County Ambulance-Milnor Squad; arrived at the meeting. Mr. Mahler stated that the Medicare verification is processing. There was a site visit last week. Things are going well with the Forman Squad and they have better bookkeeping practices in place. Bills are all current. The radios will need to be updated, which will be a large expense. Research still needs to be done in the commission minutes regarding the trade-in value of the Milnor Ambulance that was given to the Gwinner First Responders.

Motion to re-appoint Lyle Bopp to the RSR Zone Board, term to expire December 31, 2025. (Breker/Johnson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

The Annual Tax Sale was conducted at 10:00 a.m. Properties were auctioned individually and sold to the highest qualified bidder thereon. Butch Craig; Nick & Laura Seelye; and Jason Wolff were in attendance. Motion to approve County Deeds for the following sale: Lots 19-25 Inclusive, Block 1, Original Townsite, Cayuga City for \$2000 to Laura Seelye, Cayuga ND 58013. (Johnson/Breker) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

The auditor informed the board that she had applied for the Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Fund in the amount of \$100,000. Half of the funds will be deposited in 2022 and the other half next year in 2023.

Tim Faber, Road Supervisor, arrived at the meeting. He stated that he had dumped riprap along County Road #1 where the realignment will be done. The weather has put a hold on this project until next spring.

The county has received notice from the state that, according to the latest bridge inspection and inventory data on record, two bridges were found to have insufficient load carrying capacity or do not have proper Load Limit Signage. Mr. Faber will address the issue before the deadline date of December 7, 2022.

Mr. Faber stated that he has also ordered more sand and salt, as his supply has been used up with the recent ice storm.

Approve November payroll in the sum of \$223,782.44 and the following bills. (Bopp/Johnson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

84404-84405	JDA Expenses	1,750.17	
74406-94407	Human Services Expenses	62.25	
84408-84422	Health Unit Expenses	6,834.79	
84424	Forman City	Garbage/Water/Sewer	191.49
84425	Ottertail Power Company	Electricity	1,899.20
84426	Ransom County	VSO Salary/Benefits	3,016.09
84429	AMS, Inc.	GPS Rental	100.00
84430	Aramark	Cleaning Services	337.90
84431	Avid Hawk, LLC	Website Services	45.00
84432	Brian's Repair & Auto Parts	Sheriff Vehicle Maintenance	193.50
84433	Cenex Fleet	Coroner Travel	49.58
84434	Central Grocery	Election Lunch	56.78

84435	Counties Providing Tech.	Tech Support	2,510.00
84436	Dakota Plains	Sheriff/Health/Tax/Treasurer/ Auditor/ EMS/WaterBoard Travel	914.47
84438	Dakota Water Solutions	5 Gal Water Jugs	30.00
84439	Denault, Michelle	Seminar Registration	339.00
84440	Dickey Rural Networks	Telephone Services	1,133.94
84441	Dickey Rural Networks	Courthouse Security Project	18,338.07
84442	DS Solutions, Inc.	Election Supplies	275.00
84443	Election Systems & Software	General Election Ballots	1,085.73
84444	Farm & Home Publishing	2022 Plat Books	620.00
84445	Forman Drug	Sheriff Batteries & SD Card	32.63
84446	Forman Lumber	Courthouse Black Tape/Straps	57.42
84447	FP Mailing Solutions	Postage Meter Ink	396.21
84448	G&R Controls	Courthouse Boiler Repair	2,464.15
84449	Gallagher Benefit Services	Road Department Job Evaluations	1,200.00
84450	Gwinner One-Stop	Sheriff Gas Purchases	883.36
84451	Information Tech Dept.	Sheriff Netmotion/VPN	69.75
84452	Innovative Office Solutions	Courthouse Paper Products	357.63
84453	J&M Printing, Inc.	Tax Director Enevelopes	209.47
84454	Johnson, Bryan	Prisoner Meal	12.98
84455	Johnson, Heidi	Cellphone Reimbursement	600.00
84456	ND Ass'n of Counties	NDACo Conference Fees/Road Drug Testing	2,657.00
84457	ND Newspaper Ass'n	Election Publishing	160.08
84458/59/60	Post Board	Wold/Paeper/Schilling License Renewal	135.00
84461	NDACo Resource Group	Tax Director Laptop/Dock Station	1,743.81
84462	Office of Attorney General	SCRAM 24/7	465.00
84464	Pfau, Jayne	Goto Meeting/Cell Reimbursement/ Dues/Acrobat Pro	557.98
84465	PharmChem	Sweat Patch Analysis	220.15
84467	Richland Co. Jail	Prisoner Board	110.00
84468	Ruch, Richard	Travel/Cell Reimbursement	1,288.75
84469	Sargent Countu Fair Ass'n	Remaining 25% Allocation	9,926.66
84470	SeaChange Print Innovations	General Election Supplies	394.00
84474	Streicher's	Sheriff Equipment Schilling	234.97
84475	The Sargent County Teller	Publishing Fees/Election	1,740.32
84476	Tyler Technologies, Inc	Software Maintenance Contract	26,593.72
84477	Verizon Wireless	Sheriff MiFi Cards	200.05
84478	Walock-Johnson	Auto/Scheduled Property Premiums	1,197.00
84479	Weaving, Neil	Building Maintenace Supplies	417.75

84480	Wild Rice Soil Conservation	November & December Ext. Rent	1,000.00
84481	Willprecht, Wendy	Cellphone Reimbursement	600.00
84482	Wold, Jon	Halloween Candy	66.40
84483-84496		Health Unit Expenses	12,754.14
84497	Dickey Rural Networks	911 Trunks	231.00
84498	Forman City	Forman Siren Repair	1,683.00
84499	Minn-Kota Communications	Gwinner Siren Timer	5,248.82
84500	NDSU AG Communications	Ext- Banner Stand	188.00
84501	Sargent County Treasurer	Ext-October Postage	69.21
84502	Universal Services	Ext- Laser Jet Toner	870.30
84503	Visa	Ext- Postage/Dues/Supplies	194.33
84504	A W Diesel	ABU Trailer Repair	165.00
84505	Beaver Trucking	FEMA #1 & #2 CR3 Gravel	7,144.50
84506	Bernard Mahrer Construction	CR#2, #5, & Stockpile Gravel	11,855.21
84507	Butler Machinery Co, Inc	Grader Repairs	308.31
84508	General Equipment	2022 Grader Loader Rental	19,050.00
84509	Gordy's Grill & Fill	Chainsaw Chain/Gas Purchase	182.33
84510	Grotberg Electric	Breakroom Outlet Repair	170.68
84511	Plunkett's Pest Control	Pest Control	66.20
84512	RDO Equipment	772GP Grader Repair	200.00
84513	Roadway Service, Inc	Crack Sealing	146,871.00
84514	Rutland Oil Co.	Fuel Additive/700 Gal Fuel	3,473.00
84515	Southside Auto	2010 Mack Truck Repairs/Keys Cut/ Chainsaw Fuel	3,339.40
84516	Wehlander Brothers Trucking, Inc	CR #1 Riprap	1,750.00
84517-84518		Weed Control Expenses	448.66
84519		JDA Expenses	2,508.48

Commissioners Bopp, Breker and Johnson commended Commissioner Ruch for being a great commissioner these past four years and wished him well in future endeavors.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

RICHARD RUCH – VICE-CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

PAM MALONEY – COUNTY AUDITOR