

Forman, North Dakota
April 19, 2022

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 8:53 a.m. with the following members present: Jason Arth, Lyle Bopp, Mark Breker, Scott Johnson and Richard Ruch. Also present was Jayne Pfau, State's Attorney; Wendy Willprecht, Emergency Manager/911 Coordinator; Brenda Peterson, Health Unit Administrator; Tim Faber, Road Supervisor; Sebastian Ertelt, District 26 Representative; Jerry Waswick, County Resident; and Pam Maloney, Sargent County Auditor. Mary Engst, Sargent County Teller, was present through technology.

Chairman Jason Arth called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion to approve the agenda as presented. (Breker/Bopp) Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the April 5, 2022 minutes as presented. (Ruch/Johnson) Motion carried unanimously.

The auditorium demolition is scheduled to begin today & be finished by the end of the week.

The alternative heat source that has been discussed at the previous meeting was again discussed. It was decided at this time not to move forward with the project, but to pay the electricity cost at a higher rate. As this system could potentially replace the current system, it was decided to wait a few more years & then potentially purchase it as a new, more effective heating system for the courthouse.

Jay Volk, Summit Carbon Solutions Sequestration-Director of Health, Safety & Environmental; and Joey Borracci, TurnKey Logistics Relationship Manager representing Summit Carbon Solutions; arrived at the meeting. They provided handouts & presented a Powerpoint on the CO2 pipeline that will be coming through Sargent County. Mr. Borracci requested a meeting with the county engineer to discuss road crossings, etc. and would appreciate the auditor's help in gaining certain township's zoning ordinances. They stated that they will also be holding a public meeting at The Springs in Gwinner on May 4 from 11 am to 1 pm.

Brian Tayer, Sargent County Ambulance Coordinator-Milnor Squad; Marwood Klein, Sargent County Ambulance Assistant Coordinator-Forman Squad; Trent Mahler, Sargent County Ambulance Assistant Coordinator-Forman Squad; Ryan Johnson, Gwinner First Responders; Travis Paeper, Sheriff; Tim Owen, Bill Popp and Jon McFarland; arrived at the meeting to discuss the need to hire two new EMTs or paramedics, one in each location. This will help with the scheduling and give the current full-time employees much needed time off. The commissioners are in agreement that two more employees would not only help the staffing problem, but help the county as a whole, but they will need to see if the finances will allow for another approximate \$150,000 in the budget. The auditor will do some research into the levy and the projected year-end fund balance and this conversation will be continued at the next meeting.

Scott Mahrer, County Resident; arrived at the meeting; and Jerry Woytassek, County Resident; was reached by telephone. The tile easement in Sections 18 & 19 of Shuman Township was discussed. After discussion with Mr. Mahrer and Mr. Woytassek, it was decided to retain the tile easement and that the county would maintain/clean out the tile as necessary. If the road crew cannot get to it, Mr. Mahrer has consented to do it & bill the county for it. Vote on the motion on the table from March 1st to abandon the tile easement. Roll Call Vote: Yes – None. No – Arth, Bopp, Breker, Johnson and Ruch. Motion failed.

Additional discussion regarding the elimination of a motor grader and the addition of a tractor. The motor grader has been advertised to be sold with bid opening on May 3rd. No bids have been received as yet, but we are guaranteed a trade-in value of \$153,500 with the purchase of the tractor. Motion to purchase the 2022 JCB 4220 Fastrac Tractor, Degelman 10' Dozer Blade and Hitchdoc 8210 Snowblower and finance with Sargent County Public Finance. (Ruch/Bopp) Roll Call Vote: Yes – Arth, Bopp, Johnson and Ruch. No – Breker. Motion passed.

It was decided not to lease a JD tractor through the NDACo contract for 2023.

Commissioner Ruch reported that the fair board is requesting additional funding for 2023, as it will be the Sargent County Fair's 100th Year Celebration. They are requesting an additional \$10,000 over & above the one mill equivalent they receive in tax dollars. This will be discussed further during budget time.

The abandoned cemetery in Herman Township discussed at the last meeting was found to be a recorded cemetery. Therefore, the County is responsible for the general maintenance and upkeep per NDCC 23-

06-30. The landowner who owns the rest of the quarter will be invited in for a discussion to determine how this cemetery can be maintained.

Road department wages were again discussed. Commissioners Arth and Breker had made some suggestions regarding pay rates, but more questions were raised regarding COLA increases, etc. Tabled again for future discussion.

Motion to hire Kelly Gruba as Road Equipment Operator starting at Grade B23/Step 3. Once he has completed his CDL requirement, he will move up to a Step 4. (Ruch/Breker) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bopp had drawn up a CDL Requirement Agreement for the Road Department for new employees. State's Attorney Pfau will review it and it will be acted on at the next meeting.

Motion to adopt the following resolution: (Johnson/Bopp) Roll Call Vote: Yes – Arth, Bopp, Breker, Johnson and Ruch. No – None. Resolution passed.

**FIRE EMERGENCY AND BURN BAN
TIED TO DAILY FIRE DANGER RATING
For
SARGENT COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA
April 19th, 2022**

WHEREAS, Sargent County, North Dakota is currently in Moderate Drought, with some areas in Severe Drought, and has experienced high winds, as well as continued, forecast dry weather conditions; and

WHEREAS, several rural fires have occurred due to current conditions; and

WHEREAS, all available resources remain committed to protecting life and property; and

WHEREAS, the impact of fires could threaten the health, well-being, and safety of citizens in Sargent County; and

WHEREAS, the cost of response and the inordinate equipment wear may be far in excess of available County resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Sargent County Commissioners declares a Fire Emergency and Burn Ban effective when the North Dakota Rangeland Fire Danger Rating is in the High, Very High, Extreme Rating, and/or a Red Flag Warning has been issued for Sargent County, North Dakota, effective immediately thru October 1st, 2022.

What's Included

Open Burning: Includes burning of leaves, grass clippings, garbage/pits, construction debris, fallen trees, crop residue or hay land, sloughs and campfires/bonfires.

What's Excluded

Controlled Devices: Only when device (gas, charcoal, or wood-fired grills, patio fireplaces and chimineas, gas camp stoves, and smokers) is on a hard, non-organic surface and 15' away from vegetation and an extinguisher or water is available on site.

THE PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF THIS BURN BAN IS A CLASS B MISDEMEANOR (NDCC 37017.1-10.1: MAXIMUM SENTENCE OF 30 DAYS IN JAIL AND \$1,500 FINE).

The fire Danger Rating is available at the following website: <https://ndresponse.gov>

Motion to authorize the chairman to sign the Funding Agreement for Clerk of District Court Services. (Bopp/Johnson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to authorize the chairman to sign the Barnes County Correctional Facility Contract for Prisoner Boarding. (Bopp/Johnson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to authorize the chairman to sign & return the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDRF) proxy form appointing the NDRF Board Chairperson to vote for Chad Peterson to the Board of Directors on behalf of Sargent County at the Annual Meeting of members of the NDRF to be held on May 19, 2022, in Bismarck. (Ruch/Bopp) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

The commissioner recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Jamie Nelson, Computer Express, Oakes, ND; arrived at the meeting to discuss IT needs for Sargent County. Currently, NRG from Bismarck is the county's IT support. With the company being so far away, this can cause issues with some county departments. Computer Express currently serves 10 counties in the state and has experience with all the vendors that counties for software programs that they run. Mr. Nelson provided a quote for the county. As our current contract with NRG runs through 2022, this will be an item to be discussed at budget time.

Approve March payroll in the sum of \$215,584.37 and the following bills. (Breker/Ruch). Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

83390		Human Services Expense	65.00
83391		JDA Expenses	4,252.98
83392-83395		Human Services Expense	463.30
83397-83412		Health Unit Expenses	3,780.17
83416	Forman City	Water/Sewer/Garbage	191.36
83417	Ottertail Power Company	Electricity	5,551.89
83418	Ransom County	VSO Expenses	2,398.44
83421-83433		Health Unit Expenses	2,210.52
83450	AMS, Inc.	GPS Rental	100.00
83451	Aramark	Cleaning Services	305.08
83452	Arth, Jason	Commissioner Miles	472.69
83453	Avid Hawk, LLC	Website Services	45.00
83454	Cenex Fleet Card	Sheriff/Election Travel	391.20
83455	Code 4 Services	2021 Ford Police Car Upfit	576.69
83456	Counties Providing Tech	Tech Support	2,510.00
83457	Dakota Color	Court Facility Grant/Paint Courtroom	2,615.00
83458	Dakota Plains Cooperative	Treasurer/Coroner/Auditor/ Sheriff/Health Unit Travel	780.23
83459	Dakota Water Solutions	5 Gal Water Jugs	37.50
83460	Dell Marketing	Recorder Software	291.80
83461	Dickey Rural Networks	Telephone Services	1,095.29
83462	Ferderer, Denise	Tax Director Travel	72.54
83463	Forman City	Water Meter Replacement	429.16
83464	Forman Drug	Drug Tests	80.95
83465	Forman Lumber	Building Maintenance Supplies	178.63
83466	Galls	Deputy Uniform/Accessories	225.85
83467	Gordy's Grill & Fill	Sheriff Car Washes	36.00
83468	Gwinner One-Stop	Sheriff Gas Purchases	675.28
83469	The Home Shop	Fire Extinguishers Service	89.65
83470	HR Collabrative	HR Conference Registration	200.00
83471	Information Tech Dept.	Wan Access/Netmotion	772.45
83472	Innovative Office Solutions	Departments Office Supplies	493.19
83473	La Quinta Inn & Suites	Election Travel	172.80
83474	Lexis Nexis	ND Court Rules	140.86
83475	Loffler	Sheriff Copier Annual Contract	594.77
83476	Maloney, Pam	Fair Annual Report Fee	15.00
83477	ND Community Corrections Ass'n	VIS Insurance Policy Renewal	9.85
83478	ND State Radio Communication	Teletype Rental	263.00
83479	NDACo Resources Group	Sheriff HDMI Cable	11.00
83480	Office of Attorney General	SCRAM 24/7	935.00
83481	PharmChem	SCRAM 24/7	220.15
83482	Ransom County	VSO Expenses	2,015.98
83483	Seachange Print	Ballot Return Envelopes	792.40
83484	Sidwell	Mapping Service Software	6,180.00
83485	Tyler Tech.	Tech Services	31,141.67
83486	Uniform Center	Deputy Uniform Shirt & Pants	70.98
83487	Vanguard Appraisals	Tech Service Fees	3,700.00
83488	Verizon	Sheriff MiFi Cards	200.05
83489	Watch Guard	HD DVR	2,500.00
83490	Weaving, Neil	Building Maintenance Supplies	365.81

83491	Wild Rice Soil	April NDSU Ext Rent	500.00
83492	FP Mailing	Postage Rental	135.00
83493	Richland County Jail	Prisoner Board	165.00
83494	A W Diesel	Pay Loader/Semi Equipment Repairs	732.33
83495	A Z Body Shop	Red Chevy Equipment Repairs	250.00
83496	Butler Machinery	Cutting Edges	2,402.24
83497	Dakota Plains	Lube Oil	44.73
83498	Ekstrom Repair	OXM Oxygen	36.41
83499	Faber, Tim	Safety Boots	169.99
83500	General Equipment & Supplies	Cutting Edges	5,502.24
83501	Gordy's Grill & Fill	Gasoline	87.00
83502	Hansen Lumber	Trashcans/Office Supplies	198.63
83503	John Deere Financial	Oil Filter/Brake & Clutch Cleaner	305.42
83504	Kustom Machine	Road Dept Repairs	24.97
83505	Lee's Service Station	Oil Change & Gas	123.00
83506	Lisbon True Value	Shovel/Door Knobs/Primer & Cement	404.13
83507	NAPA Auto Parts	Semi/Payloader/Dumptruck Repairs	468.48
83508	ND DOT Financial	Project SC-CVD-4100(021) Bit Seal Coat & HMA Overlay	3,328.65
83509	Oakes Truck & Trailer	Wiring Kit Valve Actuator	31.98
83510	Plunkett's Pest Control	Pest Control Program	120.00
83511	RDO Equipment	Backhoe Repairs	839.46
83512	Rutland Oil Co.	Fuel/DEF/Oil	7,292.65
83513	Sanford Health	Drug Testing	35.00
83514	Sign Solutions	Signs	127.40
83515	Southside Auto	Tire Repair/Hydraulic Hose	220.61
83516	Team Lab	Fine Road Patch	1,514.00
83517	Visto's Carquest	Repair Parts	514.46
83518	Walk-N-Roll	Grease Hose	176.24
83519	Dickey Rural Networks	911 Trunks	231.00
83520	Klapperich, Cindy	Ext-FCW Agent Travel	42.96
83521	ND Ass'n of Counties	911 Fees	445.20
83522	ND State Radio Communication	State Radio Contract	19,237.20
83523	NDSU Extension Budget Office	Ext-Klapperich/Seykora Salary	10,120.74
83524	Sargent County Treasurer	Ext-Postage	48.76
83525	Seykora, Melissa	Ext-ANR Agent Travel	157.37
83526	The Sargent County Teller	HCPF-LEPC Mtg. Notice	28.00
83527	Visa	Ext-Office Supplies	50.98

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

JASON ARTH- CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

PAM MALONEY – COUNTY AUDITOR