

Forman, North Dakota  
May 2, 2023

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 with the following members present: Wade Anderson, Jason Arth, Lyle Bopp, Mark Breker, and Scott Johnson. Also present was Jayne Pfau, State's Attorney; and Pam Maloney, County Auditor. Mary Engst, Sargent County Teller, was present through technology.

Chairman Mark Breker called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Motion to accept the agenda as amended. (Arth/Anderson) Motion carried.

Motion to approve the April 18, 2023 minutes. (Arth/Anderson) Motion carried.

Motion to approve a Raffle Permit for the Sargent County Snowmobile Association for a gun raffle with drawing to be held June 17, 2023 at the Silver Lake Pavilion. (Arth/Johnson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve a Gaming Site Authorization for the El Zagal Viking Patrol, Inc at Dilly's Bar & Grill, 101 Main St N, Stirum, ND for the activities of pull tab dispensing device and electronic pull tab device, from July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. (Arth/Bopp) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

The auditor was instructed to use a 5% cola increase for budgeting purposes, based on the average of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the Employment Cost Index (ECI).

Motion to approve a quote in the amount of \$3,120 from Counties Providing Technology to move prior years' data from their computer software system into the new accounting system, Tyler Technology's Infinite Visions. (Arth/Anderson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to appoint Tara Mertz-Hack to the Sargent County Health Board as Consultant. (Bopp/Anderson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

State's Attorney Pfau outlined the steps to move elected positions to appointed positions. The board will meet with the affected positions at the next meeting to determine whether to move forward with this matter.

Commissioner Breker inquired about county road right-of-way. Statute reads that right-of-way is 66 feet – 33 feet each way from the center of the road. This is for all county roads, unless additional right-of-way has been purchased for road projects.

Lynn Flieth, RSR Human Services Zone Director, arrived at the meeting. On April 27, 2023, the RSR Human Service Zone Board passed the recommendation of altering the current (50/25/25) disbursement of Indirect Cost agreement between the three counties to 60/20/20. Changing the allocation requires County Commission approval of all three counties. Motion to change the indirect cost distribution to 60 % Richland – 20% each to Ransom and Sargent. (Bopp/Arth) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. This will result in an approximate decrease for Sargent County in the amount of \$6,400.

Michelle Denault, Human Resources Director; Travis Paeper, Sheriff; Brenda Peterson, Health Unit Administrator; & LaJuana Hayen, Tax Director; met with the board regarding a market analysis survey. At an earlier meeting, the commissioners decided against doing a market survey, however, the department heads are concerned about keeping up with the market, as it is recommended to do one every three to five years and this would be year five for the county. After discussion, motion to contract for a market analysis survey with DDA Human Resources in the amount of \$8,225. (Bopp/Arth) Roll Call Vote: Yes – Arth, Bopp, Breker, and Johnson. No – Anderson. Motion carried.

Pat Olofson, Sargent County Historical Society, arrived at the meeting. She presented 2022 financial information and updated the board on the damage & clean-up after heavy snow caused the roof to cave in on Building #3. She also stated that Doosan volunteers were there for two days along with several pieces of equipment to help with the clean-up. The insurance adjustors and a structural engineer has checked out the buildings. The buildings were under-insured, so a GoFundMe page has been set up and there have been donations coming in from all over the country.

Motion to authorize the chairman to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Isaiah Throener for a tower removal on the S1/2 NE1/4 of Section 19-131-57. (Arth/Anderson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Trent Mahler, Sargent County Ambulance-Forman Squad; Travis Paeper, Sheriff; and Brenda Peterson, Health Unit Administrator; arrived at the meeting. Brian Tayer, Sargent County Ambulance-Milnor Squad, was present through technology. Mr. Tayer reported that they have had 52 runs so far in 2023. They have received \$28,163.28 in patient revenue and \$13,368.19 in grant funding. Expenses have run \$15,168.88. Things are going well, but volunteers are always needed and welcomed. Mr. Mahler stated that the Forman Squad has had 24 runs so far in 2023. Bank balance in checking and savings is \$7,184.58. Outstanding billing is in the amount of \$18,938.70. Mr. Mahler stated, too, that more volunteers could be used.

Tim Faber, Road Supervisor; and Damon DeVillers, Interstate Engineering; arrived at the meeting. Mr. Faber presented a quote from Enderson Constructions to correct the slopes on County Road #12 from County Road #1 south to ND State Highway #11. No decision made until bids come in on other projects.

Mr. DeVillers reported that Bituminous Paving will be coming to patch roads that they didn't have time for last fall.

Discussion was held on placing a box culvert on County Road #7 east of Havana between Sections 28 & 33 in Weber Township as the culverts have washed out again. There is a temporary culvert in place at this time. A decision will be made at the next meeting.

Commissioner had received a call regarding a washout near a bridge on the Wild Rice River north of Cayuga. The bridge itself is in good shape, so this would be the township's responsibility to repair the road.

Commissioner Anderson stated that County Road #5 has had water standing on it for some time and will need to have the crowns put back on the road. Mr. Faber stated that they are blading the roads and spot graveling where needed.

Cameron Gulleon, Rutland; and Gary Anderson, Cayuga; arrived at the meeting. Two Applications for Drainage Work Within County Road Right-of-Way were received. 1) Gary Anderson, Cayuga, to cut through County Road #12 between Tewaukon Township Section 13 and Marboe Township Section 18 to install solid drainage pipe to tie drain tile projects together to get to main drain; and 2) Gulleon Farm and Ranch, LLP, Rutland, to cut through County Road #5 to install solid drainage pipe to tie drain tile projects together to get to main drain, along the south side of Section 36-130-55 LTL – Tewaukon Township. After much discussion, motion to deny the applications due to the fact they were cutting through the county roads. (Johnson/Bopp) Roll Call Vote: Yes – Anderson, Bopp, Breker and Johnson. No – Arth.

Meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

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MARK BREKER – CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

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PAM MALONEY – COUNTY AUDITOR