The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00 a.m. with the following present: W.E. Smith, Lysle Coleman, Ray Brockman and Steve Wyum. Absent Don Wehlander.

Rick Hoistad and Corwin Waswick, Gwinner Airport Authority, met with the Board. The contract between the county and Gwinner City regarding the airport will expire this month. The current contract is for ½ mill on all property within the county not exempt from taxation is taxed for maintenance and operation of the airport. An additional ½ mill was requested to assist with maintenance of an automatic weather reporting system. Melroe Company and Gwinner City are paying for electricity, light repair, snow removal and other maintenance. Approve 3-year contract for ½ mill for Gwinner Airport Authority. (Wyum/Coleman, unanimous)

Don Wehlander arrived at 9:20 a.m. after attending a Health Board meeting.

Randy Pope and Damon DeVillers, Interstate Engineering, arrived at the meeting and proceeded to open bids for the Aggregate Base Bituminous Surfacing, Bituminous Overlay and Incidentals on Projects 4125(98A) and 4125(98B). This includes Co. # 10 from ND 13 to Co. # 1 and Co. # 10 from Rutland City south 4 miles to Co. # 5. The engineers estimate is \$1,243,730. Bids were received as follows: Central Specialties, Inc. - \$1,371,377.89; Bituminous Paving, Inc. - \$1,476,973.72; Thorson, Inc. - \$1,279,183.46. The engineers will tabulate all bids.

Jim Lyon, landowner along Bridge 132-10 asked for compensation for lost cropland and fertilizer on the land acquired for permanent easement for the bridge project. The land is located in the NE1/4-20-131-53. Approve \$100 compensation. (Wyum/Coleman, unanimous)

Wendy Jacobson discussed the Family Focus position that the Social Service Dept. is attempting to fill. This is a shared position with Sargent and Ransom County and the contract is with Sargent County. She asked the Board about reducing the probationary period for health insurance from 90 days to 30 days. This would make the position more appealing for some applicants.

Gina Hillestad, Risk Manager, met with Board regarding a personnel matter.

Revise personnel policy to change the probationary period for health insurance from 90 days to 30 days after date of employment. Retroactive to May 1, 1999. (Brockman/Wehlander, unanimous)

Discussed the Holiday Pay Policy. Approve as follows: Non-exempt employees will be paid holiday pay when conditions require physical presence on the job due to weather conditions and/or scheduling due to nature of the job. Scheduled holiday pay will be considered hours worked on the job. Effective April 1, 1999. (Wehlander/Coleman. Roll call. Aye: Wehlander, Coleman, Wyum, Brockman, and Smith. Nay: None. Motion carried)

Consignment sale proceeds were \$3041.18 for sale of the 92 Ford and furniture and equipment.

Approve minutes from 4-20-99 meeting. (Brockman/Coleman, unanimous)

Commissioner Brockman introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption: WHEREAS, the bid in the amount of \$1,170,186.08 from Thorson, Inc. received in the bid opening of April 23, 1999, for Projects SC 4100(99), CER4110(56), CER4111(59), and CER4111(60) was the low bid received.

WHEREAS, this bid is considered reasonable.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Board of Commissioners of Sargent County will award to Thorson, Inc. the contract for Project SC 4100(99) (4sites), CER4110(56), CER4111(59), and CER4111(60), and hereby authorized the Chairman of the Board to sign said contract.

It is further understood that the County shall reimburse the NDDOT for any payments made under this contract, which are not collectible from the Federal Highway Administration. Commissioner Wyum seconded the motion. All commissioners voted aye and the resolution was duly declared carried and adopted.

Ross Eberle, Eng., Kadrmas, Lee and Jackson, met with the Board on Bridge 132-10. They have added an option to the bid plans for pre-cast and poured in place concrete as per the request of this Board. Cleona Lugert is requesting compensation for the permanent easement needed on her land to do the bridge project. Chairman Smith called Mrs. Lugert and she agreed to accept \$500 consideration for .93 acres in the NW1/4-21-131-53. Approved.

Approve Construction and Maintenance Agreement for Project DPI 0036(005) 411 for structure and approaches of Bridge 132-10 located on the Wild Rice River 4 miles North and 2 miles East of Cayuga. (Wyum/Brockman, unanimous)

ND DEM is requesting assistance from Sandy Hanson at ND Boys State June 9-11, 1999 in Wahpeton. Permission granted.

NDDOT is requesting information on damage or impacts to county federal aid routes as a result of the spring runoff. Presently, Sargent County FAS roads are not impacted by any damage due to spring runoff.

Norm Preble, Tax Director, met with the Board to discuss SB 2052. The Board prepared information to send to landowners and the State Tax Department reviewed and approved the information. Approve notice to landowners for inundated lands.

Representatives from RDO Equipment and Sparky Engquist met with the Board to discuss purchasing a new road grader. Tabled.

ND Game & Fish Dept. authorized the use of .22 rimfire and muzzleloading firearms of .45 caliber or smaller, longbows and crossbows in addition to shotguns in managing muskrat damage in Sargent County.

Discussed cleaning courthouse following completion of the elevator project.

Board members met with the Forman City Council to discuss the ambulance relocation. There were many proposals but no decision. Send a letter and copies of the floor plans for a new building to the Forman City Council stating that this Board and the Forman Ambulance Squad leader are open to further discussion and willing to meet with the council on options available.

Accept the low bid of Thorson, Inc. for the Co. # 10 road project totaling \$1,279,183.46. (Wyum/Wehlander, unanimous)

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

W. E. SMITH, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SHERRY HOSFORD, AUDITOR