

**SARGENT COUNTY COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 17, 2026
FORMAN, NORTH DAKOTA
REGULAR MEETING**

The Sargent County Board of Commissioners met for their regularly scheduled meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 2026. Present were Commissioners Jason Arth, Wade Anderson, and Scott Johnson via media. Absent were Jerry Waswick and Lyle Bopp. Also present was Tia Bopp, Auditor.

Vice Chairman, Jason Arth called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Wendy Schmiess, EM/911 Coordinator, arrived stating she had sent out the Fire Emergency and Burn Restrictions Declaration. She also sent out instructions on how controlled burns are to be called in. Motion to accept the Fire Emergency and Burn Restrictions Declaration for Sargent County, North Dakota (Anderson/Johnson). Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Cindy Yagow, Treasurer/Recorder/Clerk of Court, arrived at the meeting. She gave a report of accounts through January 31, 2026. She explained the breakdown of accounts, interested earned, special assessments, taxes outstanding, etc. Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. (Anderson/Johnson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously. Yagow explained the 2024 and 2025 court case breakdown. This determines what we get paid for the state contract for that portion of Clerk of Court salary. Total cases for 2024 were 782 and total for 2025 were 565. Fulltime employee reimbursement will go from .47 to .43. This contract covers all of Amy Bogart's, Chief Deputy Clerk of Court, salary and a portion of Yagow's salary. Motion to continue with the Clerk of Court services contract for the 27-29 biennium. (Anderson/Johnson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the minutes for the 2/3/2026 meeting. (Anderson/Johnson). Motion carried.

Motion to approve the agenda as presented (Johnson/Anderson) Motion carried.

Motion to still move forward with the server cabinet at the higher pricing. (Anderson/Johnson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to accept the Application for a Local Permit or Restricted Event Permit for the SC Trap League. (Anderson/Johnson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve the February payroll in the amount of \$324,220.96 and the below bills pending Scott's initialing later today. (Anderson/Johnson). Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Bills:
Ambulance Squads' Expenses \$2,444.97
Southside Automotive Rd-2007 Chevy Repairs 644.04
City of Forman CH/Road Water/Sewer/Garbage 223.32
Otter Tail Power Company Electricity 4,256.75
Ransom County VSO Salary/Benefits 3,595.43

Weed Control Expenses 285.00
JDA Expenses 13,914.38
Health Unit Expenses 2,060.82
Asche, Karen Sheriff-Overpayment 65.00
Avid Hawk Web Services 45.00
Bopp, Tia County Car Gas 43.10
Code 4 2025 Squad Car Equipment 2,655.39
Computer Express Tech Support 1,600.00
Dickey Rural Networks Telephone 965.85
Forman Lumber and Fireworks Sheriff Padlock 23.98
Gall's Sheriff Uniforms 212.99
Gordy's Grill and Fill Sheriff Car Wash 20.00
Hayen, Lajuana Tax Training Travel Reimbursement 68.00
Home Shop, The Fire Extinguisher Inspection 379.30
Information Technology Dept. Off Prem Connectivity/WAN/Office/Adobe/ Net Motion 1,936.35
Innovative Office Solutions Auditor/Tax/Sheriff/HR Office Supplies 611.35
Jacobson Plumbing Heating & Excavating Park Winterize/CH Repair 1,154.40
Lee's Service Inc. Sheriff Oil Change 82.00
Loffler Sheriff Copier Overage 21.17
ND Association of Counties Sheriff Special Ops Fund County Share 400.00
NDEMA EM Dues 50.00
ND Sheriff's & Deputies Association Sheriff Annual Dues 2026 400.00
NDACO Resources Group Smart Zone Feb & Mar 2026 100.00
Office of Attorney General Scram 24/7 465.00
Office of State Auditor Audit FY 2022/Non Audit Services 7,985.50
Otis Elevator Company CH Elevator Repair 1,833.00
Schilling, Samantha Tax Training Travel Reimbursement 68.00
Secretary of State-State of ND Fairgrounds Annual Report 15.00
Sidwell Tax-Mapping Services 8,100.00
The Sargent County Teller Legals/Board Openings Ads/Help Wanted 1,128.70
Tyler Technologies Auditor-School ERP Pro Training 120.00
Uniform Center Sheriff-Deputy Uniforms 1,061.96
Vanguard Appraisals, Inc. Tax-Archive Module 2,380.00
VerizonSheriff-Mifi Cards 240.06
AW Diesel 09 Mack Plow, 06 Plow Trucks Repairs 9,940.07
Auto Value Wahpeton Rd- File, File Handle, GL Mag Bar 26.44
Bobcat of Gwinner Rd- Oil Filter/Bobcat Rental 632.22
Butler Machinery Rd-Cat 140 Contract 208.42
Dakota Water Solutions Rd & CH 5 Gallon Water Jugs 114.00
DMC Wear Parts Rd-Step Bolts 270.00
Faber, Tim Rd-Travel Forman Lumber and Fireworks Rd-Sealant 9.99
General Equipment & Supplies RD-HRNS, Rear Main 35.20
Hansen Lumber & Hardware Rd-I-29 Trailer Sales, Inc. Rd-2026 Midland Trailer 58,050.00
Minn-Kota Communications, Inc. Rd-In-Vehicle Radio Charger 265.50
ND Association of Counties Rd-D & A Annual Fee 264.60

ND Association of County Engineers Rd-Membership Dues/Conference Fee 175.00
NDLTP-UGPTI RD-Supervisor Conference 25.00
Parts Supply Inc. Rd-Oil Stabilizer/Glass Cleaner/Fuel Additive/Oil filter/Air Filter 351.31
Plunkett's Rd-Pest Control 72.22
Rutland Oil Company Rd-Gas/Fuel/Powerguard 4,216.25
Southside Automotive Rd-Kenworth Relays/Oil/Oil Filter/Gloves 113.71
Swanston Equipment Rd-Kenworth Safety Lights 523.08
Vestis Rd-Shop Rug Service 241.66
Visto's Rd-Multimeter/Paint/Clevis Hook/Dbl Clevis/Link/Cable Ties/Rad Cleaner//Paint Rollers/Brush/Tray/Weatherstrap/Contact Cement 443.56
Amazon Capital Services Ext-Envelopes/Pens Organizer Stand/ Foot Rest 122.36
Seykora, Melissa Ext-Agent Travel Reimbursement 297.50
Ambulance Squads Expenses 1,884.72
Dakota Plains Cooperative Sheriff/Health Unit Gas 841.23
Health Unit Expenses 829.10
Duane Peterson, HR Director, arrived to talk about the park manager position. There are three applications. Duane is looking for some direction on how to proceed. Arth suggested having the chairman of the park board and the chairman of the commission be involved with interviewing.

Tim Faber, Road Supervisor, arrived at the meeting. Faber was notified someone had complained about a tree that is close to the road going through Geneseo as well as a fence south of Geneseo that is believed to be too close to the road.

Faber has looked at and test drove a ¾ ton pickup at Dakota Chrysler in Wahpeton. It would include installation of the 5th wheel ball. The pickup is a gas RAM 2500 Tradesman crew cab 4.x 4. Purchase price is listed at \$51,603.50. Motion to purchase the Dodge ¾ ton from Dakota Chrysler for \$51,603.50 with the proceeds of the Steffes sales and water board work with the balance being paid from the equipment line. (Anderson/Johnson) Upon roll call vote, motion carried unanimously.

Faber reported he had gotten the new mower, and the motor is already out of it. The request has been to take it back to Garfield, MN for motor replacement.

Faber further reported that cat blade is down in Hankinson being repaired due to a seal leaking. Faber also stated he would like to trade the 45 hp Case tractor for something bigger. Faber also stated that Lot Pros in working on trying to get a time scheduled to do the crack sealing.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

**JASON ARTH, CHAIRMAN
ATTEST: TIA BOPP –
COUNTY AUDITOR
Publish March 20, 2026**

**RUTLAND CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 9, 2026**

The monthly City Council meeting was called to order at 5p.m., Monday, March 9, 2026, by Mayor Mahrer. Council President Erickson, Council members Hoflen and McLaen present; Lysne absent. City Auditor and Scott

Haan, Public Works, also present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

McLaen/Hoflen moved approval of the agenda. Motion carried.

Hoflen/McLaen moved approval of the February 2, 2026, minutes. Motion carried.

Hoflen/Erickson moved that the City sell the property at 113 First Street on sealed bids, due by noon, April 6th, with no minimum bid. Said bids to be opened at the Council meeting followed by an auction at that time. Cash only sale with "substantial improvements" to be made within six months. Motion carried.

Erickson/McLaen moved to set the City of Rutland Arbor Day for the first Friday in May, May 1, 2026, to coincide with the State Arbor Day. Motion carried.

Hoflen/Erickson moved to approve the gaming site authorization for the Rutland Sportsman's Club at The Lariat Bar, July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. Motion carried.

McLaen/Hoflen moved adoption of the Sargent County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan participation resolution for the City of Rutland. Motion carried.

McLaen/Erickson moved approval of the February financial report as presented. Motion carried.

Erickson/Hoflen moved approval of the payment of bills: DRN \$152.15, Am. Express \$67.80, Waste Mgmt. \$112.98 & \$1,722.97, ND WSI \$602.73, US Treasury \$1281.13, Teller \$4.20, OTP \$1,309.95, Acme Tools \$2.43, Bobcat \$17.21, Ferguson Waterworks \$16.08, Forman Lumber \$7.99, Kotaco Fuel \$473.92, Quill \$20.98, Teller \$126.92, SC Treasurer 4239.72, SE Water \$1,017.73, USPO \$366, ND One Call \$1.50. Motion carried.

The Mayor reported that The Lariat had inquired about the alley located behind the bar. He explained that all current City maps show the alley west of City Hall running straight north to Front Street; however, that is not how it currently exists. He also noted that the existing alley east of the trailer park does not appear on any City maps. The Council discussed the matter and, after reviewing maps and property ownership, agreed that the gravel alley should be restored. Doing so would allow the bar to place its dumpsters behind the building on its property and could also provide off-street parking for staff.

Erickson reported that the Post Office is trying to secure a contractor to complete the necessary work in the new building.

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m. Subject to Council approval on April 6, 2026.

*Deborah Banish, City Auditor
Publish March 20, 2026*

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) will receive bids for the construction of the following project(s):

**Job No.: 24189
Project No(s): HEN-CRP-8-032(051)020
Length: 1.435
Type: ROUNDABOUT & LIGHTING
County(s): SARGENT Co
Location: ND 32, JCT ND 13 (GWINNER)**

Bids will be received via the Bid Express on-line bidding exchange at www.bidx.com until 09:30AM, April 10, 2026. Bids will be opened at that time at the NDDOT building on the capitol grounds in Bismarck and the bid results will be distributed and posted online at <https://www.dot.nd.gov/business/bidinfo.htm> approximately 30 minutes after bids are opened.

The proposal forms, plans, and specifications are available on the NDDOT website at <http://www.dot.nd.gov> and may be inspected at the Construction Services Division, 608 East Boulevard Avenue, Bismarck, North Dakota.

All bidders not currently prequalified with NDDOT must submit an online Contractor's Prequalification request to the Department at least ten (10) business days prior to the bid opening. The online application can be found on the NDDOT website at <https://www.dot.nd.gov/business/contractors.htm>

NDDOT reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, waive technicalities, or to accept such as may be determined in the best interests of the state.

For disability/language assistance, call 701-328-2978.

*Requested by:
Ronald J. Henke, P.E., Director
North Dakota Department of Transportation
Publish March 20, 2026*

**IN THE STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA,
COUNTY OF SARGENT
IN THE DISTRICT COURT,
SOUTHEAST JUDICIAL DISTRICT**
U.S. Bank National Association,
Plaintiff,

v.
Vincent Lucas and Justine Lucas, and any person in possession,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF REAL ESTATE SALE

CIVIL NUMBER: 41-2025-CV-00006
1. Judgment in the amount of \$29,100.34, having been entered in favor of Plaintiff and against Defendants, which Judgment was filed with the Clerk of Courts of Sargent County, North Dakota, on December 4, 2025, for the foreclosure of a real estate mortgage.

2. Notice is hereby given pursuant to said Judgment that the real property is described as:

Situated in the County of Sargent, State of North Dakota:
Lot (10) and the South Twenty-five feet (S25') of Lot Eleven (11), all in Block Twenty-four (24), of the First Addition to the Town, now City of Forman, and that portion of vacated alley located in said Block Twenty-four (24), described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of Lot 10, thence running East along the South boundary of said Lot 10, a distance of 142 feet; thence running South at right angles, a distance of 8 feet, thence running West at right angles a distance of 142 feet, to a point 8 feet due South of the point of beginning; thence due North 3 distance of 8 feet to the point of beginning.

MORE CORRECTLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

Situated in the County of Sargent, State of North Dakota:
Lot (10) and the South Twenty-five feet (S25') of Lot Eleven (11), all in Block Twenty-four (24), of the First Addition to the Town, now City of Forman, and that portion of vacated alley located in said Block Twenty-four (24), described as follows: Commencing at the Southwest corner of Lot 10, thence running East along the South boundary of said Lot 10, a distance of 142 feet; thence running South at right angles, a distance of 8 feet, thence running West at right angles a distance of 142 feet, to a point 8 feet due South of the point of beginning; thence due North a distance of 8 feet to the point of beginning.

Real Property address: 614 6th Street SW, Forman, ND 58032

The above real property is the subject of the Mortgage dated May 5, 2020, which Mortgages, Justine Lucas, Vincent Lucas, executed and delivered to U.S. Bank National Association and recorded in the office of the Clerk and Recorder of Sargent County, North Dakota, on May 22, 2020, Instrument Number 157373, which is subject to the entered Judgment.

3. In order to realize the amount of \$29,100.34, as of December 4, 2025, plus interest accruing thereafter on said amount as awarded by the court, together with the costs and expenses of sale, will be sold subject to redemption as provided by law as one parcel of land at public auction, subject to the lien for unpaid real estate taxes and assessments of Sargent County, North Dakota, and easements and restrictions of record, to the highest bidder for cash under the direction of the Sheriff of Sargent County, North Dakota, at the main entrance of the Sargent County Courthouse located at 355 Main Street SW, Forman, North Dakota 58032, on April 14, 2026 ("Sale Date"), at 11:00 AM.

4. If the sale is set aside for reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

DATED this 20th day of March, 2026.

SHERIFF OF SARGENT COUNTY
*Travis Paepfer
By: Travis Paepfer
Sheriff / Deputy Sheriff of Sargent
Halliday, Watkins & Mann, P.C.
By: /s/ Tyler S. Wirick
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