

## City ends year very close to budget

City treasurer Martin Burton informed the council that they had ended the year very close to budget. There were a couple of places that had exceeded budget somewhat but other areas covered it, so all-in-all, the budget was met. There is a special budget meeting for Wednesday night to discuss some of the long-term items on the budget for 2003 that will be affected by state and government cuts.

Deputy Cliff Flock introduced police dog Bronson to the council members. He also told about a stop he had made on New Year's Eve. He had stopped a vehicle west of St. Francis on U.S. 36. Bronson was sniffing around the car and smelled drugs and hit on the door. After obtaining written permission from the driver for an inside search of the car, Bronson entered the car and found drugs. Had it not been for Bronson, the finding of drugs and the arrests

would probably not have been made. He also told the council members that they were buying the dog with donations and had him about half paid for.

Police Chief Stan Harp gave a report on the information he had found regarding picking up and the storage of stray dogs. Colby would have the room and preliminary discussions seemed to go in that direction. After a dog has been picked up, the owners would be notified if the

dog is wearing a tag. The owners would then have three days to meet the town ordinance. This would be that the dog have rabies shot, be licensed, pay the fine, kennel costs and any other costs for which the city has been out.

The city received a check from the insurance company for \$1,203.16 in payment of the claim after the break-in at City Hall. The window that was broken also has a rotted window sill and will need a

new one. Pay raises and cost-of-living increases were discussed. It was approved to go ahead and give a 3-percent cost-of-living increase effective back to Jan. 1. The pay raises will be discussed and decisions made during the special budget meeting on Wednesday.

It was reported that snow removal went well after 5 inches of snow fell on New Year's Day. There had been some problems dur-

ing the last snow, around the schools, but that went smoothly this time.

The old tornado siren has been taken down and torn apart. The bronze bushes are worn out and they are going to try putting needle bearings in instead.

A building permit was issued to Roy Schrader to build onto the existing side of his house.

Stan Harp and Laura Miller will be in court on January 23 and 27.

## New year brings snow covering

The new year started just right in Cheyenne County with a wet, heavy snow fall which, for a change, had little wind with it. The snow fell in the early morning hours and throughout most of the day on Jan. 1 dumping up to 8.5 inches in Wheeler, 6 inches in St. Francis and 4 inches in Bird City.

Snowmen sprung up everywhere and kids were having a great time on their sleds.

The county must have been a pocket as the further east the storm went, less snow fell. The National Weather Service in Goodland reported McDonald having no snow, Goodland had 4 inches, Colby had .5 inch and Wray had 1.5 inches. Yuma County in Colorado had 6 inches and Benkelman had 5 inches.

City, county and state crews were out all day on Wednesday clearing the roads and were out again on Thursday.

The temperatures were predicted to be warm but with the snow cover, it was still cold and what snow melted during the day, quickly turned the streets into icy ruts by sundown.

Kathy Woodcox, St. Francis weather observer, recorded ?? moisture

Cheyenne County along with most of northwest Kansas, eastern Colorado and southwest Nebraska has been suffering extreme drought and the wet snow was welcomed. Casey Johnson, county ag agent, said that, while the crops and grasslands are now dormant, any moisture stored up for spring will help.

The weather is expected to be warm through the middle of the week but a cold front is moving down from Canada and tempera-

### '02 weather

According to Troy Burr, Bird City weather observer, 2002, with a precipitation total of 10.11 inches was the second lowest record of moisture in Bird City history with 1954 recording the lowest of 8.45 inches. Snowfall for 2002 was 23 inches.

The low temperature for the year was March 3 with minus 7 degrees and the highest temperatures were on July 25 and July 31 with 106 degrees. March brought in the most snow with 8.5 inches followed by January with 7 inches.

For the month of December, the low temperature was 9 degrees on Dec. 26, and the high temperature was 69.8 degrees on Dec. 15. There was no moisture or snowfall during the month.

Date	High	Low	Prec
Dec. 25	10	36	
Dec. 26	09	39	
Dec. 27	15	54	
Dec. 28	27	64	
Dec. 29	24	52	
Dec. 30	41	45	
Dec. 31	26	53	



tures are predicted to drop and there is a chance of snow by Friday and through the weekend.

## County book is here

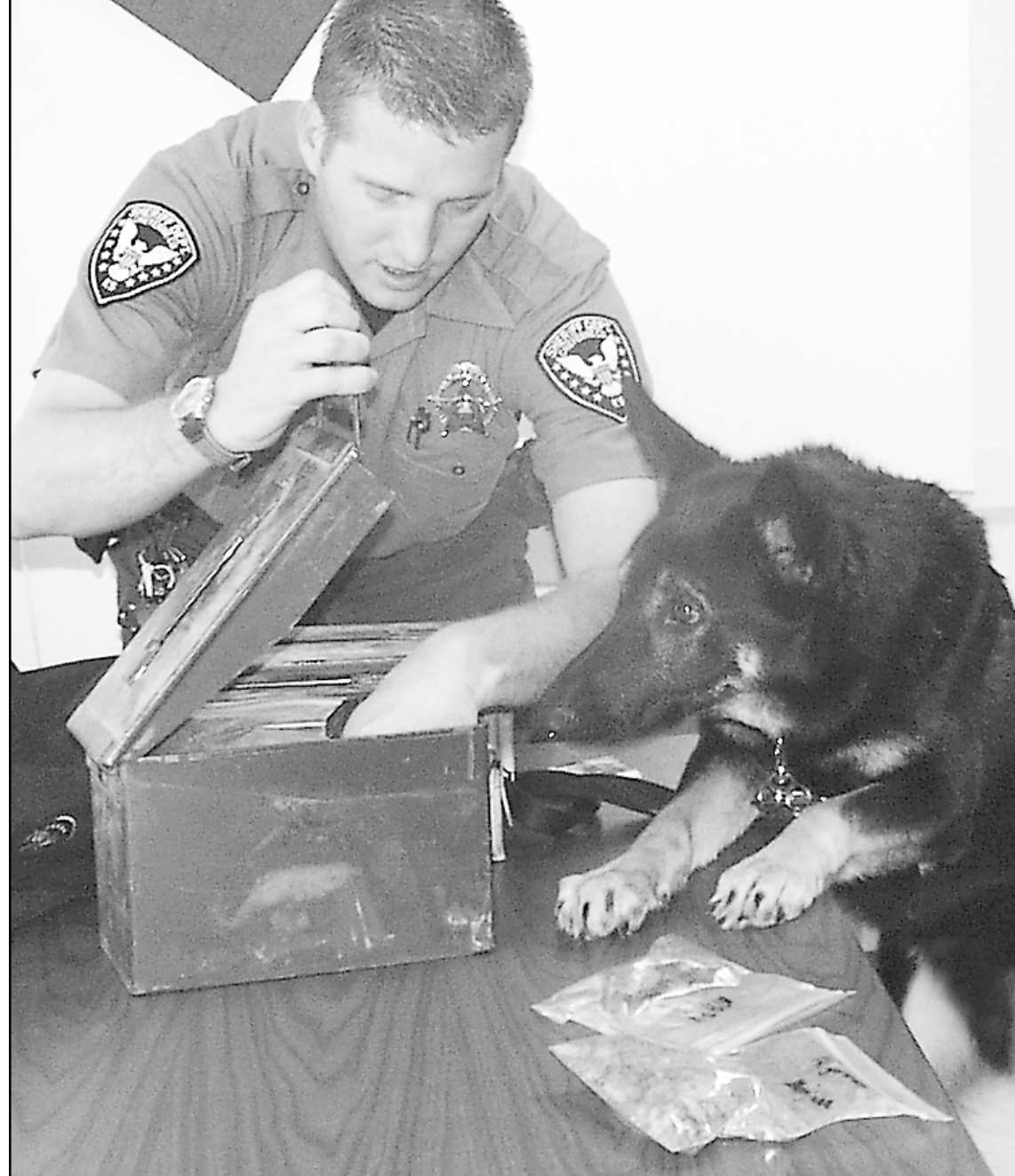
The Cheyenne County Burial Book arrived before Christmas as promised by the members of the Historical Society and is now being offered for sale at the Cheyenne County Museum in St. Francis.

All burials from 1885 to 2002 are printed in alphabetical order in the 300-page book. It is organized with information stating date of birth and death, whose husband or wife, whose son or daughter and the cemetery where they are buried. There is also space for additional births and deaths.

"We believe every home, especially the older citizens, should have one of these books," said Milton Lampe, president of the Historical Society.

To purchase a book, stop by the museum, or contact Mr. Lampe, 785-332-3119 or Tobe Zwegardt, 785-332-2087, or any member of the Society.

"We welcome anyone to attend our meetings at 5 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month," said Mr. Lampe. "Becoming a member helps support our museum and programs."



STOPPING A CAR for excessive speed soon turned into more than what Undersheriff Cliff Flock, top, anticipated. After releasing Bronson, the drug dog, soon made his 'hit' and with further investigation Undersheriff Flock discovered drugs in the car. Times staff photo by Peggy Horinek

## Dog discovers \$2,000 in drugs

By Karen Krien

Several months ago, the county sheriff's department purchased a drug dog and the undersheriff and dog went for training which they received and were certified. Undersheriff Cliff Flock and the drug dog have continued training but the first real test came New Year's Eve when Officer Flock stopped a 1987 Honda going 74 miles per hour and driving erratically west of St. Francis on U.S. 36.

Officer Flock discovered that the driver, Martin G. Lara, 37, of Lochbuie, Colo., didn't have a driver's license, however, his passenger, Veronica Apodoca, 43, also of Lochbuie, said she had a license but didn't have it on her. Officer

Flock called in the information Apodoca had given him and found that she did have a license. Because of the erratic driving and a difference in information given him by the two people in the vehicle, he released Bronson, the drug dog, who circled the car and made "hits." He was given permission to search the inside of the vehicle and that was when Bronson found a variety of drugs including cocaine, methamphetamine and marijuana which had a street value of over \$2,000.

Both Lara and Apodoca said they were unaware of the drugs which were found behind the driver's seat in a duffel bag. Officer Flock, on the

other hand, said the odor of drugs was strong inside the vehicle.

Lara and Apodoca said they were headed for a party in Bird City. Both were arrested and charged with possession of a narcotic drug with intent to sell, possession of hallucinogenic drug, no drug tax stamp, two counts of possession of paraphernalia. The car was impounded and both Lara and Apodoca were taken to the Sherman County Bastille where, on Monday, they were still being held at \$100,000 bond each.

Their first court appearance was held Thursday, Jan. 2, in Cheyenne County District Court and the preliminary hearing is set for Monday, Jan. 13.

## Filing deadline nears

By Karen Krien

The city and school elections will be held in April but those filing for office will need to have their names submitted at the county clerk's office by noon on Tuesday, Jan. 21.

Those filing will need to either pay a \$5 fee or submit a petition with the required amount of signatures. If the candidate is thinking of submitting a petition, he or she should check with the county clerk to find out the number of signatures needed as there are different numbers for each city and school board.

It should be noted, that after a candidate has filed for an office, he cannot withdraw his name after the last date provided by law for filing for such candidacy.

There are a number of positions open in both cities on both the school and city boards. In both cities, the council can have any number of candidates running but only the seats which are up for election will be filled by the candidates with the most votes in the April 1 election.

To run for a seat on the city council, the candidate must live within the city limits.

School board elections have different rules and if there are more than three candidate running in a district, there will be a primary election on Feb. 25, eliminating the extra candidates.

There are also different districts in the school district and to run for a certain position, the candidate must live in that district. A map showing the districts can be obtained at the county clerk's office.

City council/mayor

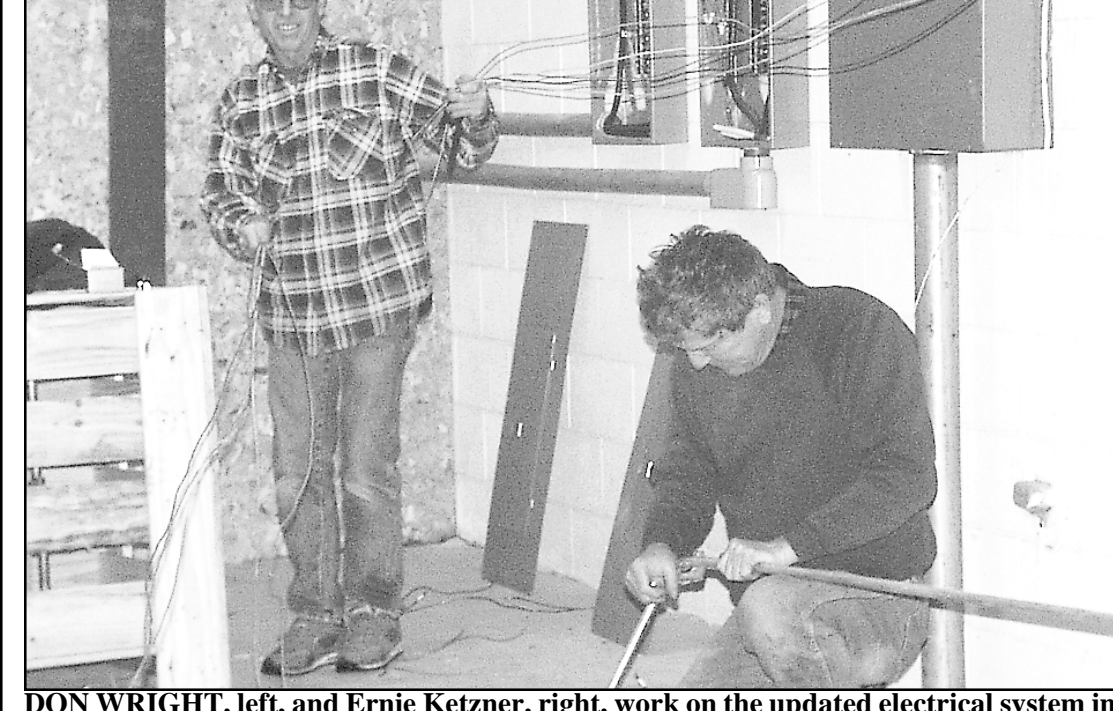
St. Francis — There are two city council seats and the position of mayor which will be up for election.

Those members whose term are up are: Roger Jensen and Rick Krieh, council members, and Scott Schultz, mayor. Councilman Krieh will have already resigned before the filing but the council will appoint a person to fill out the term until the April 8 regular city council meeting when the elected councilman takes over.

Bird City — There are three seats on the city council up for election. These positions are currently being served by Wade Carmichael, Candace Orten and Ned Smith.

Election officer Terry Miller reported that, as of Monday, only Troy Burr had filed for the Bird City

See Filing on page 5



DON WRIGHT, left, and Ernie Ketzner, right, work on the updated electrical system in the grocery store. Times staff by Peggy Horinek

## Commissioners check out medical training class expenses

Over the course of three meetings, the Cheyenne County Commissioners spent much time looking into the options and costs of emergency medical technician classes. At a meeting on Monday, Commissioner Tim Raile and Emergency Medical Service Director Larry Gabel met and Mr. Gabel agreed to teach the class through Colby Community College. The class will cost the county nothing as the college will contract and pay Mr. Gabel.

Cheyenne County has been short of emergency medical technicians for some time, especially in the Bird City area. At the Dec. 31 commissioners' meeting, Mr. Gabel reported that there were 10 individuals from Bird City firmly committed to take the emergency medical

technician class and two more from St. Francis.

Commissioner Raile pointed out that paying Beth Gabel \$18,000 to teach the 160- to 220-hour class was amounting to \$82 per hour and he along with the other commissioners felt this amount was high compared to other counties.

Craig Button, St. Francis, had submitted a proposal to teach the same class and the cost was about one-half, depending upon the hours it took to teach 12 to 18 students. However, Mr. Button could not teach a class until June as he is currently completing the Kansas accreditation requirements.

At a special meeting on Jan. 2, Mr. Button met with the commissioners to discuss teaching the class. The commissioners asked Mr. But-

ton about his thoughts and capabilities of teaching an emergency medical technician class and why his bid to teach the class did not include any connections with Colby Community College. Mr. Button said that he felt he could teach the class independent of the college and do it for a lower cost, cutting out the middleman (the college).

He reported that he had been an emergency medical technician in 1976 and then went on to become a paramedic and has been a paramedic for 25 years. He said he has been teaching emergency medical technician classes for 25 years, both privately and in the military sectors including the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, classes in Maine, Massachusetts and Maryland and

See Expenses on page 5

# Expenses

# Firearms deer season at times brings out the worst in some hunters

**Continued from page 1**

Mr. Button suggested that the commissioners contact Colby Community College and the Board of Emergency Medical Services to clarify questions they had on the actual requirements on who could teach and the financial requirements to teach classes through the college.

Commissioner Ron Krien was also present at the meeting but commissioner Jane Brubaker could not attend. She joined the group by phone conference and said that some of the emergency medical technician class candidates from Bird City had contacted her, asking why the commissioners would not allow the classes. She had informed them that this was misinformation and that a class would be held but in the most fiscally responsible way.

As the meeting ended, Commissioner Raile agreed to talk to the college and the Board of Emergency Services.

When he met with Mr. Gabel on Monday, Commissioner Krien had agreed by a phone consensus to have Mr. Gabel teach the class with Colby Community College picking up the instructor expenses.

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**By Tommie Berger, biologist Department of Wildlife and Parks**

Well, firearms deer season is over for 2002. I got mixed reports from hunters but the general mood was that not as many deer were seen and the hunting was a bit tougher this year. The entire deer season was relatively mild and the last weekend was actually too warm. It was nice to be out but the deer were scattered.

Almost all Wildlife and Parks personnel are happy to see the season end, not to mention many landowners. It seems once again, we had a world of trespass complaints, a lot of road hunting activity and lots of tickets written. Deer hunting seems to bring out the worst in some hunters and hunter ethics just fly out the window. We are all amazed every year how many hunters feel that driving a vehicle until they spot a deer is the right way to hunt or using a 4-wheeler to pursue and chase deer is okay.

Most of the trespass complaints were from landowners who have land away from the home farmstead. They purchased deer permits and found that other hunters, if you can call them that, had trespassed on their land before they even got there to hunt. Vehicle tracks through Conservation Reserve Program land and the Walk-In Hunting areas were evident everywhere. We were all amazed at the numbers of deer that were left lay, some with the heads cut off and lots of smaller pucks just shot and left with vehicle

tracks right up to the deer.

We also had quite a bit of poaching activity this year right before and through the season. The law enforcement personnel were kept quite busy working both daytime and nighttime complaints. The presence of bigger bucks brings out the worst in the poachers, too. Lots of the deer simply had the antlers cut off and the rest was left to waste. The conservation officers spent quite a few hours with planes in the air and the robodeer (decoys) got a real workout. Numerous tickets were written for spotlighting but lots of complaints could not be responded to because of lack of manpower and hours in a day.

There were several really bad situations. One grandfather was caught shooting at a decoy deer with his 13-year-old grandson along — what kind of example is that setting? A number of youngsters were riding around at night with some of those spotlighting. It is no wonder our deer season is turning into one of the most illegal and unethical of the hunting seasons! It makes one wonder whether the kids paid any attention to their Hunter Education classes or if they even took them.

Hunters, if we do not get our deer hunting under control, all of our hunting seasons will be in jeopardy in the future. Lots of folks do not hunt but they support those of us who do. Then there is the anti-hunting element. If our deer seasons continue to degrade in sportsman-

ship and ethical behavior, more of the general public will view all hunters as they do deer hunters. We've got to clean up our act and there just aren't enough law enforcement officers to go around. Each and every one of us must get involved by turning in the poachers, not tolerating unethical hunting behavior amongst our friends and relatives, and certainly teaching our youngsters the right ways to hunt deer.

I went back and looked at several articles I wrote years ago about this time and it is remarkable how similar they were. One conservation officer wrote in his weekly report this past week, "I have lost all hope in humanity again." Think what a tough job those guys have at this time of year. For heaven's sakes, if

you see a spotlight at night, call your local conservation office or call the county sheriff's office. If you see an illegal deer hanging somewhere, call us with the location. One of these days, we are going to be back to one deer permit per person, perhaps a drawing system for all permits, and a limited season in which to hunt if we do not give our deer herd a reasonable chance.

I certainly hope that this deer season will be a learning experience for many of our Kansas deer hunters. I am sure a lot of you saw some illegal activity, some unethical behavior and a good dose of unsportsmanlike conduct. If our hunting seasons are to continue, we are all going to have to work together to gain back control of our firearms deer season.

# Filing

**Continued from page 1**

Large, position 7, Sherry Weeks.

There has been three incumbents, Bonnie Zweygardt, Sherry Weeks and John Knodel, file for positions on the school board.

Cheylin — The Cheylin Board of Education has three seats up for election including District 2, position 2, Eric Churchwell; District 1, position 5, David Frisbee; and District 2, position 4, Kerby Krien.

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# Bird City News

Recent guests of John and Rose Marie Hoevel for a holiday dinner included Francis Hoyt of Bird City, Esther Walter and Garnet Miller of St. Francis, Gaylord and Bonnie Stasser of Goodland and sons Daniel Oikarinen and Lee Stasser. An enjoyable time was had by all.

Out-of-town guests were their children Jon and Brook Kimber and grandchildren Jordan, Alyssa and Natalie from Broomfield, Colo. They took advantage of beautiful weather, spending time at the Bird

City Park. Always a favorite stop for the children is the Blue Bird Cafe where they get acquainted with some local people and enjoy a great meal.

Christmas dinner guests of Glenn and Millie Glasco were Lynn and Candy Glasco, Cely Glasco, Captain Ted Glasco of New Jersey, Terry and Tiffany Glasco, Ron and Connie Huxman of Moundridge, Tracy Huxman of Chicago, Tim and Tasha Cain of Kansas City, Kan., and Floyd and Betty Parman of Benkelman, Neb.

# Kansas Classified Ad Network

# Bird City News

Saturday, Dec. 28, Paul and Edna Roesener and Jaylene Shrader attended Janetta Evins 80th birthday party at the St. Francis Good Samaritan.

Guest of Paul and Edna Roesener on New Year's Eve until Friday, Jan. 3 was their great-granddaughter Tierra Stasser of Goodland.

Christmas vacation guests in the homes of Gary and Merlie Leach, Bill and Vada Leach, Lonnie and Trisha Willis, Dorothy Sager, Cliff Leach and Jim

and Lois Morelock were: Warren and Deloris Sager, Otis; Mike and Larri Lyn Harms, Alex, Kaitlyn and Grace of Hutchinson; Gary and Janice Baldwin and Jerod, Tim, Cletus and Jackie Grannon, Caleb and Corbin of Cleveland, Tenn; John and Julie Collins, Chattanooga, Tenn. Jill Baldwin, Memphis, Tenn; Dexter and Patti Leach, Swink, Colo.; Leann Leach, Guyman, Okla.; Kalisa Leach and Matt Casseclay, Greeley, Colo; Paige Leach and Brian Gray, Manhattan, Kan.

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# Public Notices

Published in The Bird City Times, Bird City, Kansas, Thursday, January 9, 2003. (2)

Notice School Board Election Unified School District No. 103 Cheyenne and Rawlins Counties, Kansas  
Notice is hereby given that pursuant to K.S.A. 25-2102, a City Election to elect three (3) Council Members shall be conducted in the City of Bird City on the 1st day of April, 2003.

Each candidate shall be a qualified elector of the City of Bird. Candidates shall file for such office with the County Clerk/County Election Officer of Cheyenne County, Kansas. Each such filing shall be made before 12 noon on Tuesday, January 21, 2003. Each such filing shall be accompanied by a filing fee of five (\$5.00) dollars or by a petition signed by not less than 150 electors in the Member District, or 10% of the qualified electors in the Member District, whichever is less. No candidate shall be permitted to withdraw his candidacy after the last date provided by law for filing for such candidacy.

Notice is further given that if more than two (2) candidates file for any one position on the Board, there shall be conducted a Primary Election on February 25, 2003 in the Member District or Districts having more than two (2) candidates.

Names of the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes for each position at the Primary Election, if one is held, shall be placed on the ballot in the Board Member District for which there are candidates, at the General School Election held on Tuesday, April 1, 2003.

Signed this 6th day of January 2003  
/s/ Terry Miller  
Cheyenne County Election Officer SEAL

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Published in The St. Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, and The Bird City Times, Bird City, Kansas, Thursday, January 9, 2003. (3)

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Pursuant to K.S.A. 82a-1030, the board of directors of the Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District No. 4 will conduct on February 19, 2003 a public hearing in order to hear testimony regarding revisions to the 2003 operating budget. Said revisions consist of incorporating all 2002 unexpended funds into the previously approved 2003 operating budget. The hearing will begin at 11:30 a.m. central standard time at the Comfort Inn, 2225 S. Range, Colby, Kansas. Copies of the proposed revised 2003 budget will be made available at the hearing site.  
Attest: Robin Deeds, GMD 4 Secretary

Signed this 6th day of January 2003  
/s/ Terry Miller  
Cheyenne County Election Officer SEAL

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Salary is negotiable. Benefit package includes medical insurance, KERS retirement plan, life and disability insurance, vacation and sick leave.

To apply for this position, please send a City of Seneca job application and a resume to The City of Seneca, Attn: City Clerk, 531 Main Street/P.O. Box 40, Seneca, KS 66538. Applications can be obtained from the city clerk by calling (785) 336-2747 or by sending Email to seneca@nwcs.com. All applications must be received by February 3, 2003.

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