

Committee reports given at meeting

By Leslie McCormick

Committee reports were given when the Cheyenne County Fair Board met Thursday night.

The Demolition Derby Committee reported that the derby is on schedule and the rules will be the same as last year's. There will be the same judging crew as last year, however the head judge will be from Salina. The price for the grandstands will be \$10 and \$15 for a pit pass regardless of age.

The board discussed keeping the parking to one row deep around the arena. When there are too many vehicles, it is hard to get the derby cars around. Vehicles will still be able to park outside of the cable.

Lawn mower races

Member Clay Zimbelman brought rules for the lawn mowers which are the same as the National Lawn Mower Race Association. There were some minor changes to simplify the rules. This is the first year for the races. Once the committee knows how many mowers are coming and what the interest is, Mr. Zimbelman said they will need to be decided on the number of classes.

The board approved the rules for printing.

Mr. Zimbelman said that Eddie Brunk will help tech in the lawn mowers. Sixteen year olds and

older may race, however those 16 and 17 will need a consent formed signed by a parent.

Correction

Jared Douthit had a correction to last month's minutes, it was Ronnie Krien who is working on a bid for the door, not Wade Krien.

In other business

In other business:

- Nick Ketzner said at the January meeting that he had a person interested in printing the fair books for the board at cost. Mr. Ketzner was to get more information and bring it back to the board. However, Mr. Ketzner was not at the meeting.
- The city of St. Francis agreed to give the fair board electricity free during the fair.
- Megan Douthit called a 5 to 10 minute executive session. No reason was given and no decision was made following the session.
- Ms. Douthit and Michael Hanson will help Erika Lehman edit the fair book.
- The board is working on possibly having a raffle at the fair this year. More information is being gathered. The board had an offer of a donation for all but \$100 of a barbecue grill, and the people donating the grill want double exhibit space during the fair. The board didn't feel like that would be a problem

County 911 tenant maps have arrived

By Karen Krien

The appraiser office staff told the commissioners at their Thursday meeting that the new county tenant maps with the emergency numbering were done and they had ordered 300.

Bonnie Zwegardt and Deb Smith, appraiser staff, said they had distributed 100 to emergency and law personnel but they still had 200 which they would sell to help pay for the \$1,000 cost of printing.

The maps will be available in the clerk's office and the cost of the maps will be decided later.

The staff noted that, as people move, they will need to go to the appraiser's office and they will be given an address. That address will then need to be taken to the post office.

Troy Gardner, sheriff, said the \$200,000 grant for 911 upgrades should be available soon. He said he planned to move the equipment and dispatchers from the St. Francis city power plant to the former sheriff's office in the courthouse. (The sheriff's office was moved to the city office.)

When the 911 dispatch was first located in the power plant, it was because there were employees working there 24-hour a day. However, as time passed, the 911 calls were increasing and it is not fair to have employees running \$1 million machines when someone's life is in danger.

Following training, Carol Gamblin will oversee the 911 dispatch office.

Sheriff's report

Sheriff Gardner had gotten a bid for a new Ford pickup for the force. He said he would be trading off the 1999 Blazer and 2003 Explorer. The commissioners asked about getting a second bid even though there is no other dealer in the county. While they don't need to take the lowest bid, it would be good to compare. Mr. Gardner said that, going out of town would pose a problem for servicing the vehicle.

He said that he would like to get on a plan to trade off a vehicle when it had around 70,000 miles because there would be a better trade-in value. Sheriff Gardner will come to the next meeting with the two bids.

The sheriff said officer Craig Van Allen was up for the next level of pay increase. The commissioners agreed to the increase.

The agreement for providing law enforcement between the county and the city of St. Francis was signed.

Emergency management

Gary Rogers, county emergency manager, said he was concerned about the ways things were changing with the Salvation Army and Red Cross when it came to funding.

"It is getting harder and harder to access their funding," he said.

When the Thanksgiving snowstorm stranded travelers in St. Francis, the Salvation Army was able to provide funds to pay the school for the food used. However, if there was another blizzard, he wasn't sure that money would be available. He asked that the county budget money for the purpose of helping with expenses if there was another blizzard or emergency.

He said he has been working closely with the Red Cross. If there is an emergency and agreements have not been established with the organization, it will not help out. Then the county would be totally responsible.

The commissioners will discuss the matter with the county auditor.

Noxious weed department

A report on what had been done

in 2006 was signed for Dan Schlittenhardt, noxious weed and prairie dog control.

Commissioner Ernie Ketzner wanted to know if the county was gaining on prairie dog control. Mr. Schlittenhardt said letters had been sent to those with serious dog problems but the weather had not permitted much prairie dog control.

The commissioners signed a highway contract allowing Mr. Schlittenhardt to spray for noxious weeds along state highways. The rate of \$25 per hour for the operator and \$35 for the equipment will remain the same as it was last year.

Commissioner Andy Beikman asked Mr. Schlittenhardt to keep a log of his work schedule. That way, if people call, the commissioners would be able to tell people who ask exactly what he was doing and where he was working.

Ambulance department

Janelle Bowers, emergency medical service director, asked what the commissioners wanted to do with the old repeaters and antennas taken out of the building east of Wheeler. They said to ask Gary Rogers, emergency manager.

Those installing the repeater equipment said there was a serious problem with rodents. They suggested that the equipment be covered with metal instead of wood to keep the rats and mice out of it.

Mrs. Bowers said that an additional program needed to be put on the computer in her office but the hard drive was not big enough. She said she had put in all the memory possible in the present computer which was six years old.

Clerk Miller suggested that she purchase a new computer which would have a bigger hard drive. After discussion, it was agreed to see what Dell or Gateway would have.

Road and bridge department report

Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, and the commissioners again discussed removing snow from private drives. They agreed to keep their original decision of not clearing these drives. Mr. Flemming pointed out that there is

no way that all liability could be removed as, when there is deep snow, it is hard telling where there are curbs and other items which could be destroyed. There is also the problem of ruining one of the grader tires.

They did agree that if there is a medical emergency, the county will help clear the drive and the crew will not leave a ridge in front of the drive.

The county has spent many hours keeping the roads open and removing snow. He said he needed new grader tires and this time, he planned to get an all-season tire. He said the tires are better and it will be money well spent.

He called for an executive session to discuss personnel. Coming out of the meeting, the commissioners said no decision had been made.

Bunker gear for Bird City

Tom Raile, member of the Bird City Fire Department, said the firemen need new bunker gear. Some of the gear is five years old but the majority of it is up to 20 years old.

One set of bunker gear is around \$2,000. The department needs 23 or 24 sets of gear. Mr. Raile said they had contacted a company which sells the gear and they have a person who will write a grant. There was around a 60-percent chance that the grant would be awarded. If the city gets the grant, it would pay for 95 percent with the county picking up the other 5 percent.

The commissioners agreed to see if they could get the grant.

Appraiser's office

Randy Sangster, county attorney, asked that his office staff be given a 5-percent raise for their work in getting the maps, numbers and other information for the 911 system. The commissioners said that the sheriff's and road and bridge offices had also spent additional time in this area and they, like the appraiser's office staff, got a 3 percent raise. It was not fair to the appraiser's staff to get more.

Commissioner Beikman, before the meeting, had asked Clerk Miller to check on the number of hours worked in the appraiser's office in 2006 compared to those worked in 2005. He had found that the staff had actually worked more hours in 2005 than in 2006.

In other business

In other business:

- Those employees approved to attend meetings or trainings were Dolores Jenik, treasurer; Dave Flemming and Dave Fry, road and bridge; Dan Schlittenhardt, noxious weed and prairie dog; and Carol Gamblin, law enforcement.
- Greg Kite, former resident, offered to write a grant for replacing the courthouse steps. See related article.
- The commissioners agreed to raise the mileage rate for county employees from 35 cents per mile to 40 cents. Dolores Jenik, treasurer, said other counties were paying up to 43.5 percent per mileage.
- A resolution was signed to help keep driver's license testing in the county. It is no guarantee that the federal government will agree to let states and counties keep this service.
- The commissioners agreed that if there was a run for firemen, the emergency medical technicians should also go to the fire just in case there might be an injury.



Public Notices

Notice of hearing set for final settlement

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, Thursdays, February 1, February 8 and February 16, 2007. (5-7)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CHEYENNE COUNTY, KANSAS In the Matter of the Estate of Shirley Ramona Bartlett, Deceased Case No. 06-PR-09

NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR FINAL SETTLEMENT

The State of Kansas to All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed on January 26, 2007 in this Court by John L. Bartlett, executor of the estate of Shirley Ramona Bartlett, deceased, praying for a final settlement of the estate, approval of his acts, proceedings and accounts as executor, determination of the heirs, de-

Conservation district meeting set for Feb. 12

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, and the Bird City Times, Bird City, Kansas, Thursdays, February 1, and February 8, 2007. (5-6)

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CHEYENNE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

To all qualified electors residing within the boundaries of the Cheyenne County Conservation District, notice is hereby given that pursuant to K.S.A. 2-1907, as amended, on the 12th day of February, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. an annual meeting of the Cheyenne County Conservation District will be held at the American Legion Hall, Bird City, Kansas.

The meeting agenda shall include the following business items:

ONE: The supervisors of the Cheyenne County Conservation District shall make full and due report of their activities and financial affairs since the last annual meeting.

TWO: They shall conduct an election by secret ballot of qualified electors, there present, of one supervisor to serve for a term of three years from date of said meeting.

The term of Lynn Query is expiring.

All in the county of Cheyenne in the State of Kansas.

By Roger Orth
Chairperson
Cheyenne County Conservation District

ATTEST
Jeanne Dunn
Manager/Secretary

TREASURER'S QUARTERLY STATEMENT	
ENDING JANUARY 31, 2007	
Published in The St Francis Herald, St Francis, Ks. and Bird City Times, Bird City, Ks. Thurs., Feb. 8, 2007 (6)	
GENERAL	655,545.36
ROAD & BRIDGE	343,329.91
BRIDGE BUILDING	12,091.02
NOXIOUS WEED	29,192.81
NOXIOUS WEED SPECIAL FUND	8,731.70
CAFETERIA PLAN	4,065.07
HOSPITAL BOND & INTEREST	213,330.27
VIN-STATE	12.00
RURAL FIRE	32,421.98
HOSPITAL	18,964.63
DIVERSION FUND	4,860.39
CO ATTY'N BAD CHECK FUND	646.04
REG OF DEEDS TECH FUND	31,334.07
RECREATIONAL VEHICLE TAX	19.00
1620 M TRUCKS	1,506.21
SPECIAL PARKS & REC	2,010.51
911	88,692.30
UNCLAIMED FUNDS	1,962.14
AMBULANCE MEMORIAL FUND	5,041.99
INSUFFICIENT CHECK	213.00
ADVANCED TAX-NON BUDGETE	2,964.96
SPECIAL AMBULANCE	21,937.00
DRIVERS LICENSE	65.00
SPECIAL FIRE EQUIPMENT	5,036.00
MOTOR VEHICLE TAX	7,716.51
MOTOR VEHICLE FUND	4,818.81
STATE SALES TAX	10,521.69
CURRENT TAX	118,260.09
COUNTY REDEMPTION	2,768.97
DELINQUENT PP TAX	99.75
ATTORNEY FUND	1,814.69
FISH & GAME	340.90
MORTGAGE REGISTRATION	37.16
BENKELMAN TOWNSHIP	620.45
CALHOUN TOWNSHIP	7,122.97
CLEVELAND TOWNSHIP	763.48
JAUQA TOWNSHIP	7,307.57
HANDICAP EQUIPMENT	890.00
EQUIPMENT RESERVE FUND	210,855.70
COHCOUNTY HEALTH	5,691.50
PRAIRIE DOG	2,673.86
GIFT ANNUITY	16,438.34
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND	41,467.30
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	1,924,312.92

I do solemnly swear that the above is complete, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, so help me God.
Dolores Jenik, County Treasurer (SOF)

Proposed runway project is available

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, Thursdays, February 1 and February 8, 2007. (506)

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