

Club holds first meeting of the year

By Melinda Basnett
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The Cheylin Booster Club convened in the Cheylin High School library on Monday to re-organize for the new school year.

Members present were: Anita Pochop, Melinda Basnett, Jan Busse, Dixie Louderbaugh, Janice Churchwell, Jeri Antholz, Rose Hengen, Sara Smith, Karen Shrader and Laurie Leonard. The following officers were elected: Anita Pochop, president, Jan Busse, treasurer; and Laurie Leonard, secretary.

Mrs. Burton provided a report of current funds available and a review of some final expenses paid since the last meeting in May. These expenses included the awards banquet meal, a travel/meal allowance for students and coaches that attended state golf and track, the ice cream sundae party on the seniors' last day, and a contribution toward the Bigger, Faster, Stronger weight lifting clinic held in June.

The club will be purchasing team duffel bags for the high school students rather than hanging garmet bags. The students can have their names embroidered on the duffel bag for the cost of \$6, which should be paid to the Booster Club. If anyone still wants a garmet bag, they can purchase them from Esther Confer in St. Francis.

There was a discussion of offering Cheylin Cougar vinyl window clings for a fund-raising option. Anita will get a couple samples made up in both a small and a large size, and an option to personalize with a student's name and/or number will be available at an additional charge. These samples will be available and orders will be taken at the soap scrimmage.

A menu was agreed on for the soap scrimmage, which included sloppy joes, hot dogs, potato salad, chips, watermelon, tea and bottled drinks.

Mrs. Hengen agreed to take sign-up sheets for food items and paper goods and a workers schedule to each of the grocery stores for the soap scrimmage. There was some discussion regarding admission to the

scrimmage games, and the preference for shampoo and liquid body wash over bar soap was mentioned.

Booster Club membership was reviewed and the dues will remain \$20 for 2007-2008. Mrs. Louderbaugh agreed to collect membership dues at the soap scrimmage.

The importance of getting more people in the community to join and support Booster Club was discussed. Mrs. Leonard agreed to get a writeup about joining Booster Club and the vinyl cling sales to Mr. Carson to include with his announcements at the football games. She will get this information to Mrs. Basnett to include in the community bulletin in the Bird City Times.

After some discussion about the 5th quarter parties. The members present agreed to host two during the volleyball/football season. These were scheduled for September 28 and October 25. These will be held at the Immanuel United Methodist Church in Bird City and the Booster Club will provide pizza, chips, desserts and drinks. Possible activities organized for these parties will be discussed in further detail at the next meeting.

Suggestions for changing the locker posters provided by the club were discussed. It was decided to not do the weekly posters on the lockers, but to continue providing the weekly office treats.

Larger and more permanent posters will be made two to three times each season that can be used in the halls, doorways and gymnasiums. Also, the group will make the laminated locker signs for each season with the name and jersey number of each player. Work meetings will be set up at a later date for both of these projects.

Mrs. Burton requested that the members think about any needs or purchases the Booster Club could provide. Two ideas discussed were the popcorn machine and some large fans that could be used in the gymnasiums. This topic will be discussed again at future meetings.

The next meeting was scheduled for Aug. 27 in McDonald at the Federated Church.

County employees below average pay

By Karen Krien

Wages for the county were compared with similar jobs in the city, state and other counties when the Cheyenne County Commissioners met on Wednesday, Aug. 15. They found that the county's employees were the lowest paid so, next year, instead of a 3-percent increase, they will receive a 5-percent in their paycheck.

Because this will take an additional \$20,606 to pay the 30 people hired in that department, it was necessary for the commissioners to revise and publish the budget for next year.

Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, compared the county road and bridge department wages to comparable jobs in Bird City and Saint Francis, as well as the state. He showed that Cheyenne County wages are significantly lower.

Mr. Flemming also presented highway permits to be approved and signed. Noble Energy wanted to bore steel gas lines across the road. These permits were approved and signed.

Permission to purchase a portable, gas powered air compressor was also given.

911 plans

Steve Nolan, St. Francis city dispatcher, asked the commissioners about the 911 system, where the commissioners stood with the system since the sheriff had resigned. He said that the city superintendent, J.R. Landenberger, had mentioned that he would be glad to help Carol Gamblin, who is being trained to supervise the operation.

Mr. Beikman said the county was

planning on following the same timeline for the service with the 911 system being put in place by March. At the present time, the 911 dispatch system will be installed and operated out of the old sheriff's office in the courthouse which is vacant.

He and Jim Rarick had both agreed to leave the position as dispatchers in the city power plant and be 911 dispatchers. Mr. Nolan asked how many people the county would be hiring?

Mr. Beikman said they had budgeted for five full-time people and a couple of part-time people.

The commissioners talked about having a special meeting with Troy Gardner, sheriff, Mrs. Gamblin and any other people who might be interested in attending. No time was set but the clerk said he would contact Mr. Nolan when and if a meeting was held.

Sheriff resigns

Sheriff Gardner's resignation was discussed. Since the sheriff ran and was elected as an Independent, the Secretary of State said the governor would make the appointment on the commissioners' recommendation. Sheriff Gardner had earlier recommended that Craig Van Allen, undersheriff, be appointed. The sheriff's last day is Aug. 31.

Regarding the new dispatch system, the commissioners felt better communication with the cities and county was needed. Mr. Beikman will attend the next St. Francis City Council meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 21.

Emergency service

Jannelle Bowers, emergency

See Wages on page 2



BACK AT SCHOOL AGAIN!!! It appeared that this third grader could think of a lot of things she would rather be doing than being back at school again.

Cheylin school bells ring!!

School started in Cheylin on Monday with students going a full day. Kindergarteners will only attend a half day on Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays this week and next.

Cheylin is on a four-day school week but, this first week, students put in the full week. However, the week will end with fun and excitement.

The Booster Club will be serving barbecued beef sandwiches and hot dogs before the volleyball practice and football scrimmage. Remember, admission is sports drinks, shampoo or liquid body wash.

It is also BYOB night.... that is, bring your own banana to build a delicious banana split just the way you like it!!!

The first high school volleyball tournament will be held on Saturday in Healy. The Ladies will play again on Tuesday at Grainfield and Thursday at Atwood.

High school football will be played on Friday, Aug. 31, at Trenton.

Notice that the school menu for next week is printed in this week's Times. Plans are to have it available for parents and students each week.



FOURTH GRADE TEACHER Tammi Carmichael helped her students start the school year off right.



AMY HENDRICKS TALKED to her students about what they needed to expect in her class this year.

Times staff photos by Casey McCormick