

Commissioners agree on purchase

By Karen Krien
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The Cheyenne County Commissioners, when they met on Thursday, agreed to purchase a road grader.

Dave Flemming, county road and bridge supervisor, said Martin Tractor Company in Colby had only two new graders with the steering wheel left. Two weeks ago, there were three.

The commissioners had earlier agreed that the county had three older graders with high-hours usage and it was time to get a new one. However, funding a \$200,000 grader was an issue.

After some negotiating, Mr. Flemming told the commissioners that they could purchase a grader for \$152,000 with one of the older graders used as a trade-in. Part of the money will be taken from the Equipment Reserve. The last grader had cost \$191,000.

Approval was given to upgrade the Mac truck's Jake brakes at a cost of \$1,530.

Starting a pool for sick leave was discussed. Last month, one of the employees wanted to donate his sick leave for a maternity leave of one of the employees.

The commissioners discussed the pros and cons of an individual giving his/her leave specifically to another. They felt that a pool of leave would be better so the clerk, Terry Miller, will look into what it takes to create the pool and the commissioners will have more time to think about how it will work.

Officer training bill

The commissioners spent considerable time discussing a \$15,000 bill from the city of St. Francis for law officer training. When the county sheriff was moved back to the courthouse from the city police office, Mike Blehm had opted to come with the sheriff.

Statutes state that, if a law officer joins a different service or department within a year after he/she is trained, the other entity must pay the costs.

There is no charge for the academy training, board and room. However, the city reported the expense of mileage and hourly wage while at the training along with benefits. The city pays the Internal Revenue Service rate of 48.5 cents per mile, which made a difference of \$700 (the county pays 40 cents per mile).

The last time an officer was trained in Cheyenne County and left before the year's end, the cost was between \$6,000 and \$7,000. They had not expected the city's bill to be so high.

The commissioners agreed to talk to the county attorney to see what their options were before paying the bill.

Emergency medical service
Jannelle Bowers, county emergency medical service director, said the technicians had 35 runs in October. The commissioners approved \$1,008 in adjustments (write-offs).

She talked about purchasing a "stair chair" for \$2,500. The chair would be for the St. Francis technicians as Bird City already

has one. She said the chair is used where the technicians cannot get a gurney. The technicians are holding a soup supper on Nov. 23, the night of the Christmas Opening in St. Francis. The proceeds from the "free-will offering" supper will be used to help purchase the chair. The rest of the money will be taken from the Memorial Fund.

Mrs. Bowers will be off for a few days in December. Mike Hanson, emergency medical technician, will fill in as the director.

Mrs. Bowers said the new technician officers are Mr. Hanson, president; Loren White, vice president; Melva Douthit, secretary; Reid Raile, treasurer; and they recommended Mrs. Bowers to remain as the director.

Mrs. Bowers asked that the meal allowance for technicians on runs be raised from \$10 to \$12. No decision was made.

The commissioners went into executive session for 5 minutes to discuss personnel. No decision was made.

In other business

In other business:

- The board approved the purchase of a \$3,000 computer program which allows the county to e-mail directly from the computer program. The new program will benefit all offices in the courthouse. The money for the purchase will be taken out of the Computer Fund.

- The county employees will be given a Christmas bonus around Dec. 15. Full-time employees will receive a \$200 scrip bonus

and part-time, a \$100 scrip bonus.

- County employees are paid once a month. There had been several employees ask the commissioners if they could be paid every two weeks. It was pointed out that there would be more book work but Mr. Miller said it could be done. No decision was made.

- Susan Roelfs, Cheyenne County Health Department, showed the commissioners the Cheyenne County Continuity of Operations Plan. The plan details situations where the county health office would have to shut down for a period of time and how they would maintain essential health services. Chairman Beikman signed the plan approval form.

- Elmer Kellner, representative for Western Prairie Rural Conservation and Development, gave the commissioners a copy of the organization's annual report. Mr. Kellner is also a representative for the U.S. 36 Association. He talked about the Docking Study which had been proposed to the commissioners earlier, asking that each county give \$2,000. Commissioner Beikman said that, until Colorado indicates interest in putting in a four-lane road on U.S. 36, he was not interested; that people would turn south at Wheeler and use K-27 to get to I-70. The rest of the commissioners agreed.

Next meeting

The next commissioners' meeting has been set for 8 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 30, in the commissioners' room at the courthouse in St. Francis.



PREPARING FOR A broadcast, Tyler Knapp, gets information from the referees before the St. Francis, Smith Center State playoff game. Tyler, a 2004 Cheylin graduate, has been calling football games with Andrew Melia on KLOE in Goodland.

Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

Introducing

Harmony Anne Wilson

Chris and Keely Wilson of Kearney, Neb., are the parents of a daughter, Harmony Anne, born Nov. 1, 2007, at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Kearney. She weighed 8 pounds, 13 ounces and was 19 1/2-inches long.

She has a sister, Julie Beth.

Grandparents are Charles and Sandy Kincaid, Norton; James and Kimberly Witt, Oberlin, and the late Julie Witt. Great-grandparents are Larry and Carolyn Schultz, St. Francis, Evelyn Wilson, WaKeeney; Eugene and Beverly Witt, Danbury; and Keith and Mary Lou Olson, Herndon. Great-great-grandmothers are Martha Schultz, St. Francis, and E. J. Query, Bird City.



Harmony Anne Wilson



Club Clips

The McDonald Town and Country Garden Club met at the McDonald Senior Center on Wednesday, Nov. 14. Co-hostesses were Joan Tongish and Marlene Johnson. Margie Hubbard opened the meeting with a prayer. Thirteen members answered roll call with "A new or old craft that I enjoy."

Reports were given on the District meeting held in McDonald in October. It was decided to give a monetary gift to the Federated Church for the use of their building.

The annual cookie party will be held on Dec. 12 at the Senior Center. Each member is to bring

at least four dozen cookies.

Margaret Rhodes brought some leaves from her Ginkgo tree and her weeping pussy willow. We had a lesson on the Ginkgo tree earlier and it was interesting to see the leaves. She also showed a Christmas tree made from a large pine cone.

Margie Hubbard gave an interesting lesson "Facts and Fancies About Christmas." She showed a Christmas tree made from branches from the Box Wood tree, and then gave a demonstration how to make it. Not many of our members have Box trees in their yards.



WITH THE HARVEST in, crew from Frontier Ag Inc. covers up the corn before the wet weather sets in.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider



County Health Talk

By Susan Roelfs,
county health nurse

Remember Kitchen Kid Safety

The Cheyenne County Health Department would like to take time during this holiday season to remind parents, grandparents and friends to check the kitchen for preventable hazards and to supervise children at all times in the kitchen. Whether a child is helping an adult cook or simply watching, he or she should always be attentively supervised. Burns from spills, steam, hot surface and

flame care especially devastating injuries. At few basic safety hints are:

- Never leave a hot stove unattended
- Never hold a child while cooking or carrying hot items
- Cook on back burners whenever possible and turn all handles toward the back of the stove
- Keep hot foods and liquids away from the edges of counters and tables
- Tie up the electrical cords of small appliances

Two other kitchen hazards are injuries from sharp objects (knives) and house hold cleaner that are potential poison hazards. You know your own children. Don't give them knives or let them handle anything hot or sharp until they have shown the maturity and coordination to do it safely. Some children mature faster than others, so it's up to parents to use good judgment about each child's capabilities. Have a safe and happen holiday.

Public Notice Petition is filed in court for estate

Published In The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, KS and Bird City Times, Bird City, KS, November 15, November 22 and November 29, 2007 (46-48)

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CHEYENNE COUNTY, KANSAS PROBATE DIVISION

In the Matter of the Estate of

DALE V. LUTZ, Deceased
No. 07-PR-13

NOTICE OF HEARING

The State of Kansas To All Persons Concerned:

You are hereby notified that a petition has been filed in this court by Jacquelyn D. Lutz, the personal representative of the Estate of Dale V. Lutz, Deceased, praying that the foreign will of said decedent be admitted to probate and record in this court; that no administration of this estate is necessary; that said

will be construed; and that the real property described in said petition be assigned in accordance with the terms of said will and the stipulation and agreement entered into by the residuary devisees of said will. You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before December 12, 2007, at 2:00 P.M., C.T., of such day, in such court, the address of which is P.O. Box 646, St. Francis, Cheyenne County, Kansas 67756, at which time and place such cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the petition.

/s/ Jacquelyn D. Lutz
Jacquelyn D. Lutz, Petitioner

Prepared by:

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IT JUST MAKES SENSE TO SAY THANKS.



Thanksgiving is time to reflect on the things for which we're truly grateful. At Edward Jones, we're thankful to serve our clients and our community. During this holiday season and every day, we wish you all the very best.

Kris Yost - Financial Advisor

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