

# Members discuss the need for vet checks on animals

By Karen Krien

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Veterinarian checks for animals was argued at the fair board meeting Thursday evening. The fair is just three months away and Erika Zimelman, board member, was concerned that with so many animals at the fair, disease could be spread if the animals were not checked by a vet.

She felt that it was important and could turn into a liability issue for the board if some animal, especially horses, were exposed to a disease.

Some of the board members pointed out that it was already stated in the fair book that sheep were to be checked. Rules change a little most years and Lacy Reed, fair board member, said even goats did not have to be checked this year.

Megan Downey, board member, said she had shown horses at many shows and state shows were the only time that she had to have a health certificate. Otherwise, she had shown many other places and never had to have a vet check.

Also, in the fair book, superintendents are told to report any signs of sickness in animals. Several members of the board said they were confident that the superintendents were familiar enough with the animals and would spot a disease if it were present. Joe Leibbrandt, county Extension agent, reinforced the fact that the superintendents were very familiar with animal diseases.

Dick Bursch, president, said he would talk to a vet or two and see what their opinion was. One of the board members said Dr. Judy Baxter was generally around when animals were checked in.

## 4-H money raiser

The 4-H shooting sports directors would like to have a shooting range in a gooseneck trailer during the fair. The event would be a money raiser to be used for supplies.

Mr. Bursch had checked with the insurance agent and it was specified that the guns were never to be left unattended and be locked up somewhere else when the game was not open. They assumed the adult sponsors would be in charge.

The county agent, who brought the matter to the board, said that those teaching the shooting sports classes emphasize safety.

## Grounds workday

There were several board

members concerned with the conditions of the grounds. Mrs. Downey said there was so much trash around the 4-H building. The building has been rented out several times in May and the 4-H Livestock show is also being held at the end of May.

There are some repairs that need to be made and mowing to be done. Andy Beikman and Roger Orth are doing part of the weed spraying.

The board scheduled a work day starting at 5 p.m. on Thursday, May 8.

## Arena conditions

Mr. Cooper said the county had pulled in the dirt from the edges of the arena to help fill up the middle so there wasn't such a mud bog. There will be sand brought in later.

## In other business

- The electricity for the new Christian Church ice cream building was discussed. The line will be put underground. The building is to the south of the Methodist Church funnel cake stand. It is large enough so there will be some seating.

- Mr. Bursch noted that Stanion Electric had sent a new flag for the fairgrounds.

- Vendors are already calling to rent a booth in Jenkins Hall. The board said the booths would go for \$30 again this year but, the large fan will be moved to the rear of the building.

- The Master Gardeners in the county are planning on planting pots of flowers so they will be in bloom for the fair. They will place them near doorways and around the carnival area. They are hoping that it will be an addition to the grounds.

- The grand marshal for the parade was decided and the name revealed right before the fair.

- Alumni from both Cheylin/Bird City and St. Francis will soon be returning for reunions. The board will be making some brochures to let them know a fund is being established to collect money to be used for the fair. Donations will be tax deductible.

- Caretakers for the grounds and building during the fair are still needed. Anyone interested in the job should contact a board member. Several suggestions were made during the meeting.

## Next meeting

The next regular meeting of the board will be held at 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 5, in the commissioners' room in the court-



MIAH HACKNEY gets off of the Headstart bus in Bird City. The bus driver is Melva Douthit.

Times photo by Linda Schnieder

# Postage going up again; Forever stamp available

They are going up again! The pony express is gone and modern technology has taken its place and with it comes another raise in the price of a postage stamp.

On May 12, the price of a stamp will go from 41 cents to 42 cents. Sonya Weeden, Bird City postmaster, suggests that people purchase Forever Stamps.

The Forever Stamp, as the name suggests, can be used to mail a 1-ounce first class mail letter at any time in the future without additional postage, regardless of when the stamps were purchased and no matter how prices may change.

She said the demand for the Forever Stamp continues to increase as the May 12 stamp price change approaches. The past week, postal service customers have been buy-

ing the stamps at a rate of about 60 million per day, bringing the amount sold to more than 6 billion since they were first offered in April 2007.

"We knew the Forever Stamp would be a big hit with our customers and we continue to replenish our stock to meet demand," Postmaster Weeden said. "We introduced these stamps as a customer convenience to ease the transition during price changes, and they also deliver economic value."

Forever Stamps feature an image of the Liberty Bell and are available at post offices, online at usps.com, by phone at 1-800-STAMP-24 and from automated postal centers and ATM. They are sold in booklets of 20 and sheets of 18.

# Staff member to be in area counties

Congressman Jerry Moran said his staff will be in Rawlins, Cheyenne and Sherman counties to hold local office hours on Wednesday, May 14.

Mitchell Hall, District representative, will be available to answer questions and concerns of area residents. Anyone who has questions, comments or is experiencing difficulties with federal agencies is encouraged to attend.

The local office hours for Wednesday are as follows:

## Cheyenne County

The Bird City office will open at 11 a.m. in the city hall conference room, 111 E. Bressler. At 12:30, Mr. Hall will be in the commission-

ers' room in the courthouse, 322 W. Washington.

## Rawlins County

The office will open at 8 a.m. in the courtroom of the courthouse at 607 Main. At 9:30 a.m., Mr. Hall will be at the city office, 504 Ot-tawa.

## Sherman County

The Kanorado office will open at 1:30 p.m. mountain daylight time, at the senior center, 212 Main. In Goodland, the office will open at 3 p.m. mountain daylight time, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse, 813 Broadway.

For more information, contact Mr. Moran's Hays District Office at (785) 628-6401.

# Resolution drawn up for 911 dispatch

By Karen Krien

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The county attorney presented a rough draft for the 911 dispatch board when the Cheyenne County Commissioners met on Thursday.

The commissioners, especially Andy Beikman, were wondering if, by him serving on the board and the commission, it would be a conflict of interest.

Justin Barrett, attorney, did not think there was a conflict. However, he did think that a resolution for the 911 dispatch board was a good thing to have.

He said the resolution would deal with replacement of board members, and with money that might be accumulated in the years. Mr. Barrett also talked about the two cities sharing some of the expenses of the service.

Mr. Beikman said he felt that there should be a Bird City representative on the board. When the board was organized, it was the consensus that, since the sheriff is the law enforcement in Bird City, then he was also their representative. Since then, there has been some questions raised as to why no Bird City people were serving.

They will look into what other towns and counties give to maintain the 911 dispatch. Mr. Barrett will give the rough draft to the county's 911 dispatch director, Carol Gambelin, and to the city attorney, Mike Day.

The matter will be discussed at the next meeting.

## Domestic violence

Carol Redding, Northwest Kansas Domestic Violence, said the county gives \$750 each year. She told about the organization and how it helped adults and children who are abused. Ms. Redding is a volunteer but she noted there is an advocate in Colby.

In the past, the donation for this organization came from the county attorney's diversion fund. Justin

Barrett, attorney, agreed to continue the donation.

## Vouchers questioned

Vouchers the commissioners questioned were: 16436 for \$1,662; to Justin Barrett, state vs Randy Johnson, St. Francis; 16433 for \$70, to Natalie Rogers for weather training cookies; 16444 for \$220 to Steve Nolan for mileage to training; 16453 for \$33 to Deb Smith, mileage; 16456 for \$132 to Cathy Graf, mileage; 16460 for \$263 to Bonnie Zwegardt, Holiday Inn Express for class; 16488 for \$79.40 to Cynthia Poling, March 2005, for coat (ambulance memorial fund).

Mr. Barrett explained voucher 16436 was submitted as he had been appointed by the court to represent Mr. Johnson and this was not included in county attorney's duties. He also noted that there will be additional bills coming in on this case.

## Road and bridge report

In the road and bridge department report, Dave Flemming, supervisor, told the commissioners what work had been done in the county. They also discussed gas usage and costs, along with repairs on the scraper.

He plans to chip seal the cemetery road June 9 and 10.

Mr. Flemming went through the annual report.

## In other business:

- The commissioners donated \$1,500 to help with flooring at the St. Francis Emergency Building. They had agreed to the donation earlier.

- Wage agreements for Jon Lanz, sheriff's officer, and Jennifer Padgett, 911 dispatcher, were signed. They both have just returned from school.

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