

# Supervisor meets with commissioners

**By Karen Krien**  
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The commissioners, at the Friday meeting, talked to the new noxious weed supervisor. Justin Lohr, noxious weed supervisor, asked the commissioners exactly what they expected from his department. Andy Beikmen, commissioner, said he had heard good reports about him and thought good communications with county residents was important. The commissioners agreed that he should report and work with Dave Flemming, county road and bridge supervisor.

medical technician, was taking the emergency medical technician instructor coordinator class. Mrs. Bowers asked for two executive sessions, one for personnel and the other for financial matters of a third party. No decisions were made upon coming out of the session.

**In other business**

In other business:  
• It was noted that the grandstand at the fairgrounds is paid off. The commissioners talked briefly about the building on the fairgrounds that is rented.  
• A wage agreement was signed for Melissa Tabor, St. Francis, who was hired to work in the treasurer's office. She will take the position of Marge Peter, who resigned as of June 1.  
• Tax abatements totaling \$100,000 were signed for Southern Star Energy. Clerk Terry Miller noted that it was difficult to make the budget work when the county is planning on this tax money.

Some people, Dale Patton, commissioner, said, don't want prairie dog control. They don't want people telling them they have a problem and how much it is going to cost. Some people will be glad to see you spray their weeds or kill their prairie dogs and some people won't. You just do the job the best you can.

Mr. Beikman also asked him to keep on a schedule if at all possible and, if he had a problem, don't be afraid to talk to the commissioners.

They noted that, since Mr. Lohr is new in the county, it will take some time to figure out where everyone lives and who owns the land but they felt he was going to do a good job.

Mr. Lohr was given permission to attend a weed identifying meeting in Gove County.

**Airport insurance**

The commissioners talked about insurance at the airport and what it covered. They had been informed that the county's insurance may not cover the Stearman Fly-In even though it is county property and it is a non-profit event.

Kari Gilliland, county attorney, said she would check into the matter and report to the commissioners at the next meeting on May 28.

**Emergency medical service**

Janelle Bowers, emergency medical service director, had adjustments which would not be paid by insurance or Medicare/Medicaid in the amount of \$2,878. She said that Wade Krien, St. Francis emergency

• The commissioners will match the \$1,000 from the county's Diversion Fund to give to the Northwest Kansas Juvenile Service. Attorney Gilliland said it was a good investment.  
• Bird City fireman, Cody Beeson, told the clerk that the firemen had received a \$30,000 grant for bunker gear. The county and city of Bird City will each pay 2.5 percent or \$750 to cover the matching agreement of the grant.

• Clerk Miller announced that a representative for Congressman Jerry Moran would be in St. Francis at the courthouse from 2 to 3 p.m. on Tuesday, May 25.  
• Dan Blake with the Northwest Kansas Domestic and Sexual Violence Services, asked that the county continue to give the same amount, \$750, to the organization. He said the service had been able to help six people last year. Dale Patton, commissioner, said it was a good service and he had heard good things about it.

**Next meeting**

The next commissioners' meeting has been set for 8 a.m. on Friday, May 28, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.



SHARON HENDRICKS WAS honored for 35 years of service as a elementary school teacher in Bird City. Fellow instructor Ken Hankins and kids joined her in a celebration.

Times staff photo by Sydney Busse

## Taxes for 911 systems undergoes change

**By Karen Krien**

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Since the mid 1980s, the counties in Kansas have received a tax raised through the telephone companies on their bills. The money given to Cheyenne County has been used to purchase 911 equipment along with radios and pagers.

Recently, phone company officials lobbied the matter of the tax collected and how it was spent to legislators. Consequently, it was decided that the tax collected would be given in full to counties this year and it could be used only for 911 equipment -- that was what the tax had originally been established for.

The tax collected was 75 cents per land line and 50 cents per cell phone.

The county receives \$10,000 to \$13,000 a year in the phone tax money and about \$5,000 to \$8,000 a year is used to purchase radios and pagers. It was used to help establish the county's 911 system and do the signage in the county. It will still be used to pay for the monthly costs of the phone lines in the 911 office.

Terry Miller, clerk, said, on Monday after reading up on recent legislation decision, that the money (75 cents and 50 cents) will continue to be collected this year and distributed to counties as in the past but they will not be able to spend it on radios or pagers. It will be cut at the end of 2010. Because the money will not be available in the future, the commissioners will need to budget for radios and

pagers with local tax money.

The county communication/911 director, Jennifer Padgett had talked to the commissioners about getting a dispatch console in the 911 office which would cost \$21,000. She had written a grant which will cover all but around \$9,000.

The console which is now being used had a transmit button that would stick. Prairie States Communication, Imperial, had cleaned the console but could not guarantee that they had fixed the problem.

The grant to replace the console expires at the end of 2010. After discussion, the commissioners decided to purchase the new console with 911 phone tax money.

There has been a problem with

the 911 dispatcher not receiving law enforcement communications. The repairman said he thought the problem was due to the old radio in dispatch which is 15 years old. It will need to be replaced in 2013 because it will not be compliant with narrow band.

The commissioners agreed to replace the radio using 911 funds from the phone tax.

Mrs. Padgett said she was looking into secondary 911 telephone lines. Should something happen to the courthouse, she said, there would be back-up lines in place. No decision was made.

Mrs. Padgett also said she had appointed Tyler Howard as her assistant. He will be in charge when Mrs. Padgett is out of town.

### CheyCoDeveloping

You can get the perfect sign made in Bird City by Mike Boysen at "Hot Brush," then stop at the grocery and pick up some terrific "homemade" salsa from Doug Sager. Stop at the Thrift Store for a "new" shirt, on your way out of town!

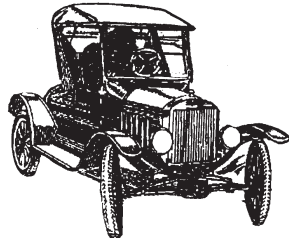
Shop Cheyenne County first! Here's a "fun" thing! Bill "Willy" Boysen owned and occupied the old pool hall in Bird City for many years. Bill has left us and we have a prospective new business for the old pool hall.

Bill accumulated "stuff" for many years, and now that "stuff" needs to go. We are going to have a "Trash or Treasures" grab-bag sale during the Bird City 125th celebration.

It will work like this: You may buy a number at the Cheyenne County Development Office or at the Bird City City Hall, starting Monday. On the 12th or 13th of June, you can enter the pool hall and see what you bought, by locating your number. Price is \$5 per number. You MUST take what you bought. No advance peaking.

I was in there yesterday and there are some real treasures, antiques, tools, books appliances -- a little bit of everything. If, when you get your first purchase, you see something you can't live without, and that number has not been sold, you can buy that number as well. Watch for the posters around

town...Just like Vegas only right here in Cheyenne County! A portion of these funds will be donated to the Cheyenne County Business Development fund.



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On Sunday, May 23rd at 4:30 p.m., the Bird City Quasquicentennial committee is sponsoring various activities for the entire family: Trap Shoot, Rifle Shoot, .22 range for youth, Horseshoes, Bocca Ball and a meal at 6:30 p.m. Donation appreciated. The location is the Krien Family Farm - 2-1/2 miles south of Hwy 36 on Road 25. Bring your guns and shells - (shells available for purchase). Come and enjoy family fun, fellowship, food and support our Quasquicentennial fund. Questions - call Ken Krien: 785-734-7015.

**'2010 The Year of the Cardinal  
Bird City Rural High School'**

Annual Alumni Banquet

May 29, 6 p.m.

American Legion Hall, Bird City

Tickets - \$15, can be purchased by contacting  
First National Bank 785-734-2100  
or in person in Bird City

The new Fifth Street Apartments in Bird City, Kansas, will have four 2-bedroom duplex apartments for rent and two single family 3-bedroom homes for rent to own. Applicants must income qualify for this property. Please contact N.W. Kansas Housing, Inc. at 785-421-2151 for more information and application, or see Century II in Bird City for applications.



Access



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**Kenny Biber is celebrating his 50th Birthday on May 29th!**  
He would love to hear from friends in northwest Kansas.  
Cards may be sent to:  
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Nevada, Mo 64772

**Jesus, let me not be deceived in thinking that I am closer to you than I really am and help me to walk in the beauty of holiness.**

Matthew 7:21-23



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**NOTICE • NOTICE • NOTICE**

Ads and copy DEADLINE for the June 3

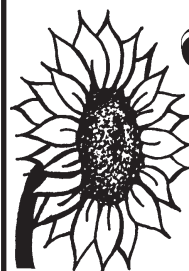
The Saint Francis Herald and Bird City Times will be Tues., June 1 at 5 p.m.

The offices will be closed on Monday, May 31th. Newspapers will be delivered a day later.

## WANTED

### Part-time Office Help

Applicants will need computer and office skills. Will be required to answer phones, wait on customers, proof read, type, take photos and make pages.



**The Saint Francis Herald**

To apply or for more information, contact Karen Krien at the Saint Francis Herald, 785-332-3162 or stop by the office at 310 W. Washington, St. Francis.

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