

Commissioners support county feed yard operation

By Karen Krien

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At the Aug. 31 Cheyenne County Commissioners, a letter was signed by the commissioners concerning the citation Callicrate Feed Yard had received several weeks ago.

Dale Patton, commissioners, said Kansas Department of Health and Environment officials would be at the feed yard on Tuesday and will clear up a lot of the issues. There is a lack of information between the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Health and Environment.

"I have asked our two national representatives to cut the Environmental Protection Agency when it comes time to make cuts in the budget," Mr. Patton said.

The letter the commissioners signed stated that they were supportive of having this facility and appreciated the jobs it supplies.

Sand

Dr. Brett and Cynthia Poling talked to the commissioners concerning the sand pit on their land. Mr. Poling said they dig out the sand, using their own equipment and fuel. The county purchases their sand but pays the same 20-cents for their sand as they do for the sand the county digs out for other people.

Dr. Poling wasn't as interested in the price paid as the possibility of having the county help them dig out some sand to meet a deadline with the Groundwater Commission.

The commissioners said they would talk to the road and bridge department supervisor and see what could be worked out.

Tax sale

Five people were present for the budget hearing held at 9 a.m. See related article.

During the budget meeting, the discussion turned to recycling, delinquent tax sale and the sheriff's department's Hummer. (See article concerning recycling elsewhere.)

Present for these discussions were Rodney Netzel, Tina Kehl, Jim Laffond, Dr. and Mrs. Poling.

Mr. Laffond asked if there are plans for a tax foreclosure sale — that, when the delinquent taxes were printed in the paper, there were \$60,000 in delinquent taxes listed.

Mrs. Gilliland, county attorney, said the last time there was a delinquent tax sale, there were people from out of town who bought the property, then left and now the city has problems.

Having a delinquent tax sale is not cheap," she said, listing a number of costs including publi-

cation, abstracts and mailing. "It is a 6- to 8-month process."

Ms. Kehl wanted to know why the county couldn't hand out stiff penalties? Mrs. Gilliland said that counties are not allowed to do that.

Hummer

Ms. Keel wanted to know why the county needed a Hummer (the sheriff's department was given one several months ago). "Nothing is free," she said. "There are expenses that goes with it."

Ernie Ketzner, commissioner, noted that a \$2,000 donation had been made to cover those expenses. And, he said, it has already been used during a fire.

Ms. Keel said she had taken her pickup to the place where the fire had been and there was no use for the Hummer. She later identified that it was not the same fire where the Hummer had been used.

It boils down to life-safety uses, said Mr. Beikman. Look at the overall cost to saving a life and it is pennies.

Road and bridge supervisor report

Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, reported on work done by the county crew. He was asked about mowing as the commissioners had received complaints. They talked about why he used circular blades instead of the bat wings. Mr. Flemming said he was using circular blades now but would finish the mowing season with the bat wings. He also noted that a mower covers about 50 miles a day.

The commissioners signed permits for Nobel Energy to bore across the county road southwest of St. Francis.

There are several piles of crushed cement which will be used or sold. A load of cement sells for \$15.

He reported that he had a grader which needed repaired. He will take it to Colby for the repairs. The commissioners agreed to look at a new grader but didn't guarantee any purchase.

He said after the road oil had been released from a tank in Bird City, the county trucks had been used to haul three loads of rocks from Benkelman.

In other business

- The commissioners discussed the county employees' health plan, noting that they had recently received information that there was a \$100,000 cap on transplants. They felt that a higher cap should have been installed when they talked to the insurance agent earlier. They agreed that they needed to talk to the representative and/or supervisor and something needed to be worked out.

- Justin Lohr, noxious weed supervisor, asked to go to more workshops/meetings. The commissioners said no to one and approved two others.

- Clerk Terry Miller was approved to attend a meeting in Salina.

Executive session

Craig Van Allen, sheriff, called for 10 minutes of executive session to discuss personnel. Twenty-five minutes after adjourning and going back into executive session again, the session ended and it was reported no decisions would be made.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the commissioners will be held at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 15, in the commissioners' room. On the agenda at 10 a.m. will be Randy Fitzgerald, Good Samaritan Society representative.



CLEANING THEM UP — Teen for Christ have fun in the park. Jay Hewitt sprays the kids off with the fire hose.

Times staff photo by Norma Martinez

Ag Talk with Jeanne

Are you a good neighbor?

By Jeanne Falk
K-State Sunflower District
Agronomist

Controlling your volunteer wheat can put you in the "good neighbor" category! Wheat streak mosaic was quite a challenge last year and had significant impacts on the yield of some fields.

The wheat mosaic virus is moved by the wheat curl mite. This mite is too tiny to see with the naked eye, but can sometimes be seen with a hand lens. It is tiny and cigar-shaped. The mite lives in volunteer wheat during the summer and is happy to move to newly emerged tender wheat. It

can move up to a half mile on the wind.

In addition to carrying the wheat streak mosaic virus, it can also move High Plains Mosaic virus and Triticum Mosaic Virus. These viruses are nearly always found in conjunction with wheat streak mosaic and produce more severe symptoms than wheat streak mosaic alone.

To prevent the movement of the mites and viruses, it is critical that all volunteer within a half mile be completely dead at least two weeks prior to planting. Destroying volunteer wheat after the new wheat emerges is too late.

The worse scenario is to have volunteer wheat dying as the newly planted wheat is emerging. The mites will move from their dying food source to the new, tender wheat to begin feeding again. The two weeks is critical because that gives the mites time to die due to lack of food.

Herbicide control and tillage are two options for controlling volunteer wheat. Tillage and herbicides are also often combined for an effective control program that leaves much of the stubble in place. Many burndown herbicides, such as glyphosate (Roundup, Duran-

go, Glystar, Makaze, Touchdown, etc) or paraquat (Gramoxone), will provide control. Grazing volunteer is not an effective option because it does not provide complete control. Even intensive and close grazing still has green tissue that the mites can live on.

Neighbors also need to cooperate in finding 'hidden' volunteer wheat. The 'hidden' places might include field edges, ditches and in double-cropped ground. Be especially sure to look in the direction of the prevailing wind!

Club Clip

Chapter U, P.E.O.

Chapter U, P.E.O. met in the home of Billie Hilt on Sept. 6. Janet Carman was assistant hostess. We were delighted to welcome two guests from other chapters, Marian Ochsner and Debby Bailey.

Goal setting for the coming year was the primary order of business. Many good ideas were presented and goals were established.

Among them was sharing some of the purposes of P.E.O. as an organization for the education of women. One of the International P.E.O. Projects is Cottey College in

Nevada, Mo. It currently is a two-year college for women emphasizing science and humanities curriculum. Recently the curriculum has expanded to offer bachelor's degrees in three areas: English, with traditional and emphasis in women writers; International Relations — Business, and Environmental Studies.

Chapter U is interested in young women in Cheyenne County who might be interested in more information on attending Cottey College.

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We would like to thank both Bumper to Bumper and Melvin & Barb Dunn for purchasing the premiums on our swine. We would like to thank the following for purchasing the premiums on our wood projects at the fair: Scoular Grain, Gilliland Seed & Consulting, Doug & Karen Flemming, Dr. Melvin Dunn, Sherlock Spraying and Mike & Leigh Ann Bandel. Most of all thanks for supporting 4-H!

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