



**DISTILLER'S GRAIN COVERED** the highway after a semi truck with trailer over corrected and ended up rolling. The accident happened Thursday on U.S. 36 between Wheeler

and Bird City. Little information was available concerning the accident but it is believed that the driver was taken to the hospital and later released.

*Herald staff photo by Tim Burr*

## Council signs new power agreement

By Nathan Fiala  
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The St. Francis city council met on Monday, Feb. 13, at the city office, and the main topic of discussion was the power contract.

City superintendent J.R. Landenberger handed out some new information that compared the two options and Prairie Land's contract still looked to be the best way to go. The Kansas Municipal Energy Agency's (KMEA) contract would require that the city update the power plant and generate electricity, which would cost more money upfront, whereas Prairie Land's contract does not require that, and would allow more time for the council to decide what to do with the power plant to deal with impending Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations.

The council agreed to the Prairie Land contract and signed the paperwork. For more information, see the story elsewhere in this issue.

### New business

Joyce Russ was on the agenda to visit the council but was unable to attend the meeting. She had already talked with council members about doing the bed races again this year and Mayor Scott Schultz okayed it.

The new coordinator of the Cheyenne County Development Corporation, Helen Dobbs, was at the meeting to introduce herself to the council. She told

the council some of the things she had already done to utilize available state employment initiatives, meeting with local organizations, possible updates to the stfranciskansas.com website, among other things. Mrs. Dobbs also told a little bit about her work history and previous experience with economic development in other communities. Council members were happy to meet Mrs. Dobbs and hope to have more communication with her in the coming months.

Doyle Easter visited the council to inquire about a peddler's license. Mr. Easter said he had looked into opening a hot dog stand in town and was in the process of finding out everything he needed to do beforehand. He said he planned to have a trailer in a fixed location and city attorney Michael Day said that if that's the case, he wouldn't need a vendor license, but he would want to contact the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for their recommendations. Mr. Easter said he had already been in contact with department and is still moving forward and will let the council know how the business progresses.

The council approved a firemen training seminar to be held in town the weekend of April 14-15. All firemen from the tri-state area will be invited and it will count toward continuing education hours. This is the first time something like this has been held here.

Council member Bruce Swihart said he was expecting the same pool board members as last year. Mr. Landenberger also talked about a new regulation requiring all swimming pools to have a lift installed before March 15. He said they would most likely go with a portable lift and would see what could be done about costs to accomplish this and would report back when he had more information.

### Superintendent report

Mr. Landenberger talked briefly about the trees on Main Street in his superintendent report. He said they needed to get 10 and will see what kind of bids they can get and hopes to have that by the middle of April at the latest.

There had also been a transformer malfunction at the power plant when a load tap changer had failed. There was no harm but there was an emergency callout from Solomon. It was about \$4,000 to repair and he is currently looking into pricing for a monitor to tell when this device is not working.

### Attorney report

Mr. Day talked about amending the application to provide power to well number seven based on suggestions received back from the Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC). He also said he would need time in executive session for legal matters.

### Police report

Police chief Shane Guggenmos was not present at the meeting,

but had given city clerk Glorianne Milne some new proposed schedules that she passed out to the council. Members looked it over and felt this showed better coverage than the past schedules and seemed to be pleased with it.

### In other business

- A trailer park license for Eldon Zimelman was approved.

- Dues for Kansas Municipal Energy Agency, Kansas Rural Water Association, the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development corporation, and the Midwest Energy franchise fee were due. All were approved.

- Council member Roger Jensen said he thought the city should consult with an electrical engineer on what to do to improve the city's electrical infrastructure. Mr. Landenberger already had some ideas as to how to proceed with that and would make a list of recommendations.

Council member Carla Lampe had talked with Jason Padgett about the stfranciskansas.com website and said he would come to the next meeting to talk more about what improvements could be made. Mr. Landenberger told Mrs. Lampe that materials for the signs had been ordered and letters for the sign by the highway had also been ordered.

Mr. Swihart said a lift would be needed for the pool and that he had placed an ad for new lifeguards.

The city council will next meet Feb. 27 at 7:30 p.m.

## Representative talks possible carnival bill

Many people in Cheyenne County including members of the Amusement Authority are concerned about Senate Bill 365 that could affect home-owned carnivals, possibly shutting them down.

Ward Cassidy, 120 District Representative, reported that the senate bill has not had a hearing. What that means, Mr. Cassidy said, is the committee chair has to place it on his calendar for the committee to discuss and then either vote it up or down to go to the full senate debate.

Secretary of labor, Karen Brownlee, wants the bill heard, Mr. Cassidy said.

"I imagine in the next few weeks it will be discussed," he said. "Her reason is because of an accident in Norton last summer

and she wants to insure that our children are safe in the home-owned carnival environment."

She has been assured, Mr. Cassidy said, that home-owned carnival people take every precaution possible and already follow state inspection guidelines.

Greg Walz, Cheyenne County Amusement board member, gave Mr. Cassidy a book of photos of the county's carnival and he said he is taking it to the committee hearing, when and if there is one.

"All the area representatives are watching and lobbying for the bill to just go away," Mr. Cassidy said, noting that he will keep the communities posted as to what is happening concerning the bill.

## Republicans hold caucus in March

On Saturday, March 10, Republicans from all over Kansas will be participating in the Kansas Republican Caucus. Registered Republicans in Cheyenne County are encouraged to participate.

The caucus is designed to say to the Republican National Committee how much support the state of Kansas has for the various Republican candidates.

Kansas has 40 delegates to the National Convention and it will take 1,144 delegates to nominate the ultimate GOP presidential candidate.

The caucus is different than the traditional primary in that it is run by the state party, paid for by contributions as opposed to the primary which

is sanctioned and funded by taxpayers in the state. The last time a standard primary was held in Kansas was 1992.

On March 10, registered Republicans in Cheyenne County are encouraged to come to the high school cafeteria at 9:30 a.m. to sign in anticipation of the actual voting. They MUST have government issued identification (driver's license is acceptable) and be registered by Feb. 17. Once there, registered voters will hear from representatives of each still viable candidate and then vote. The meeting begins at 10 a.m. but polls will remain open until 1 p.m.

Local results will be made known through *The Saint Francis Herald*.

## Club Clip

February meeting of the Tuesday Club was held on Feb. 14 at the Manor with 14 members attending. Valentines were the theme with Wanda Gienger and Mary Lee Frewen as hostess.

Card game was played with three high scores winning table arrangements.

Meeting in March will have Carol and Donna as hostess.

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Kelly, Mike, Kaycee and Mary Lee

## Watch St. Francis Indian Wrestling

State Tournament at Hays

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Feb. 24 at 10 a.m.

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