# RATES

#### **Continued from Page 1**

mary supplier, Sunflower Electric Cooperative.

Over this time period, the city has been associated with Sunflower in utilizing their transmission system and purchasing power in excess of the Western Area Power Administration allotment and pooling amounts.

Due to other cities and utilities now being able to utilize these allotments, the city of St. Francis can now expect to receive only about one-tenth of its electrical needs from from the administration, and accordingly, the city has recently contracted with Sunflower / Prairie Land for the balance.

The city superintendent, J.R. Landenberger, advised the city council that there would be a minimum of 15-percent increase of its

costs for the first year with additional cost increases as the city's access to the Western Area Power Administration power continues to decline, along with other contributing market factors.

The city's power plant remains operational, Mr. Landenberger said, and has been utilized during outages or in situations where Sunflower's load needed to be supplemented by city generation. However, he said, new Environmental Protection Agency emission standards are due to become effective in May 2013.

The city power plant is now in compliance with the current regulations, Mr. Landenberger said. A new environmental regulation called the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Reciprocating Internal sible," Mr. Landenberger said.

Combustion Engines (RICE NES-HAP) would allow for the city to operate, for emergency purposes only, its power plant for no more than 60 hours per calendar year.

In reviewing the past 10 years, Mr. Landenberger said, this emergency operation limit would have been sufficient and the city hopes that this will hold true in the future. While the city has the option to upgrade its generation capabilities to allow for more hours of operation, this would be at considerable expense. As with everything, he said, politics will undoubtedly play a huge role in what the final rules will be.

"The city government continues to address this changing environment in an attempt to keep electrical rates as reasonable as pos-

# Director meets the board

#### By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansas.com One of the first items of business at the Cheyenne County Commissioners meeting on Jan. 15 was to decide whether or not to pay dues of \$1,887 for the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development.

Helen Dobbs, the new Cheyenne County Development Corporation coordinator, was present and strongly encouraged the payment of the dues as well as participating on the board.

Mrs. Dobbs said the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development organization could be a great benefit as they have certified grant writers and administrators. The organization, she said, is under utilized. It is important that people from the county attend the meetings. Mrs. Dobbs had attended the meeting last month.

The county is paying the dues but if we don't participate, we don't know what they are doing. Yes, she said, I do think that paying the dues is worth the money.

The county, through the organization, had purchased three fire trucks and an ambulance as well as received money for street and road improvements.

A lot of loans through grants go to other counties instead of Cheyenne County, she said.

Mrs. Dobbs was on her way to represent the county at a KREDA meeting in Topeka. She had met Ward Cassidy, representative of the 120 District, and said the county residents was fortunate to have him representing them. She is concerned about what decisions will be made in the legislature concerning economic development.

She plans to attend meetings praiser. In the future, Ms. Milne throughout Kansas. I want people will be taking the training to beto know where Cheyenne County, St. Francis and Bird City is, she said

She talked about some pamcis Chamber's phone number. Since the Chamber had been dissolved, the phone number no longer works. After talking with the commissioners and the assistant county attorney, it was suggested that she call the phone company and Gloria Bracelin, former Chamber secretary, to see if the phone number could be reinstalled and automatically rolled over the Cheyenne County development phone.

She had reviewed the county's strategic plan. She may have some suggestions for change in the future.

Mrs. Dobbs said she thinks it is important to have high school students on the board. Their input is important Jason Padgett, development treasurer, was also present with Mrs. Dobbs. He had talked with Terry Miller, clerk, about purchasing QuickBooks Premier software. Mr. Miller had looked at the county's discount and could get the software for \$250. It would normally cost \$400. The commissioners agreed to pay for the software.

#### **Appraiser's report**

Appraiser, Bruce Webb, presented the work schedule for the month and a service contract of \$5,354 with R&S Digital Mapping

Mr. Webb suggested that the commissioners approve hiring Amanda Milne as the deputy ap-

come the county appraiser. **Road and bridge supervisor's** 

#### report

Dave Flemming, road and phlets which has the St. Fran- bridge supervisor, asked for two new wheels for the landfill loader. The purchase was approved.

Bringing the landfill into compliance with the Kansas Department Health and Environment was discussed.

Dolores Jenik, county treasruer, updated the commissioners about her health and job status. The commissioners told Dolores to take care of her health first as the job should be considered secondary at this point. They noted they felt the office employees were doing a great job and help is only a phone call away.

Mrs. Jenik said she had thought about hiring a second part-time employee, but the commissioners said they'd think about it at a later time.

### In other business

In other business: · County attorney, Kari Gilliland, reported that she is continuing to work on a tax sale.

• Ernie Ketzner, commissioner, asked for10 minutes to discuss personnel. Upon coming out of the session, Mr. Patton reported no decision would be made.

### Next meeting

The next meeting of the commissioners will be held at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 29, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse

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# Ag Talk with Jeanne

tlers in the Ulysses Tournament. Both came home with first place, Shadryon Blanka,

8 and under, 80 lbs and Tayten Weeter, 10 and under, 82 lbs. (pictured). This weekend

### Winter and Spring Broadleaf Control in Wheat

there is a tournament in Benkelman, Neb. on Sunday.

Some herbicides can work well even when applied during the dormant part of the season, while others perform best if the crop and weeds are actively growing. According to Dallas Peterson, K-State weed scientist, the key difference relates to the degree of soil activity provided by the herbicide.

Herbicides that have good residual activity, such as Glean, Finesse, Amber, and Rave can generally be applied in January and February when plants aren't actively growing and still provide good weed control, assuming you have proper conditions for the application. Most other herbicides, which depend more on foliar uptake, will not work nearly as well during the mid-winter months, when the wheat and weeds aren't actively growing, as compared to a fall or early spring application.

Spring herbicide applications can be effective for winter annual broadleaf weed control as well, but timing and weather conditions are critical to achieve good control. Spring applications generally are most effective soon after green-up when weeds are still in the rosette stage of growth, and during periods of mild weather. Once weeds begin to bolt and wheat starts to develop more canopy, herbicide performance often decreases dramatically.

Another important consideration with herbicide application timing is crop tolerance at different application timings. For example, 2,4-D should not be applied in the fall or

until wheat is fully tillered in the spring. On the other hand, any herbicide containing dicamba can be applied after wheat has two leaves, persist. but should not be applied once the wheat gets close to jointing in the spring, Herbicides containing dicamba include Banvel, Clarity, Rave, Pulsar, and Agility SG.

We generally see very minimal crop injury and no yield loss from topdress fertilizer/residual herbicide applications during the winter months. However, these combinations can often cause considerable burn to the wheat if applied when the crop is actively growing and with warmer weather. The foliar burn is generally temporary in nature and the wheat usually will recover if good growing conditions

Bv Jeanne Falk Agronomy Specialist

Herald photo by Shawna Blanka

Research at Hays several years ago found as much as 47-percent injury to the wheat four days after treatment following a late March treatment of Amber plus 2,4-D, but wheat recovered and yields were not reduced. However, research in Nebraska did show some yield loss from Ally plus 2,4-D applications with fertilizer applied in late April to more advanced wheat and with moisture stress conditions. Crop injury with herbicide-fertilizer combinations will depend on the total amount of fertilizer applied, dilution with water, and the addition of surfactant.

### **16th Annual Cattlemen's Choice Bull Sale** February 29, 2012 • 1:00 p.m. CST Oakley Livestock Commission • Oakley, KS

60 Balancer & Gelbvieh Bulls Sell: Black & Red Polled Bulls. Sired by A.I. leading sires like Predestined, Astro, Krugerrand, Mainline, Sugar Ray, In Focus.

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35 Red Angus Bulls & 15 Red Angus Heifers: Top Genetics for calving ease & performance. Sired by: Packer, Muleberry, High Capacity, Advancer.

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## Land Auction

Friday March 16, 2012 @ 10 A.M. CT Auction Location: St. Mary's Hall, Herndon, KS Sellers: Kelly Kimbel & Lexie Mumm Selling: 812 (+/-) acres, bottomland, grassland & CRP

Tract 1: NW1/4 of NW1/4 of 18-2-31, Rawlins County, 29.5a 1<sup>st</sup> bottomland.

Tract 2: S1/2 of NW1/4 and S1/2 of 18-2-31 and N1/2 , Less SW1/4 of NW1/4 of 19-2-31, Rawlins County, 46.6a CRP, 586a grassland.

Tract 3: SE1/4 of NW1/4 of 13-2-32, Rawlins County, 28.9a and 1st and 2nd bottomland, 7.51a pond and timber.

**Tract 4:** NE1/4 of NW1/4 and N1/2 of NE1/4 of 13-2-32, Rawlins County, 99.9a 1st bottomland, 9.7a timber & grassland.

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## Land Auction

Friday March 23, 2012 @ 10 A.M. CT St. Mary's Hall, Herndon, KS Sellers: Mildred E. Holmdahl, Revocable Living Trust

Selling: 657 (+/-) acres, Cropland & grassland

Tract I: W1/2 of W1/2 of 32-3-31, Rawlins County, 115.7a cropland, 46.3a grassland.

Tract II: E1/2 of NW and W1/2 of NE and NW1/4 of NW 1/4 of 5-4-31, Rawlins County, 145.8a cropland, 52.7a grassland.

Tract III: SE1/4 of 6-4-31, Less the grassland along the west side of said tract, Rawlins County, 132.8a cropland.

Tract IV: SW1/4 of NW1/4 and NW1/4 of SW1/4 and all remaining grassland located in the S1/2 and W1/2 of SW1/4 and SE1/4 of 6-4-31, Rawlins County, 163.2a grassland.

Tract V: A combination of Tract III and Tract IV.

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