

U.S. 36 Highway association annual meeting held

The U.S. 36 Highway Association, Inc. Annual Meeting was held June 20th and 21st in Phillipsburg, Kansas, with approximately 75 in attendance.

Thursday afternoon, attendees were invited to a Golf Tournament followed by an Evening Mixer at the Golf Course.

Friday, members of the association met at the Huck Boyd Center for registration, coffee and rolls.

We were welcomed to the meeting by Phillipsburg Mayor Fred Robinson.

Chad Kramer, President of the Association, welcomed everyone and introduced State Representatives, dignitaries, and members of the board. A special plaque was presented to the Association Secretary, Bonnie Youngquist, for her 40 years of service.

Secretary of Transportation, Mike King, Dale Herchberger, Area 1 Engineer and Leland Trie, Area 2 Engineer, gave presentations about projects along the Highway 36 corridor. Plans are to spend at least \$8 Million per county on improvements with the T-Works projects. For more information, visit www.ksdot.org/tworks. The Department of Transportation is responsible for Highway Preservation, Highway Modernization, Transit, Aviation, Rail (Short Line), and Special City/County Highway Funds. The KDOT vision is "The best in everything we do. The "we" includes you."

There was discussion regarding the continuation of roadside parks and the use of cameras during storm season for Highway 36.

After a Luncheon catered by Third Street Bakery, a History

Celebration of 100 Years was presented by Criquet Cole. Before the association became the US 36 Highway Association, it was called the Rock Island Highway Association and then the Pikes Peak Ocean to Ocean Highway. Available for viewing was a room-long display of Highway 36 memorabilia covering the last 100 years of the organization.

On March 21st 2013, Senate Resolution No. 1738 passed and was adopted, congratulating the U.S. 36 Highway Association on the 100th Anniversary and declaring that day as US 36 Highway Association Day - in honor of its 100th Anniversary. Copies of the resolution were presented to the board members.

Following the meeting, the Board of Directors met. Newly elected Board Members are Jessica Mews representing Rawlins County and Helen Dobbs representing Cheyenne County. Current Board Members from Cheyenne County are Milton Lampe and Bud Erskin.

There was a recent reprint of the brochure as more copies were needed to promote the highway. The website (www.us36.com) has been updated and there is also a Facebook page which promotes the Treasure Hunt. The Treasure Hunt Guide Book will be on sale through the website for \$6 and the hard copy maps will be available August 25th.

The Board approved an offer from Norcatour to renovate a building which was the old City Hall and Fire Department for the use of a US 36 Highway Museum.

The next meeting will be in the eastern half of the state in November.



IT'S OFFICIAL – At the June 17 commissioners' meeting, Jeff Paulsen and Karen Moberly, right, presented a \$1 check leasing the nursing home for five years. Others pictured are (left to right) Karan Thadani, county attorney, Brett Poling and Ernie Ketzner, both commissioners.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

County now owns Good Samaritan

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkans.com

The commissioners accepted a \$1 check from the Good Samaritan Society on Monday, June 17. The exchange officially signified that the county is now the owner of the Good Samaritan Village nursing home and apartments and the

Society is leasing the facility for the next five years.

Jeff Paulsen and Karen Moberly, both representing the Society, presented the check. Addendum one to the Good Samaritan Transfer and Donation Agreement was reviewed and signed. The addendum was for Section 9 in

the lease stating Good Samaritan Society will retain the vehicles they currently own. Previously, Section 9 stated the county would take ownership.

The commissioners asked that Mr. Paulsen have a standing appointment with the commissioners each last meeting

of the month. Mr. Paulsen felt 8:30 a.m. would be a good time slot. He said he receives the financials from the Society on the 15th of each month and that would give him time to look over them before meeting with the commissioners.

Commissioners tackle several key issues

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkans.com

At the June 17 Cheyenne County Commissioners' meeting, they received information from the railroad company that the county was being sued.

County attorney Karan Thadani told the commissioners of the Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado Railroad had filed a lawsuit against the county because of several cases of negligence on Rd. 25. These proposed "negligences," the company claims, caused a locomotive derailment.

The company is asking that the county pay \$207,566 in damages. Attorney Thadani reported that the case will not be resolved anytime soon but he didn't think the railroad had a very strong case.

Back taxes

J.R. Landenberger asked the commissioners if they ever considered forgiving taxes if an individual buys a property that is uninhabitable. The house next to his is one of those kinds of property. The owners (there are three) haven't paid taxes for 13 or 14 years and \$7,000 is owed.

The commissioners and county attorney agreed that the people would probably never pay the taxes and, it would be in the best interest of the county and city to take the taxes off.

Mr. Landenberger said he had been mowing the lot for the last 10 years but now the roof is gone. He said he would like to see the property cleaned up. The commissioners agreed that, if a clear title can be gotten, then they would agree to removing the taxes.

In other business

In other business:

- The commissioners told J.R. Landenberger, city superintendent, that the city police department was calling on the sheriff's department more and more. They said that they were in favor of the two departments working together but they needed to work out a schedule that sheriff's officers were not on call as much.

- The emergency management agreement between Cheyenne, Rawlins and Sherman County was signed.

- An agreement to allow Yuma

County, Colo., to share Cheyenne County's 800 megahertz channels when mutual aide request occur was signed.

- Ambulance insurance write-offs in the amount of \$3,573 were signed.

- Dani Holzwarth, Cheyenne County Conservation District, presented the district's 2014 budget request for \$20,000. Last year, they received \$16,000. She noted that the state matches what the county pays up to \$25,000. No decision was made but the commissioners said they would keep the request in mind when

they set the budget.

- Bruce Webb, county appraiser, asked for 15 minutes executive session to discuss personnel. Upon returning, no decision was made. Mr. Webb said it was time for the commissioners to appoint a county appraiser for another four years. The board appointed Mr. Webb for the term.

Next meeting

The next commissioners' meeting will be held at 8 a.m. on Friday in the courthouse.



Hometown Hero

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkans.com

Kary Meyer has been chosen as the St. Francis Hometown Hero.

Her role as leader of the St. Francis 125th Birthday Celebration, held June 14, 15 and 16, showed hard work, coordination, careful planning and the ability to work with everyone. Every idea was accepted and no one felt slighted. And, when the 125th arrived, she worked along with everyone.

Kary started planning a celebration, not necessarily a 125th celebration, in November. At that time, she was thinking that a Heritage Days, similar to those held in year's past would be a fun thing. We all need to remember where we came from, she said.

However, by the first of the year, her plans for Heritage Days were taken over by the need for a 125th celebration for St. Francis.

She didn't blink an eye!

She opened up the Majestic Service meeting room on Monday evenings. The first couple of meetings were well attended with lots of ideas for events, food and fun. All ideas were listed and eventually, the list was shortened but there were still lots of things planned. People stepped up and volunteered to head the events.

The meetings continued every other Monday. And, as the week's went by, there were less people attending. However, there were still people hanging in there, giving reports on their projects and making plans to carry them out.

Kary had a notebook with all committees, projects, and costs. The latter was a concern.

There was no money when the celebration



KARY MEYER, head coordinator for the St. Francis 125th Birthday Celebration, was everywhere and doing whatever needed to be done.

started. It was suggested that everyone at the first or second meeting donate \$25 for "seed." Some did but the celebration still needed a lot more money before it could fly.

Money makers were held, donations came in but Kary was always worried that there wouldn't be enough to cover all the expenses. Again, in her notebook, she was keeping track of everything.

She met with the city council about the use of the park and having a beer garden, talked to the city attorney about the legalities and worked with the city insurance agent, all the while, talking to vendors about food and visiting with people interested in the 125th when they came to Majestic or called on the phone.

Sure, there were a few disagreements but she handled them well and she smoothed out the wrinkles. The goal was to make the celebration one that



would be well remembered and safe for everyone.

Finally, Friday, the first day of the celebration, arrived. However, Aiden, her young son, was sick. She did what she could at the park with Aiden on her shoulder, then went home to make sure he could rest and was cared for.

Later that day and the next, far into the night, Kary was around. She had a pager that was the center for all other pagers – she was still coordinating. If someone needed something, she was called. She helped with the food, carried ice, picked up trash – whatever was needed, Kary was there.

Kary will be the first to say that it took everyone involved to make the event a success. I had some of the greatest people to work with, she said, and it would have been impossible without each and every one.

And, while that it is true, it also took someone like Kary to make sure that the important things were in place – someone to take the lead.

Our hats off to a special young lady!



Ever since our life began,
We realized that "You da man!"
We saw your wisdom, your courage too,
And we learned we could rely on you.

Your tolerant nature was really great;
Nevertheless, you'd not hesitate
To let us know when we'd been bad;
It must have been hard, but that's being
a dad.

You're strong and smart and filled with
love—
A gift to us from above,
So here's a greeting from your biggest
fans:

Happy 60th Birthday, Dad, 'cause
"You da man!"

Love, Kaycee, Mac and Keaton

Thank you

What an adventure this has been these past 31 years. I want to thank you; my children of the past and of today for being my shining artists. You were the best part of each day! To the administration, community, parents and teachers, I thank you for your support over the years. All the beautiful cards, well wishes, kind words, parties and gifts will always be treasured. It has been my privilege to be a part of such a wonderful community.

Happy Trails --Mrs. Beikman

Holly Wilkening

Holly is a 2013 Graduate of Goodland High School. Holly's favorite school memory is the lunch dates with Sydney, Chloe and Paige. She's attending the Hays Academy of Hair Design after graduation, and after she establishes herself in cosmetology she hopes to own her own salon in Goodland.

Parents: Sheila Walz and JR Wilkening
Grandparents: Kenneth and Beverly Wilkening; Gay Walz and the late Loyd Walz



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