

# County to take over ownership of highway

By Karen Krien

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The county will be the owner of a highway.

The Cheyenne County Commissioners, at the Thursday meeting, agreed to accept the state of Kansas' offer to take over ownership of K-217. The state will pay Cheyenne County \$100,000 as part of the deal. The highway is the mile running north of K-27 through Wheeler. It is the shortest highway in the nation.

Dave Flemming, public works director, said it was only a matter of time before the county would end up with the highway. He thought it was better to take the \$100,000 while it was being offered. He said the highway was in good shape and would not take much repair for at least 10 years.

## Landfill

Byron Moberly, landfill supervisor, was concerned about the amount of recyclable items that had ended up in the landfill after the fair. He said when the truck was dumped, it was full of plastic water and soda bottles as well as aluminum cans.

He recommended that, next year, there be containers placed around the fairgrounds encouraging people to deposit their cans and bottles appropriately. The commissioners agreed that this would be a good idea.

Mr. Moberly said other landfills in the area charge an additional fee for items that can be recycled but are brought to the landfill. Recently, he said, there was a business that brought out records to be buried. Had they been shredded, he could have used them in the paper mache cover mix.

Dale Patton, commissioner, said the fees for dumping haven't been raised in several years and it was time to look in to what other counties were charging. It was noted that the county's fees are lower than others in the area.

There was also some discussion on people bringing items to the landfill that have not been covered with a tarp. The ditches, they said, are littered with things that have fallen off as they are transported to the dump. They talked about charging a fee for trailers and trucks transporting items without a tarp. No decisions were made on the higher dumping fee or tarping fee.

However, the commissioners did make a decision on the purchase of a skidsteer for the county. Mr. Moberly and Mr. Flemming brought in information and bids for skidsteers from Yost Farm Supply, St. Francis, and Whitestar Machinery, Garden City. They ended up taking the

bid of \$36,800 from Whitestar Machinery.

The new machine comes with the different attachments which are needed at the landfill, as well as it has solid tires. At the end of the year, they will be able to replace the skidsteer from \$1,000 to \$3,000, depending on the hours used.

The cost will be split between the landfill and the road and bridge department. It will be used in both departments.

## Jail care-budget

The commissioners, as they were going over the vouchers, noted the cost for jail care including charge per day and prescriptions during the month of July was \$3,180. In just the first part of August, the cost was already \$4,226.

What is sad, Commissioner Patton said, is we will have these expenses on one or more of them for several years. It is impossible to budget for prisoner care.

They set a special meeting to

## Fair board discusses ways to improve fair

The Cheyenne County Fair board held a short August meeting at Jenkins Hall on the county fairgrounds Thursday evening. Board president Dick Bursch called the meeting to order, with nine members present.

The board discussed the recently completed fair, bringing up items that might be improved, problems encountered during the fair, and concerns and complements from fair participants and attendees.

"Overall, I believe the fair went very well" said President Bursch. "There were a couple of small glitches, just like every fair, but I received way more complements than complaints."

The board was in agreement that the addition of a roof over the show arena was a great improvement to the facilities.

The board discussed the demolition derby, and what might be done to enhance it next year. Different formats, different payouts, and different ways of running a derby were discussed.

"The derby was again a good moneymaker for us, well attended and pretty popular. We need to keep making it a good attraction," said Adam Peter, board member.

No decisions on changes were made. The board will renew their discussion at the next meeting.

Mr. Bursch reminded the board that the upcoming October meeting will be when the board elects officers and fills vacant

finish up the budget on Tuesday, Aug. 20.

## In other business

In other business:

- The commissioners approved ambulance write offs of \$621.

- Agreed that the Good Samaritan Village should have purchases over \$500 approved by the commissioners. Anything less does not have to have prior approval.

- Amanda Milne, deputy appraiser, was given approval to hire Deb George in that office.

- Supervisor Flemming was given permission to purchase the remaining millings from the K-27 resurfacing project. He will use the millings for the road to Keller's Pond and possibly Lorraine Street, St. Francis.

## Next meeting

The next regular meeting of the commissioners is set for 8 a.m. on Monday, Aug. 30, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

board positions.

"There will be several board positions open," he said.

Some members of the board had names of potential board members, people who had expressed an interest in being on the fair board. Members of the board will contact those who have expressed interest, along with some other named, to make sure they would be, if appointed, willing to serve.

There had been some confusion on setting the dates for the 2014 fair, and setting the date for the Baxter Black performance.

"The Thresher show always starts the last Thursday in July, which is July 31, so we need to go to the next week, which will be Aug. 6 through the 9th" Mr. Bursch said. "Baxter Black's people were able to keep the 7th or 8th open for us. Which night shall we use?"

After discussion, it was the board consensus to have the roping on Wednesday night of the fair, Baxter Black on Thursday, Tuff Trucks on Friday, and the demo derby on Saturday.

Marty Fear, extension agent, had a short recap of the fair from the Extension perspective. He also presented the board with bills for the fair which had been received. The board approved payment of the bills.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.



JUNIOR-SENIOR high sports practice started Monday. The open house will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 30, at the high school. The first high school volleyball game will be held in St. Francis on Tuesday, Sept. 3, starting at 4:30 p.m. Pictured is Talley Morrow instructing her team. The first football game will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 6, on Greene Field in St. Francis. Pictured is coach Seth Swihart.

Herald photos by Doug Sloper

## Student News

Benjamin Neitzel was among approximately 4,450 undergraduate students at the University of Kansas who earned honor roll distinction for the spring 2013 semester.

Neitzel, a 2010 St. Francis Community High School graduate, is a senior studying psychology and business. He was named to the honor roll for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Honor roll criteria vary among the university's academic units. Some schools honor the top 10 percent of students enrolled, some establish a minimum grade-point average and others raise the minimum grade point average for each year students are in school. Students must complete a minimum number of credit hours to be considered for the honor roll.



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