

Road and Bridge looking for used loader-backhoe with front assist

By Tom Betz

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The Sherman County Road and Bridge Department is in the market for a loader-backhoe and a ballast packer, the commissioners heard on Tuesday.

Curt Way, public works manager, told the commissioners he was looking for the loader-backhoe to replace the 1978 model that is pretty much worn out he said.

Way thinks the loader-backhoe would cost in the neighborhood of \$35,000 to \$45,000, and asked the commissioners to give him permission to purchase one if he finds something in that price range.

He said he wants one with front wheel assist and that is stick operated.

"We don't put enough hours on one to get into the \$60,000 price range," he said. "If we spend that much we might as well look at buying a new one, and I don't really need to have a new one sitting around."

He said he would trade in the old 1978 Model 510 because it would be better to go that way rather than trying to sell it through the sealed bid process. He said the dealer would look at it and might have a market for it.

The front wheel assist is important, Way said, for working around the culverts.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede said that sounded OK to him as long as Way can stay in that price range.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas agreed it sounded OK to him as well.

Tiede asked Way about the scrapper.

Way said the transmission is being rebuilt in Topeka, and the torque converter is being rebuilt at Martin Tractor in Colby. He said it will probably be a couple of weeks before it is back together.

Tiede asked if Way had an estimated cost of the rebuild.

"I think it will be about \$15,000," he said, "with the purchase of the rebuilt transmission."

Commissioner Kevin Rasure asked how old the scrapper was.

"It is a 1976," Way said. "We stumbled onto a used transmission, and we can justify this because of the low price of the transmission. We don't need to have a new one, but it is not worth much. We may need to put a new engine in it, but it will last a long time for the amount of work it does."

"With this we can keep it going because the basic machine is solid. It is a Model 613, and you don't find those. A new one is at least \$175,000 to more than \$200,000."

Thomas asked why that particular model is a good one for the county.

"It is a size that fits down in the ditch," Way said. "They are not made anymore and now they have the Model 615, but it is a bit bigger."

"I heard you had a truck go down," Tiede said.

Way said they may have to get a new engine for the truck. He is looking at a remanufactured engine in the

\$22,000 price range with a six month or 6,000 mile warranty.

Way said another piece of equipment they need to replace is a ballast packer because the old one is beyond repair. He said he has been talking to a dealer about a new one at a cost of \$14,721 delivered.

"We have no way to rebuild the old one," he said. "If we had the parts machined it would be up to \$8,000. We use it quite a bit, and if we don't have it we miss it."

"What do you pull it with?" Thomas asked.

"One of our old tractors," Way said, "and we may need to look at that too."

Way said Handy Hitch is the name of the manufacturer and it is made in Canada.

Tiede asked what Way would do with the old one.

He said he would keep it on the books and let the people out at the fairgrounds use it.

Tiede told Way to pursue the loader-backhoe deal.

"Do you want to hear from the dealer?" Way asked.

Thomas said he felt Way could take care of it.

The commissioners gave Way permission to purchase the ballast packer.

In other related road business, the commissioners:

* Approved a raise for road and bridge operator Henry Holcomb from \$8.75 to \$9.25 per hour after a closed door session with Way and the commissioners to review the employee evaluation.

Citizens get letter about nitrates; water system OK

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

City residents received another drinking water warning letter on Tuesday because of high levels of nitrate in the same city well that tested high in March.

City Manager Wayne Hill said the city is required by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to issue the warning letter, but he said the required letter overstates the situation and the truth is the city water system is OK.

Hill said the city is required by the state to issue the warning letter when any well water sample exceeds the federal clean water nitrate level.

"The sample was pulled from the same well as in March," Hill said, "and is not reflective of the whole city water system."

"The letter makes it sound like the whole system is in danger, but we have a blended system and the sample was only from that one well."

Hill said well No. 3, located on the southeast corner of Chambers Park, had a nitrate level of 11 milligrams per liter for the second time this year, which is one-part per million above the safe water maximum of 10 milligrams per liter.

"It was OK at 10 parts per million, but not OK at 11 parts per million. As a chemist I know this is not as serious as the state's required letter makes it sound."

Hill said new samples have been pulled and sent off for retesting. He said in the future, samples will be pulled from the system to track citywide levels.

"I am not saying there is no problem," Hill said, "but I am saying it is not the dire situation the state letter claims."

Hill said the city has been watching this well for some time.

Rich Simon, public works manager, agrees the water system is in better condition than the warning letter makes it sound.

Hill said if the nitrate levels raise in more wells the city might have to look at a central water treatment system where all the water from the wells is collected, blended and treated before being pumped into the distribution system. He said that would be very expensive.

Simon said the city is looking for possible ways to treat the water at the wellhead.

"We have done the wellhead protection survey," Simon said, "and have been trying to find out where the nitrates might be coming from. We do not see the same levels in some of the other tests we do on the water wells."

Simon said tests on well No. 3, will be required on a quarterly basis, and it will take four tests with the levels below 10 parts per million before the city can go back to an annual test.

Citizens ask city to support drug task force

DRUGS, from Page 1a

"We did get the information from him, and we work with both the chief and the sheriff."

"We have no plans for funding this membership, but have been approached by citizens who would like to help pay the dues. Would that even be possible or could the city accept that?"

City Manager Wayne Hill said it would be a legal issue to have the city attorney investigate.

"We would like to see this investigated," Linthacum said. "The people would want to do this on a private basis."

"How much do you have?" Billinger asked.

"We have not taken any," Linthacum said, "but we could go back and ask if this is something that can be done and on

what sort of basis and if it could possibly be tax deductible."

"I know we did discuss the task force," said Commissioner Annette Fairbanks. "I would not be beyond reviewing it. I don't know that anyone from the Quad County board has come to make a presentation to us."

"I would be interested in knowing the conviction rate, and let us know what plans they have and what they are doing."

"We were trying to figure out what we have and where we could cut," said Commissioner Dave Daniels. "What are we getting from the money? Are we doing double pay, and are we getting our money's worth?"

"The county is paying, too. Are other counties and cities doing the same thing?"

"Some are and some are not," Linthacum said. "It depends on the size and if there is a city police force."

"If the task force did not give the information to you, we want to clear this up and see what we can do to get a reasonable report. If you didn't have what we had access to, it would something for you to see. It includes the information about who is paying out of the five counties."

"I think we felt that if it was important we could rejoin the task force," Daniels said. "The latest drug raids have happened even if we are not members. They are still doing it. Do we need to do it?"

"I have asked other entities about it," Dechant said, "and there are mixed emotions about it. I am more concerned that our own police are buying their own night sticks."

When asked about the night sticks on

Tuesday, Chief Ray Smee said the night stick is not a required item for the police to carry, and it has been city policy for more than 10 years that if an officer wanted to carry one, they would buy it.

"Chief Ray Smee is part of the task force," Billinger said. "He is part of the task force and he did talk to us."

"I am in favor of doing it, I think after I did some investigation I believe it is something we need to be part of."

"Ray is one of our major sources," Linthacum said, "and makes our meetings, especially when we need to talk to him."

Billinger asked the city manager to put the Quad County issue on the agenda for the next city meeting, at 5 p.m. on Monday at the City Administration Building.

School board hears sports update

SCHOOL, from Page 1a

In other school business:

•The board approved payment for the bills for the month of September in the amount of \$99,134.03.

•The board voted to accept the entire site council membership. Site councils are parent advisory groups assigned to each school.

•In a 7-0 vote, the board accepted

the resignation of Becky Foster as a part-time custodian at North.

•The board unanimously approved the hiring of Skellynne Johnson as the school secretary for West and Steve Koehler as a part-time custodian at North.

•Professional Development Council chairman Dennis Friedrichs said the district was only 3 teachers short of meeting its 100 percent

goal of participation in individual professional development.

•Angelos said administrators will be attending the Region 9 meeting this week. The Goodland school district will be the host of the regional meeting in May.

•The board adjourned at 8:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. Oct. 22 at Goodland High School.

Council awards more grant projects

GRANTS, from Page 1a

Jeremy Jennings, who began as the development director on Oct. 1, said it is his plan to have four rounds of home and business grants next year beginning in the spring.

McMinn said the homeowners and businesses are matching the \$1,500 grants with most pledging that much or more to complete the projects. She said the total matching money was about \$11,000 in addition to the \$6,000 from the council.

She said in the second round all

the people who applied were told they had to work with local contractors and the supplies had to be purchased through local businesses.

"The idea is to encourage local economic development and to spread money around to the local businesses," she said. "We had some people in the first round who were going to use outside contractors. We want the money to stay in Sherman County and help our businesses."

McMinn said the two home and business grants awarded in June have been completed and the bills paid.

The housing grants went to Lola Wiley at 1501 Center, and LeAnn Haarberg at 1307 Harrison. The business grants went to the Goodland Grind and Gallery at 1530 Main, and to Pioneer Health at 910 Main.

"I think this is a great program and good for our town and our people," said Steve West council member from Western State Bank.

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Homestead Realty and Auction

ANTIQUe, COLLECTIBLE & PERSONAL PROPERTY AUCTION for Eileen Fortmeyer, Maynard Bane Estate and others
Saturday, October 13th at 10 MDT
Location: VFW Hall, 824 Main, Goodland, Kan.

Eileen is moving into town and has a large collection of gnomes, collectibles and antiques. Also a lot of personal property belonging to the Maynard Bane Estate and others. We will have something for everyone so plan now to attend another fun auction where everyone has "Satisfaction at the sound of the gavel!" Lunch served by the VFW Auxiliary. Go to www.goodlandhomestead.com for lots of pictures.

FURNITURE & HOUSEHOLD: Lazy Boy sleeper sofa, almost new; Queen sleeper sofa; Matching sofa & love seat; Black sofa & love seat; Swivel rockers; 2 day chairs; King size bedroom set, large headboard with mirrors, dresser W/mirror, night stand; Bedroom set w/ headboard, dresser W/mirror, 2 chests; Corner glass curio cabinet, oak, Oak coffee and end tables; Small round drop leaf oak table w/2 chairs; Chrome Kraft kitchen table W/4 chairs; Kitchen table w/6 chairs; White wicker dresser & corner stand; Several book cases; Large Chest freezer; Maytag washer & dryer; Small writing desk & chair; Marble top end table; console stereo w/8 track player; Several lamps.

MISCELLANEOUS: New Rival elect. meet slicer; canister sets; cookware of all kinds; blender; lots of dishes; cameras; silverware; clocks; glassware; ceiling fan; elect grill & hot plate; light fixtures; nice set of dishes; small humidifier; deep fat fryer; Christmas decorations; bakeware & stoneware; lots of books; George Forman grill; 2 crocks; wine glasses; cassette tapes; hostess dishes; food processor; craft items; cook books; 2 drawer file cabinet; Play station picnic bench; luggage; sheets, blankets, towels, bedding; new tub surround, still in box, shell pattern; 3 leather coats; 10 Stetson & Resistol hats; several knives & pocket watches; money clips; hand tools; Shop Vac; garden tools

ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES (lots of pictures on web site): Gnome collection; Tom Clark Figurines: Franklin #28, signed, Willie and Son #1078, Telly W/video, signed, Hyke #27, Spud #34, Brother, sister & dad #58, Shepherd #197, Hitch #2018, Jumping Jack Blackie #2025, Kernel #75, McNally #6329, Greetings #2042, Heather and Jan #77, signed, M&M #2032, Saturday #90, 2-The Race, Ed 2022, Freddy #79, Set Corkey #79 and wife Savoy, Cairn Studio display set, Eddie 83, Pokey 98, Lilibey 10, Jenny 79; Norman Rockwell Figurine; Danbury Mint: Caught In The Act, Asleep On The Job, Self Portrait, The Rivals, Gramps At The Reins, Man Threading A Needle; Gorham: The Marriage License, Captain, Fishing, Triple Self Portrait; Dave Grossman Designs: 100th Year Of Baseball; Jim Beam Bottles: 2-Christmas Bells (Regal China) Music Boxes, 88 Holiday Decanter (Regal China), Birds (Holiday Decanter), Blue Marbleized Regal Decanter, 1991 Holiday Collector Toy Soldier, 1989 Holiday Toy Soldier, 1990 Holiday Toy Soldier, Republican Elephant, 6-Wildlife Artist Decanters, (J. Lockhart), Marbleized Orange, Brown Regal Decanters; Set of 8 Rogers

Silverware, in case, nice; Franklin Mint Farmall F-20 Scale 1:12 Precision model in box; JD Model R, 1915, in box; Fostoria pieces; Cut Glass; 15 sets of S&P shakers; 3 sets silver S&P shakers from Japan; Bavarian China, Forest pattern, set of 8; Turn of the century oak dining table w/5 chairs, 1 captain chair, mint cond.; Small smoke stand W/pipes; Radio Flyer Wagon; Copper Tub; Croquet set; Lawn caddie; Camel Cigarette Sign, lighted, works; Marlboro cigarette sign, neon, works; Old Gold cigarette clock; cash register; credit card machine; wash board; wooden bushel basket w/lid; copper lamps, 2 each from Turkey, still in boxes; assorted Pop bottles; Nascar Pedal Car (NAPA #15); Tonka Dump Truck; Tonka Digger Scoop; Tonka Ambulance; Tonka Jeep, in box; Tonka Crawler Loader; Assorted toys still in boxes, Ertl, NFL, Boddly; Pony Boy cap pistol w/holster; Western cap pistol w/holster; Hubley cap pistol w/holster & belt; Daisy BB gun, Red Ryder; Daisy BB gun Model 840

LARGE COIN COLLECTION: Wheat pennies, circulated and uncirculated 1954 S, 1957 D, 1958 P, 1959 P, 1960 P, 1960 D, 1961 P; Canadian Penny; Steel pennies; 1999 to 2002 Quarters; 2-US Mint Liberty coin sets; 1950 D Quarter; WWII Lincoln penny series mint set; Several misc. quarters; WWII Obsolete coin collection; 11- 1970's Silver dollars; Odd Shaped coins of the World; 40 Susan B Anthony coins; Liberty & Jefferson nickels; early 1900's silver dollars; 2-1 troy oz. Silver bricks, 1 coin; 10-.999 oz. Silver coins; 26- 1900's half dollars; 20-Kennedy half dollars; Buffalo head nickels; 10 V nickels; 8- 1940's half dollars; Commemorative Gold coin, .9074 troy pure gold, .100 Copper.

SPECIAL ITEMS: Smith & Wesson 38 Cal. pistol; 12ga Double Barrel Hammer shotgun, Belgium make; Set of 42 president knife collection; Invacare Elect wheel chair, less than 1 year old, W/extra large seat, like new; Tandem bicycle

OFFICE EQUIPMENT: Gateway computer W/19" Flat Panel CTR Monitor; Sharp Model AL-1661 CS digital copier, printer, fax, scanner, less than 2 years old; Several file cabinets; Brief cases; Typewriter/word processor

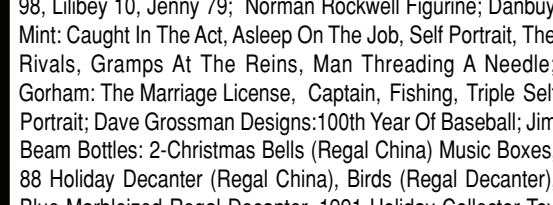
Many more items to numerous to mention. Please be on time as the hall will be full. For more information contact Homestead Realty & Auction, 1023 Main, Goodland, KS. Terry Richardson 785-899-2328, 800-974-2426, 782-5-899-8094

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matters of record

Goodland Police
The following crimes have been reported to the Goodland Police Department:

Sept. 25 — 11:42 a.m., 1006 Center Ave., Terrin Parish Keith reported criminal damage to property.

Sept. 26 — 9:14 p.m., 824 Main Ave., Carey McGuire reported motor vehicle burglary and a theft.

Sept. 27 — 1:28 p.m., 119 E. 12th, arrested Sherry Ann Robinson for theft from Prints and the Paper.

Sept. 28 — 8:30 a.m., 300 E. Ninth, City of Goodland reported criminal damage to property.

Oct. 1 — 6:38 p.m., 1607 Texas Ave., James Sheats reported a theft.

6:39 p.m., 204 W. 11th, arrested Dwight Aaron Melstrom for aggravated battery against Daniel Oikarinen. Case referred to county attorney.

Oct. 2 — 11:11 a.m., 1202 West Business U.S. 24, arrested Isaiah Broadus for theft of motor fuel from

Frontier Equity Exchange. Case referred to city attorney.

Oct. 4 — 2:16 a.m., 812 Washington Ave., arrest a juvenile and placed in protective custody on child in need of care. Case referred to county attorney.

Oct. 5 — 7:49 a.m., 1402 Main Ave., Kansasland Tire reported a theft.

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