

County accepts bids for fairgrounds projects

By Tom Betz
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Sherman County commissioners accepted bids for replacing tile in the 4-H building and replacing a section of the fence between the carnival area and the arena and grandstand area.

Steve Duell, fair board member, met with the commissioners at their meeting last Thursday and presented bids on replacing the tile floor in the 4-H building.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said he would excuse himself from the discussion because of a conflict of interest and left the room.

The bids for the tile in the 4-H building were Wane's Carpet & Drapery, \$7,691; Bob Rohr, \$15,002; and Randy Raile, \$16,242.

Duell said because of the big difference in the bids he had double checked to make sure everyone was bidding the same things.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede made the motion to accept the low bid from Wane's Carpet & Drapery. Commissioner Chuck Thomas joined Tiede in voting in favor.

Duell had talked to the commissioners at a previous meeting about replacing the wooden fence between the carnival and parking areas and the racetrack and arena. He had suggested putting up a metal pipe fence, and replacing the fence a section at a time.

Duell presented four bids for replacing the south section of the fence from the grandstand to the south end of the carnival area.

Those bidding included Goodys (Mike Yarger), \$4,350; Miller Construction, \$4,318; Malsom Enterprises, \$5,375; and Rasure Lumber Do It Center, \$12,578.

Tiede made a motion to accept the bid from Miller Construction and it passed 2-0 with Thomas voting in favor.

Rasure returned to the meeting. Duell said he is trying to get prices on other materials for fairgrounds projects.

In other business the commissioners:

- Approved allowing the Shine On Sherman County Youth Committee to use the Agriculture building at the fairgrounds for a skateboarding program in April. Dana Belshe, county extension agent, said the youth group would bring in their own jumps, and they would have the kids sign injury waivers.

The commissioners said they felt that would be OK and that there should not be much of a problem since most of the inside of the building is open.

William McKnight, building and grounds supervisor, said the only things parked in the building are a couple of county vehicles, and they could be parked outside if that is needed.

- Received a letter from Chuck Ihrig, farmer, about a keep out sign that has been posted on a trail road he uses for access to his farm land. Ihrig asked the commissioners to open the trail as a minimum maintenance road so he has access to his land. Tiede said he would talk to Ihrig and Mark Peden, who put up the sign, to see if the issue could be resolved. Tiede said checking with Curt Way, public works manager, the road is not open.

- Approved a neighborhood revitalization project for an 80x125 shop building with 12 foot side walls for John Hendrich to be built west of his home on North Caldwell Ave.

The commissioners approved the project, but asked Darin Neufeld of Evans, Bierly, to have the location and size checked with the Federal Aviation Administration because it is close to the airport.

- Had a report from Dorendo Harrel, county health administrator, that she does not want to continue doing the bioterrorism paperwork. Thomas said she told him it is taking a day a week just to do what needs to be done for the program.

Thomas said that is one of the jobs

that could be combined with a full time fire chief position.

- Met with Alex West who asked if the commissioners had checked out his references for radiator work he had submitted to the commissioners and Way.

Tiede said he had talked to Way and Steve Goodman, road and bridge supervisor, about the references. Tiede said that Goodman had made calls and the county was willing to give West a chance at the county business.

Way, who was at the meeting, agreed and said the county would send West some business.

- Approved purchase of a tractor for the landfill. Way presented bids from local implement dealers to replace a tractor at the landfill. The bids presented include Goodland Greenline, \$38,400; Witzel and Rhea Implement, \$30,423; and Yost Farm Supply, \$28,750.

Thomas made a motion to approve the purchase from Yost Farm Supply. Rasure seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

- Approved contract with Sherman County Stock Car Association for this year.

- Approved lease for the emergency management department to use the 4-H building for a training program.

- Tabled discussion about fire alarms for the courthouse and health department. The commissioners reviewed the bid from Fire Alarm Specialists of WaKeeney. The commissioners asked McKnight to visit with S&T Communications to see if they can provide similar security services.

- Approved contract with VonFeldt, Bauer and VonFeldt for the audit.

- Approved month end bills totaling \$617,690.

The next county commission meeting will be 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 12. The commissioners meet in the commission room.

Snoball royalty



Goodland High School seniors that are the candidates for the Snoball Queen and Snoball King are (back row left) Robert Borneman, Josh Doke, Brett Meissinger, Forrest Trachsel, (third row left) Thomas Terry, Christopher Geeska, Martin Stadelmann, (second row left) Tehnee Ridder, Heidi Yonkey, Margo Detombe, Marisa Acuff, (front row left) Lauren Abernathy, Tiffany Wing, Samantha Raymer and Halli Stone. Not pictured is Grant Wilkens. The king and queen will be crowned at Friday night's basketball game.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

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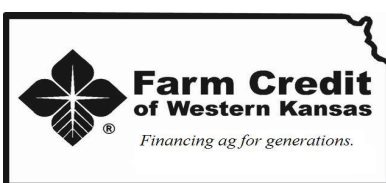
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Oberlin hospital asks county for money to help with recruitment

The Decatur County Hospital administrator asked the county commissioners for money to help the doctor procurement committee hire a new physician last Tuesday, but left without a commitment.

Commissioner Ralph Unger said the commissioners needed to look at the budget and see how much money is available, which Administrator Lynn Doeden said was fine.

Doeden said the committee is going to have to hire a recruiting firm. Last week, she said, she spent 28 hours trying to hire a doctor and still hasn't found one.

The recruiting firm, she said, will cost about \$28,000. There is about \$15,000 left in the account from the last time the procurement committee hired a doctor. The Oberlin-Decatur County Area Economic Development Corp. gave \$5,000, said Doeden.

She said she would be asking other governments and agencies for money as well.

The committee has hired a firm called Kansas Recruiters, said Doeden, to look for graduates in

the state. She said the members also have gone to some job fairs.

Doeden asked the commissioners to consider a donation, adding that

the committee probably won't need the money for about a month, because the recruiting company only needs the first half up front.



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