

Hearing short, only two testify

HEARING, from Page 1a

Bremby, going against staff recommendations, denied permits for two much larger coal-fired plants in southwest Kansas last year, touching off a storm of political infighting.

Morris summarized his testimony as the staff person who had reviewed the permit application. He said the modification request includes an alternative nitrous oxide control system and expands the types of fuel to be burned in the plant.

He said the permit is required because the emissions are above state base standards.

Morris listed federal and state requirements for this type of plant and said the modifications would not change any of the previously approved emission standards for the plant.

He said the types of fuel would be expanded to include burning tire chips at a rate of up to nine tons per hour, he said, plus agriculture byproducts, wood and wood waste and trash, known as municipal solid waste.

He said additional federal and state requirements would come into play if the plant produced more than 10 tons of hydrochlorine (from burning plastic) in a year. The current permit has a provision to limit the plant to that level.

He said the permit requires performance testing, monitoring and reporting of all the specific emissions to the state and federal regulatory offices.

"The emission is not expected to cause any impact on the air," Morris said.

When he concluded his presentation, Morris said anyone with questions could talk to him after the hearing, and a few people took advantage of that to ask more questions.

Wells called McCullough, the first of those who had registered to speak.

"I will keep it brief," McCullough said. "This permit includes alternative fuels, and we feel that will improve the economics of the project and benefit the community."

McCullough started to ask if there were questions, but Wells said the hearing was not a question-and-answer session.

He called on Osman as the second person who had registered to speak.

Osman said he was the engineer who had written the permit applications for the power plant, ethanol plant and biodiesel plant at the center.

He said the original permit allowed the power plant to burn coal, but due to challenges getting coal

and the coal market, they were asking to expand the types of fuels.

"The bottom line is that nothing coming out of the stack is changing," Osman said. "What is going into the boiler is changing."

He said the change will help conserve fossil fuels.

"We are trying to combust things that would go into a landfill," he said. "Tires are part of that, and it is a better use of them than burying them. The Environmental Protection Agency has done a lot of research on burning tires and says that burning is a good use of the material."

"We hear a lot of talk about energy independence, and that we need to rely on ourselves rather than depending on people who are now always our friends."

"What we are talking about burning is carbon neutral in that these do not contribute to global warming," Wells asked if there was anyone in the audience who wanted to add their comments. When no one stepped forward, he closed the hearing at 7:22 p.m.

Morris said the office in Topeka has received a couple of letters with objections and a few letters of support from businesses.

Grass fire gets a little out of control



Firefighter Tim Dinkel sprayed a scorched area of grass between the Goodland National Guard Armory and the National Weather Service office Tuesday evening. Staff Sergeant Mark Reasoner,

armory supervisor, said he was burning weeds in the motor pool area, and the fire jumped the fence.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

'Fire team' created to find common ground

TEAM, from Page 1a

of the Shine On, Sherman County Government Alliance committee, Sheriff Kevin Butts and Under-Sheriff Roger Stuber, County Clerk Janet Rumpel and City Clerk Mary Volk.

Tiede opened the meeting by explaining that the county had a dilemma.

"We have thought about a full-time fire chief, but do not have it in the budget," Tiede said. "We want to talk things over. I have talked to John Garcia a little about the two departments joining sometime in the future."

"We want to get some ideas. We have kicked a lot of things around. We have sort of fallen behind on the equipment and have outgrown our building."

"Our building is too small and there is no room for training. We have to expand the building or build a new one."

"I think that is it in a nut shell," Rasure agreed. "We have to watch out for the taxpayers and do the best for the firemen. We have to keep the cost down."

"We need good ideas for the short term, long term and find some solutions."

Thomas said part of the problem facing the rural departments is that the district has a maximum 5 mill property tax, and the levy is at 4.7 mills now. To go over that level, the county would have to have a vote of the people in the district.

Garcia said he understood the levy would have to go to about 7 mills to generate enough money to pay for a full-time chief.

"We just got done with our commission meeting and addressed the cost factors involved in our communities," Garcia said. "We have to find ways to relieve the tax burdens on our people and not increase that tax burden."

"We are seeing people moving away. Look at Main Street. It should not alarm us, but we need to be proactive. The city is now down to 4,361 people. We need to find ways to unify services."

Cloyd, a Kanorado area farmer, said the rural fire board has been looking at their equipment goals, which include a couple of trucks and a building in Goodland.

"I think we have an awesome infrastructure as far as stations and people," he said. "I would like to see a combined city-county fire board to bring people together to see about combined services."

"I think you have an awesome resource in your fire chief. I feel we could make the system work with the chief you have and the equipment we have. He has done quite a bit to get the department up to regulation."

"Brewster is in need of a truck and we need a rescue truck here in Goodland."

Billinger asked why the district covers Brewster, which is in Thomas County.

Palmgren, an Edson farmer, said Thomas County pays \$5,000 a year in taxes. Sherman County provides the equipment and the City of Brewster provides the building.

"Brewster helps cost share and they have expanded their fire house," Palmgren said. "We need one more truck over there to satisfy their situation."

He said the fire trucks may not have many miles on them, but the older steel tanks that are rusting out.

"We want to improve the equipment," he said. "We were to this point and hoped to establish a new fire house, then wanted to lower the tax levy. Ours is one of the highest in the area, and lowering it is one of our goals."

Cloyd said other counties have combined departments and it has worked. He said the city and county need to look at this very carefully and not just jump in.

"Communication is the main thing we have to do," he said. "We have to keep the people up to date on what is going on. We have to have attorneys involved to see what we can and cannot do under state laws."

Chief James said he would like to stay with two departments.

"We are all here to serve and protect the people," he said. "We should not have any animosity between either department. We need to train together so we can become more of a team and can do a better job of serving the people."

Fairbanks said she thought getting the two departments training together would be a great first step. She said she went to Tribune with the government alliance last week to talk to officials about how they were combining city and county governments in Greeley County.

"It really brought the community together," she said. "They said the most important thing was to keep the people informed. We have a long road, but we need to get started."

LATE MODEL FARM EQUIPMENT

SALE TIME
10:00 AM CT
9:00 AM CT

AUCTION

TUESDAY, MARCH 11, 2008

LOCATION:
From Tribune, KS, 11 miles north, 1 mile west
SIGNS WILL BE POSTED

TRACTORS AND SPRAYERS

1997 JD 9400 tractor, 4 wheel drive, 6,802 hrs., 24 speed power shift, 710/70R38 duels, auto track ready.
1996 JD 8770 tractor, 4 wheel drive, 7,500 hrs., PS, 18.4 R42 duels, 3 pt.
1990 JD 8760 tractor, 4 wheel drive, 7,643 hrs., PS trans., 20.8-38 duels
1983 JD 8650 tractor, 4 wheel drive, 8,163 hrs., new motor 4 years ago, 3 pt., pto, 30.5L-32 tires with Otter 12 ft. dozer blade.
1980 JD 4440 tractor, 6,616 hrs., 3,000 hrs on overhaul, 3 pt., pto, 20.8-R38 tires
2007 JD 4930 self propelled sprayer, 120 ft. boom, 1200 gal. stainless tank, 15" spacings, 600 hrs., Green Star guidance system, like new

FORKLIFT AND PAYLOADER

1973 Cat 920 payloader, extended scoop for loading grain
Case 586D industrial forklift, all terrain, diesel

Semi Tractors and Trailers

1999 Kenworth 900L semi-tractor, 470 hp Detroit motor, 15 spd. trans., air-ride, 510,000 mi., 3,000 mi. on recent overhaul
1999 Kenworth T800 semi-tractor, 430 hp Cummins motor, 13 spd. trans., wet kit, air-ride, 290,000 mi.

2000 Kenworth W900L semi-tractor, 550 hp Cat motor, 18 spd. trans., 74" studio sleeper, 440,000 mi.
1997 Peterbilt 379 EXD semi-tractor, 550 hp Cat motor, 13 spd. trans., air-ride, 725,000 mi.
2000 Wilson Pacesetter grain trailer, 42', rollover tarp
1988 Wilson Pacesetter grain trailer, 42', rollover tarp
1993 Wilson Pacesetter grain trailer, 42', rollover tarp
Flatdeck 35ft. semi-trailer w/ (2) 3,000 gal. poly water tanks, hydraulic pump, air cleanout
1992 Bison 53ft. sprayer trailer, triple axle w/ black poly 3,200 gal. water tank, 500 gal. black poly fresh water tank, "Handler II" chemical inductor, (2) Honda motors & pumps, nice set-up (for commercial applicator use)

TRUCKS

1976 Chevy truck, 350 motor, 4x2 spd. trans., 16ft. bed & hoist, rollover tarp
1973 Chevy C-60 truck, tandem axle, 366 motor, 5x2 spd. trans., 56,490 mi., 20ft. bed & hoist, roll over tarp

FARM EQUIPMENT

2006 JD 1890 no-till drill, 7 1/2" spacings, 42ft. w/ JD 1910 commodity cart, 270 bu. (nice)
2007 JD 1890 no-till drill, 10" spacings, 42 ft. w/ JD 1910 commodity cart, 270 bu. (nice)
1999 JD 1820 air-drill, 12" hoe

drill, 61ft., monitor w/ JD 1900 commodity cart
1996 Quinstar Fallow Master II, 51ft., new style pickers
1990 JD 650 disk, 32ft. w/ harrows
1988 JD 775 air-drill, 12" hoe drill, 32ft., hydraulic drain
1992 Blue Jet Sub-tiller II, 9 shank, pull type
2007 JD 1770 NT planter, 24 row, 30", CCS seed delivery, refuge plus w/ seed loading auger, Pro Series unit, hydraulic tongue, nice
(2) 1983 Flex King 7x6 sweep plows, new style pickers, NH3 attach
Flex King 36ft. chisel plow, heavy duty, NH3 attach. w/ Dicky John flow controls
Tucker 12ft. speed mover
Bush Hog 7ft. mower, 3pt.
McFarlane 60ft. portable spike tooth harrow
JD 1610 chisel, 41ft., walking axles
JD 42 ft. stripping chisel
Flex King 36ft. stripping chisel
12 row lilliston rolling cultivator
JD 30 ft. pickup header

TRAILERS

1988 Car trailer, 16ft.
Pickup bed trailer
Hale 16ft. stock trailer
Wylie 1000 gal. nurse trailer, Honda motor & pump

www.berningauction.com

See Terms of Sale & more items on our website!

LUNCH WILL BE SERVED!

Sale Conducted By

Berning Auction, Inc.
Russell Berning
PO Drawer Q

(620) 375-4130 Leoti, KS 67861

"Don't Trust Your Auction To Just Anyone!"



AUCTIONEER'S NOTE:

This will be a one-of-a-kind sale. Everything has been exceptionally cared for. All serviced regularly.

Large equipment to sell at approximately 12:00 Noon C.T.

SHAHER FARMS, INC. & SUNBELT GRAIN-OWNERS



The Goodland Star-News and the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce and Ambassadors welcomes Crop Production Services.

With its headquarters located in Illinois, Crop Production Services has facilities located from coast to coast, and now they have added Goodland, KS, as another location.

Everything Crop Production Services does begins with agriculture. Crop Production Services deals with the grain aspect of farming. They take the farmer's grain and the grain is processed and used as ingredients in our breakfasts, lunches, and suppers. Farmers are a vital part of our economy, and Crop Production Services purpose is to be essential to those farmers.

Manager J.B. Renteria seems to have the perfect vision. "We want to get involved in the community. Plant flower beds, etc. We, as a company, want to help the community" A main goal of Crop Production Services is to help build vibrant communities, so maybe J.B. has come to the right place!

Other employees at Crop Production Services include Jay O'Brien, Jose Dominguez, and Joyce Fisher. Jay deals the sales aspect of the company; Jose handles the safety of employees within the company, and Joyce is the Administrative Coordinator, or "glorified bookkeeper" as she affectionately calls it!

As global population grows, so does the need for quality foods and enhanced nutrition. Crop Production Services helps provide wholesome foods and a better life to millions of people around the globe. With crop prices being at where they are right now, ADM Grain Company is hoping to have a busy year

Crop Production Services
1723 Wyoming Street
Goodland, KS 67735
785-899-3636