

weather report



85°
noon
Thursday

Today

- Sunset, 8:08 p.m.
- Saturday**
- Sunrise, 5:39 a.m.
- Sunset, 8:07 p.m.
- Midday Conditions**
- Soil temperature 78 degrees
- Humidity 42 percent
- Sky sunny
- Winds southwest 7 mph
- Barometer 29.96 inches and steady
- Record High today 105° (1934)
- Record Low today 52° (1994)

Last 24 Hours*

- High Wednesday 99°
- Low Wednesday 64°
- Precipitation trace
- This month 2.27
- Year to date 11.74
- Below normal 0.94 inches

The Topside Forecast

Today: Mostly sunny and hot with a high near 98, winds out of the west at 5 to 15 mph switching to the south, a 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms at night and a low around 71. Saturday: Mostly sunny and hot with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 100, winds out of the southwest at 5 mph switching to the east, a low around 70.

Extended Forecast

Sunday and Monday: Partly sunny with a 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, a high near 94 and a low around 68.

(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local markets

Noon

- Wheat — \$7.06 bushel
- Posted county price — \$7.09
- Corn — \$6.66 bushel
- Posted county price — \$7.19
- Milo — \$6.40 bushel
- Soybeans — \$12.81 bushel
- Posted county price — \$13.30
- Millet — \$5 hundredweight
- Sunflowers
- Oil current crop — \$32.10 cwt.
- Confection — no bid
- Pinto beans — \$28 (new crop)
- (Markets by Scoular Grain, Sun Opta, Frontier Ag and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today



More local news, views from your Goodland Star-News

Manager salary raised 5.5 percent

By Tom Betz

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The city commissioners have been meeting in closed sessions for the past month to try to reach an agreement on the raise for City Manager Doug Gerber, and Monday after three closed sessions agreed on a 5.5 percent raise.

The contract with Gerber calls for the raise to be effective on his annual date of June 17, and on the motion by Commissioner Josh Dechant it was to be effective retroactively to June 17. The vote was unanimous 5-0.

The 5.5 percent is about \$3,965 per year, and on his base salary of \$72,100 brings Gerber to about \$76,065 annually.

The commissioners spent 20 minutes in closed session on Monday and then had a third closed session for 15 minutes including

Gerber in the session. Over the past month the commissioners have met in closed session without Gerber, but no action had been taken from those sessions.

Gerber and his family moved to Goodland from Beloit in June two years ago. He received a 3 percent raise (\$2,165) last year in July retroactive to June 17.

In other business on Monday the commission:

- Approved economic development incentives for Rod Cooper, who is building a 12,500 square foot sunflower seed storage building for SunOpta in the Goodland Industrial Park. Cooper asked the city about helping him with the cost of locating electrical service to the site, said Michael Solomon, economic development director.

Solomon said the request was similar to

previous electrical improvements the city had been asked to help with, and would be 70 percent of the total cost of the electrical improvements \$11,592 or about \$8,114.

This is an expansion of business for Sun Opta and has in turn put local money back into the project. Cooper has put into the local economy by hiring workers to construct the building and by leasing a building allowing a local company to increase the amount of product they store and in turn making them more viable.

Solomon said the commission voted in last year to pay 70 percent of utility relocation costs for both Frontier Ag and ADM when they built similar storage facilities.

Mayor John Garcia asked if this was similar to what the city has done in the past.

Gerber said it was similar, and post con-

struction as with the other projects. He said it is a nice looking building and a well done piece for a major employer in town.

Commissioner Bill Finley made the motion to approve the incentive payment, seconded by Commissioner Chris Zimmerman, and passed 5-0.

• Agreed to give Mary Hicks and Mark Russell an additional 90 days to make improvements on the property at 1613 Colorado Ave. Hicks from Norton, said she has a contract with Russell to rent-to-own the property, and he has been able to accomplish quite a bit of the cleanup and repairs the city had requested. She had been at a meeting in April, and asking for an extension of time to allow Russell to continue the repairs.

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4-H dog show Saturday starts fair activities

The Northwest Kansas District Free Fair gets underway Saturday morning with the annual 4-H Dog Show in the ag building at the county fairgrounds.

Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the competition begins at 8:30 a.m. The dog showmanship events will be inside and the agility course will be held outside.

Various events for the fair continue through next week with cats being judged at 1 p.m. on Monday at Good Samaritan Society.

The style revue judging will be at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday at the First United Methodist Church.

The public style revue and awards presentation will be at 6 p.m. on Wednesday at the Sherman Theater.

The Sherman County 4-H Horse Show will begin at 9 a.m. on Friday.

The big fair events begin on Saturday, July 30, with the parade at 5 p.m. on Main Ave. followed at 7 p.m. by the Kiwanis Demo Derby at the fairgrounds arena.

Fair week opens Monday with 4-H judging through the day and at 5:30 p.m. a free hot dog feed sponsored and at 6:30 p.m. Howdy Rowdy Fun Night events.

Tuesday will be judging of 4-H animals and at 6 p.m. the kids pedal tractor pull. The carnival will have wrist band night beginning at 7 p.m. There will be free ice cream on the midway sponsored by Sherman County Farm Bureau.

Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. is the Western Plains Chute Out with the Professional Bull Riders in a special event in front of the grandstand. The PBR program will include the antics and humor of Punkintown Clown.

Thursday at 7:30 p.m. is the Texaco Country Showdown Talent Show sponsored by Hot Country 97.9 KWGB.

Friday at 5:30 p.m. is the 4-H livestock sale and at 7:30 p.m. is the modified tractor pull in front of the grandstand. The carnival will have their second wrist band night.

Saturday, Aug. 6, at 1 p.m. will be the Tri-State Royal of Champions.

The Sherman County home-owned carnival will be open on Saturday and Monday Through Friday from 7 p.m.



First year dog trainers Gabriel Hammer of Wallace with a collie mix and Morgan Pritchard with his young chocolate lab train on Wednesday morning at the Sherman County Fairgrounds for the dog show at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. The show is part of the Northwest Kansas District Free Fair that starts Saturday, July 30 and runs until Friday, Aug. 5. Terri Richardson shows Hammer what to expect from the judge at the dog show. There are open and 4-H classes in obedience and agility.

Photos by Pat Schiefen
The Goodland Star-News



Sealing project to begin Tuesday

About one-sixth of the city streets will be chip sealed beginning Tuesday said Phil Erickson, city street superintendent.

The city will start on Monday letting homeowners know to get their cars off the street.

The program will take a couple days, Erickson said, but the schedule could be affected by the weather. He said the city crew would be knocking on doors along the program streets to get all the vehicles off the street for chip sealing.

If there is a problem the city can have vehicles towed away for the program to be successful, Erickson said.

The streets to be chip sealed include Broadway Ave., 10th to 11th; North Main Ave. north to Cemetery Road and Cemetery Road west into the cemetery and east to Caldwell Ave.; Armory Road from Caldwell east to the National Weather Service; Sherman Ave. from Eighth to 13th; Carnegie Arts Center parking lot; Arcade Ave., Second to Fourth; 10th Street from Broadway east to city limits; Washington Ave., Eighth to 10th; Eastridge Ave., Eighth to 10th; Eustis Ave., Eighth to 10th; parking lot north of city office; and Kansas Ave., from First to 17th.

The program will cover 82,171 square yards, and the total cost is estimated to be within \$136,000.

Hospital board reorganizes with new members

By Pat Schiefen

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The first order of business for the Board of Directors of the Goodland Regional Medical Center was to elect new officers for the coming year. The present chair Brenda McCants was re-elected. The current vice chair Patty Eckhardt was also re-elected. The current secretary/treasurer Jacques Drennan Livengood had submitted her resignation to the board so a new person needed to be elected. New board member Doug Sederstrom was elected to the position.

As the secretary/treasurer is usually the chair of the finance committee Sederstrom was asked if he would do that by chair McCants. The current chair Eckhardt said that the committee needed more than the hour to handle its business. Other members on the board to be on the committee were Eckhardt, Harlan House and Patrick Gleason.

It was agreed on that the committee would come to a consensus about a meeting time.

For the governance committee McCants said she would chair that committee and asked House if he would continue on the committee. Also on the committee is hospital chief executive office Jay Jolly.

Board member Faye Paxton was asked to continue as the chair of the professionalism committee. Also on the committee would be Brian Rippe, new board member Janice Phipps plus another to be decided on later.

Livengood, who resigned, was the board liaison with Northwest Kansas Area Medical Foundation and McCants asked Dale Schields, who is on the foundation board, if he would give a monthly report to the hospital board.

Jolly told the board that he had talked to the Sherman County Commissioners last week concerning the

transfer of the ambulance service to the county. He said they were looking at an interlocal agreement that would start Jan. 1.

Bob Wallace talked to the board about their affiliation with Centura Health of Colorado. He said Goodland Regional already has a relationship because St. Anthony sponsors their critical care access. The affiliation would make the relationship more formal with benefits for both sides. The term of the agreement would be for three years and then with an automatic yearly renewal. Both sides could give 120 days notice to end the agreement. Each entity would take care of its own finances and there would be no requirements that referrals must be made to Colorado hospitals.

Wallace said with the new health care legislation that more cooperation would be needed between rural hospitals and city hospitals as patients move from one hospital to

another. Centura already has agreements with Colorado rural hospitals the San Luis Valley Medical Center and the Heart of Rockies Regional Medical Center at Salida. Employees at the hospital would be able to access training opportunities that Centura has. Also Centura would have the right to bid on services for the hospital that they do not do.

Wallace said Centura continues to work on removing state line barriers.

"It's a great opportunity for us," said McCants.

Jolly reported to the board that a new engine had been installed on the hospital's airplane and that it was flying.

He also reported that the hospital is still waiting for notification of approval for the dialysis unit from the state and federal government. Although formal notification has not been made the agencies keep assuring the hospital that they will

get approval.

Jolly also said some of the exterior work needed for the dialysis unit has been made which included removing a tree and fixing a sidewalk.

Tina Goodwin, director of marketing and volunteer services, said that with the Midwest Cancer Alliance and social worker Mindy Greene, cancer patients will be getting more tools to help them navigate their treatment.

Through the American Cancer Society "I Can Cope" program is being used to educate cancer patients on their disease and treatments. The hospital has a loan closet where any cancer patient can get hats, wigs and scarves not just the ones being treated at Goodland Regional Medical Center. Also the American Cancer Society has been giving patients gas cards to help them with the cost of gas to go for treatments.



Slammers finish fourth

Goodland Slammers 16 and Under team members met at the mound during a game at state. The 16 and under finished fourth (see Page 12), and the Slammers 12 and under finished fourth (see Page 11).

