

Ranchers work out water program with state

TOPEKA – The Kansas State Conservation Commission last night approved a plan to work with Kansas livestock producers on a cost-share program targeted at improving existing livestock water supplies. The Kansas Department of Agriculture's Division of Conservation urges livestock producers to focus project applications on restoration of existing ponds, well development, spring development or other water storage projects.

The commission, which is a board of commissioners consisting of five elected and four appointed members, approved the use of \$500,000 of fiscal year 2012 cost-share funding that has been carried forward to provide immediate assistance to livestock producers in drought-stricken Kansas. Producers will have 45-days to sign-up for the cost-share assistance initiative and will be eligible to receive up to \$2,000 per project and up to \$4,000 per landowner. Projects will be considered and approved on a first-come, first-served basis. The Division of Conservation will collect applications submitted by county conservation districts and then process and approve individual contracts.

"The impacts of this drought are being felt far and wide and will continue to be felt even after rain arrives. We are here to help

producers cope with the drought today but also help them recover and plan for future droughts," said Kansas Secretary of Agriculture Dale Rodman. "From a newly adopted effort to restore existing ponds to drilling deeper wells, developing springs or digging new ponds, this funding will provide critical assistance to assure the hard-hit livestock producers in Kansas have water storage and supplies available for critical seasons going forward."

Pastures that currently have limited or no existing water supplies are the primary targets for this initiative. Livestock producers with existing ponds who are requesting cost-share assistance must meet specific criteria to be eligible. Specifically, dams must be in satisfactory condition or the landowner must commit to bring the dam to a satisfactory condition and the pond must still be capable of serving a conservation use for stockwater. Cost-share funding can be used for sediment removal; principal spillway replacement; or embankment seeding. Rodman said the Division of Conservation and the county conservation districts will be flexible with livestock producers to help assure they meet the specific criteria.

Projects related to well development, spring development and new ponds will follow current policy requirements.

Governor declares Aug. 13 'Firefighter Day'

On Aug. 13, 1887, a group of firefighters gathered in Minneapolis and organized the Kansas Firemen's Association to build friendship and camaraderie among firefighters from across Kansas.

For many years, the primary mission of the association was to hold competitions among firefighters. These included events like ladder raises, hose coupling, hose cart races and the like.

"In those days firefighters had to travel mostly by rail to the annual event held in various communities across the state," said the association's historian, Sonny Ruff of Logan. "It was a huge commitment of time and devotion for these firefighters to travel and compete."

Over the years, the fire service changed and so did the association – even to the point that its name got changed to the Kansas State Firefighter's Association – recognizing that it wasn't just the males that were firefighters any longer. The emphasis on events evolved as well.

"While the initial gatherings of the association were centered around competition, there was al-

ways an element of training in those events," said association President J.L. Ellis of Colby. "Starting in the 1930s, as firefighting became a more skill-based occupation, the gatherings began to center around training firefighters to handle the challenges of a modern, industrial world."

The "modern" Kansas State Firefighters continues its commitment to the "safety and education of the Kansas firefighter" by hosting regional fire schools each month across the state. At these regional fire schools, firefighters are trained in techniques for fire suppression, rescue operations, hazardous materials responses and a whole lot more. This training is free to those that attend.

Today, the association represents all firefighters in Kansas, be they paid or volunteer. It is estimated that there are nearly 16,000 firefighters in the state. The state association will celebrate its birthday at several events over the course of the next year.

The first celebration will be at the regional fire school in Tribune on

Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 11 and 12, where the Greeley County Fire Department will be the host. The next celebration will be on Dec. 8 and 9, when the Minneapolis Fire Department will hold a fire school in their community, bringing the association back to its roots. Then in April, the association's 125th-year celebration will move to Topeka for the annual conference of firefighters.

Gov. Sam Brownback signed the resolution July 26 with several members of the executive board of the association in attendance. In the resolution, he urged that all Kansans join in the observation of Kansas Firefighter Day, recognizing the rich and proud heritage of the association and recognizing it as the "...

pre-eminent fire service organization in the state of Kansas..."

"This year has been a rough one for firefighters across the state with the severe lack of rain," said Ellis, "but firefighting is similar in many ways today as it was in 1887. The fires are hotter, due to the increase use of synthetic materials, but our equipment has improved so much that we are able to protect our firefighters better."

"Nevertheless, the camaraderie that those pioneers wanted to encourage at Minneapolis 125 years ago is very much alive in the Kansas fire service of the 21st century."

For information, contact Ellis at (785) 443-1310 or jellis@st-tel.net.



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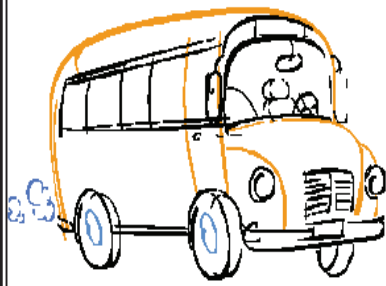
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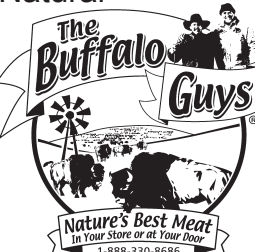
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public notice

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF SHERMAN COUNTY, KANSAS

In the Matter of the Estate of Viola Jacobs, Deceased

Case No. 12 PR 21

NOTICE OF HEARING

THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:

You are notified that a Petition has been filed in this Court by Elmer Jacobs, spouse and one of the heirs of Viola Jacobs, deceased, requesting:

Descent be determined of the following-described real estate situated in Sherman County, Kansas:

An undivided one-half interest in the West part of Block Seven (7) being a tract of ground One Hundred Three feet (103') running East and West by One Hundred feet (100') North and South, in the Sub-division of the Original Town of Goodland, Sherman County, Kansas,

and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by decedent at the time of death. And that such property and all personal property and other Kansas real estate owned by the decedent at the time of death be assigned pursuant to the laws of intestate succession.

You are required to file your written defenses to the Petition on or before August 30, 2012, at 8:30 A.M. in the City of Goodland in Sherman County, Kansas, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail to file your written defenses, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.

Elmer Jacobs, Petitioner

SUBMITTED BY:
 Jerry Fairbanks #09046
 Fairbanks Law, P.A.
 1011 Main – P.O. Box 743
 Goodland, KS 67735
 785-890-6622 Phone
 785-890-6644 Fax

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Center Street Storage

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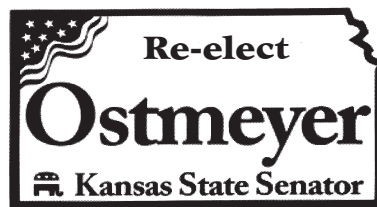


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