

Commission still in discussions over water project

CITY, from Page 1

until the economy gets better. Farris said he was not ready to commit to spending that kind of money.

Commissioner Annette Fairbanks said she stood by her vote in favor of the Johnson Controls audit.

"I don't like doing this piecemeal," she said.

Mayor John Garcia said he had been looking at the local poverty rate and said more than half of the people in Goodland live below the poverty line.

"We're responsible for considering those people," he said. "They can't tolerate more

increases."

Fairbanks responded that all the commissioners have empathy for those living in poverty.

"But do we let everything fall apart? Then we don't have a city," she said. "If we let it go, someday it will be a monumental expense."

Garcia said he feels the city has been aggressive in keeping its system maintained. He asked the city employees continue to do internal work, and said the commission could still look at a project in the future.

In other business, the commission:

- Voted not to give extensions to the owners of 302 W. 15th St. and 811 E. U.S.

24 – the west building at Motel 7. The city has been in the process of condemning both properties. The owners were given 90 days in June to make significant progress of repairing the buildings on those properties.

In both cases the owners requested more time, but the commission decided to move forward in getting bids for demolition.

- Discussed setting a donation policy for the city. During the last budget process, the commissioners set aside \$10,000 in discretionary money that can be donated. Gerber said in the past the city has given anywhere from \$8,100 to \$31,000 a year to various organizations including Northwest Kansas Technical College, the animal shelter and

the Carnegie Arts Center.

"There's value in all those things," he said.

A policy would help the city formalize the donation process. The draft policy included an application that anyone seeking a donation would have to fill out.

One idea, Gerber said, would be to have a yearly deadline for all donation applications, so the commission could consider all the requests at once. The commissioners said they liked the idea, and instructed Gerber to continue working on the policy and bring it back to the next meeting.

- Discussed getting a new contract for solid waste management. Gerber said there

had been a change in state law making it a two-year process to change a contract. The city would have needed to approve a notice of intent resolution, then allow 90 days for study, then 30 days before having a public hearing.

Gerber said there has to be a total of 18 months between the resolution and the contract change. The change was put in place, he said, to stop cities from pulling franchises with no warning.

Gerber said city attorney Jerry Fairbanks is working on a resolution for the next meeting, but the city will probably have to extend the current contract.

Enter now for soybean yield contest

Because of drought, yield and quality might be below normal this year, but the stakes are as high as ever in the annual Kansas Soybean Yield and Quality Contests this fall. The highest dryland and irrigated yields in the state each will receive a \$1,000 award. In each district, first place will win \$300, second will earn \$200, and third will receive \$100. No-Till on the Plains will supply additional awards for the no-till districts.

The contests are open to anyone involved in farm-

ing, but there is a limit of only one entry per field. Farmers may enter multiple categories – conventional or no-till, dryland or irrigated. All entries must be entered in the same district, however. Farmers may enter the quality contest without entering the yield contest.

The Kansas Soybean Commission, who sponsors the contest, includes nine volunteer farmer-commissioners who oversee investments of the soybean checkoff on behalf of Kansas soybean farmers.

Kansas attorney general reorganizes victim services

Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt has reorganized the crime victims services provided by his office to place a greater emphasis on providing money for victims of violent crimes.

The newly created Division of Crime Victims Compensation will administer the crime victims compensation program, which was established by the legislature in 1978. Prior to the reorganization, the compensation program was embedded in the broader Victims' Services Division in the attorney general's office.

"This revised structure will help ensure that the crime victims compensation program is operated with maximum efficiency and is in a stronger position to provide support to Kansans who are victims of violent crime," Schmidt said. "It will ensure that the members of the Crime Victims Compensation

Board can focus on the critical job of evaluating claims for assistance and supporting crime victims rather than on the day-to-day operations of the office."

The crime victims compensation program provides financial assistance for victims of crime for out-of-pocket medical expenses, loss of earnings or support, burial expenses and other costs associated with treatment of injuries sustained as a result of being a victim of violent crime. During state fiscal year 2011, the compensation program provided nearly \$4 million in support to crime victims. The funding comes from federal Victims of Crime Act grant funds, a portion of court fines and fees, court-ordered restitution, and fees collected from offenders in prison and not from taxpayers.

The new division will be led by Jeff Wagaman, who previously served as deputy chief of staff for the attorney general's office and as Schmidt's spokesman. Schmidt said he would announce a new spokesman in the coming days.

The reorganized Division of Crime Victims Compensation is located in Room 612 of the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson St., Topeka. More information is available at www.ag.ks.gov or by calling (888) 428-8436.

Conservation grant deadline coming up

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service has \$5 million in grants available for people or organizations developing innovative conservation practices, but the deadline to apply is coming up on Monday, Oct. 15.

State Conservationist Eric B. Banks, reminds private individuals, tribes, local and state governments and non-governmental organizations that applications for Conservation Innovation Grants are due Oct. 15. Apply electronically at www.nrcs.gov or contact the service's national office at (703) 235-8065.

Banks said that up to \$5 million in grants are available to evaluate and demonstrate agricultural practices that help farmers and ranchers adapt to drought.

The service is offering the grants to partnering entities to evaluate innovative, field-based conservation technologies and approaches. These technologies or approaches should lead to improvements such as enhancing the water-holding capacity in soils and installing drought-tolerant grazing systems, which will help farms and ranches become more resilient to drought.

"Severe drought conditions across the U.S. have greatly impacted the

livelihood of our farmers and ranchers," said service chief Dave White. "Conservation Innovation Grants allow us to generate and deploy as soon as possible cutting-edge ideas that help farmers and ranchers run sustainable and profitable operations."

Funds will be awarded through a competitive grants process for projects lasting for one to three years.

The service is especially interested in projects that demonstrate:

- Cropping or grazing systems that increase resiliency to drought through improved soil health.
- Increases in available soil water-holding capacity by enhancing organic matter with reduced tillage, cover crops, and organic amendments.
- Improvements in water use efficiency for agricultural production.
- Coordination with NRCS Plant Material Centers in using drought-resistant plants and practices.
- Recommendations for appropriate nutrient management following an extended drought.
- Analysis on a regional basis of how agricultural production and conservation systems fared during drought conditions.
- Agricultural approaches that flourished in low-precipitation

areas.

- Traditional/historical production practices that have proven effective in dealing with drought.
- Alternative feeding systems for confined animal operations that incorporate novel drought-tolerant feedstocks.
- Alternative housing or cooling systems for improved energy efficiency and better climate control in confined animal operations.
- Technologies that reduce water use in confined animal operations.



Please join us in an open house celebration for Ron Lucas, owner of Goodland Greenline, Inc. for 29 years!

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(come & go)

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Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16		
17				18						19		
20				21					22			
23				24								
25	26	27					28			29	30	31
32										33		
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36				37							38	
39				40	41				42	43		
44				45					46			
47	48	49					50				51	52
53							54				55	56
57									58			59
60									61			62

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Auricles
 - Sharpening strap
 - Supplemented with difficulty
 - Jaguarundi
 - "7 Year Itch" Tom
 - European defense organization
 - Camber
 - Kittiwake genus
 - 3rd largest French city
 - Used for instant long locks
 - Harangue
 - Grabs
 - Formally withdraw membership
 - Magnitude relations
 - El Dorado High School
 - Porzana carolina
 - Earl Grey or green
 - Dog's tail action
 - Friends (French)
 - Lessen the force of
 - Dermaptera
 - Views
 - From a distance
 - Bleats
 - London Games 2012
 - Let the body fall heavily
 - Collect a large group
 - Aba ____ Honeymoon
 - Give over
 - Glue & plaster painting prep
 - Middle East chieftain
 - Removed ruthlessly
 - AKA bromeosin
- CLUES DOWN**
- Formerly the ECM
 - A native nursemaid in India
 - Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
 - Ironies
 - Peaceable
 - Between
 - Cessation of activity
 - "Little House" actor Merlin
 - Lying in one plane
 - Joins the military
 - Knock out
 - British School
 - Puts on clothing
 - Radioactivity unit
 - Helps little firms
 - Podetiums
 - Fluid accumulation in tissues
 - Backed seat for one
 - From farm state
 - Speak
 - Gurus
 - Deluged
 - In addition to
 - Oldest Yoruba town
 - A place to shelter cars
 - __ and Delilah
 - Toothpaste tube cover
 - __ and Juliet
 - Mussel beards
 - Prevents harm to creatures
 - Gorse genus
 - A method of doing
 - Young Scottish woman
 - Latticework lead bar
 - Invests in little enterprises
 - The products of human creativity

FUN BY THE NUMBERS

			6	9	3		7	8
							9	
				8				3
	2	9		6		5		4
	1					3		2
	5		2		4			7
	7	1	9					
2		3	1	5				4
9	6	4		3		1		

Level: Beginner

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

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