

* Livestock building ordered

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ings. Mrs. Gillespie said she thought the foundation needs to get reorganized a bit and then next week have a work session and work out a time line.

The bid for the building was \$52,979 with a 20 percent down payment of \$10,596.

Clay Anderson asked how much money the board thought would be left after the building was ordered, but no one knew for sure.

Mrs. Schroer said she just took over as treasurer and there are some questions with the computer and the financial reports. Mrs. Groneweg was the former treasurer.

The only money the foundation has for the building is what is earmarked for it? Mr. Wasson asked.

Yes, said Mrs. Gillespie, adding that she wants to get the totals all down.

Commissioner Glenn asked who paid for all of the benefit supplies. Mr. Wasson said he did out of his pocket. Later in the meeting, the foundation board agreed to reimburse Mr. Wasson \$194 for his expenses.

Mr. Brown said he has talked with pork producers, people who work with horses and cattle and they say the plan is right on track.

Mr. Wasson said if the foundation can get the building ordered, then he and Clay will start tearing out the old building when they get the call to do so. That way volunteers can start on the dirt work.

Commissioner Glenn asked if the county Amusement Authority has made a donation or done anything to help with the project.

Mrs. Wasson said she hadn't talked to them. There is a Pioneer Seed Grant that they can apply for,

she added. Mr. Wasson said he thought the foundation could get up to \$5,000 for the building from Pioneer, and Mrs. Gillespie said the board would work on it.

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to approve the contract with Sappa Valley Construction and order the building.

"Wait a minute," said Mrs. Gillespie. "Let's hear the treasurer's report."

Mrs. Schroer said the current treasurer's report shows there is \$44,415 set aside for the livestock building.

There were some questions since the report Oct. 13 showed \$49,910 and the report at the end of September showed \$55,425.

Mrs. Schroer said she just got the treasurer's information from the former treasurer, Mrs. Groneweg. There have been problems transferring it between computers, she said.

Mrs. Gillespie said they will get accurate numbers.

Besides the \$44,415 that the foundation showed set aside for the livestock building, the foundation board agreed at the March 2006 meeting to give \$18,011 from a certificate of deposit.

Commissioner Glenn made a motion to purchase the building. Mrs. Schroer seconded it and the group agreed in a unanimous vote.

"This is a wonderful thing for the community," said Dr. Olson.

Now everyone has a common goal, said Mr. Brown, and things can move forward.

The group agreed that the building would have colonial blue walls and ivory roof. The board also agreed to apply for money from the Seeds of Hope Telethon for the building.

Letter mailed to board members

The Decatur County commissioners wrote a letter to the fair and fair foundation boards outlining the duties of each group at their meeting last Tuesday.

Essentially, the commissioners told the fair board that it is in charge of the county fair and the fairground, while the foundation boards should stick to raising money for the fair.

The fair board, appointed by the commissioners, has 9 members, two from each of three commissioner districts and three at-large positions.

At present, the fair board has six members with three vacancies. The foundation board could have seven members with three seats now vacant. The foundation was set up to have three members and currently has four.

Commissioner Patricia Glenn said she attended a foundation meeting last Monday night and that board had approved ordering a new livestock building for the fair.

County Attorney Steve Hirsch, shaking his head, said the foundation board should be holding the money, but the fair board should make the decisions about what happens at the fairground.

Mrs. Glenn said the foundation talked about changing its bylaws, since now the board should have

seven members and there are only four.

The commissioners went into a closed session for 15 minutes to discuss non elected personnel. There was no action taken when they returned to open session.

The commissioners asked Mr. Hirsch to write the board and foundation a letter.

Commissioner Ralph Unger said he would like the foundation board to go back to what it was originally set up for. Mr. Hirsch noted that he was in office when the foundation was started and so was Mr. Unger. The role of the foundation was never meant to create another organization, he said, but was set up to be a way to take donations.

It was a conduit, a pass through for the money, said Mr. Unger; that's it. That is why the suggestion was for the foundation board to be made up of the chairman of the commission, the county treasurer and the president of the fair board. Mr. Hirsch said there was some thought given to who those three people should be. That was before the treasurer and the extension agent happened to be married to each other.

Mrs. Glenn read the letter and the commissioners agreed to sign it and send it to both boards.

* Bird numbers drop

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in Hays, said the pheasant population in northwest Kansas will be down by about 20 percent this year while the quail population has dropped 30 to 40 percent.

The dry weather, he said, caused a poor wheat crop, meaning the pheasants had less nesting cover and poor concealment from predators.

Even though the numbers are down, that doesn't mean that the people won't come to hunt., so Dale's Fish 'N' Fun on U.S. 36 will be open longer hours this weekend.

The store will be open from 9 a.m. to midnight on Friday, from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday. The store is the only place in town to buy a hunting license.

Copies of Nor'West Newspapers' Fall Hunting Guide have been placed in businesses around Oberlin.

The section is full of stories about the pheasant population and hunting and includes maps showing walk-in hunting areas throughout the region.



MONDAY AFTERNOON Edna Jolly of Norcatgur voted in the county clerk's office at the courthouse. The general elec-

tion will be on Tuesday, but the clerk's office has been open for early voters. — Herald staff photo by Kimberly Davis

* Polling places to be open in four cities

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early. Those who are registered to vote but haven't voted before and those who registered by mail or at a driver's license office need to bring a photo ID, she said.

Mrs. Horn said local election questions include choosing a commissioner for District No. 1, an Oberlin School District question and township clerks.

The ballot includes:
• Brian Keahey, Democrat, and Stan McEvoy, Republican, for commissioner. Marcia Lohofener, a Republican who lost to Mr. McEvoy

in the primary last summer by 30 votes, is running as a write-in candidate. Jody Robertson also added her name as a write-in Republican candidate for the commission seat this week. She is a physical therapist at Decatur County Hospital.

• A question as to whether or not all members on the Oberlin School Board should be elected at-large. A yes vote will change the district to at-large seats.

• Jerry Moran, the Republican incumbent; Sylvester Cain, Reform party; and John Doll, Democrat, for U.S. representative for the 1st Dis-

trict.
• Kathleen Sebelius, Democrat incumbent; Jim Barnett, Republican; Carl Kramer, Libertarian; and Richard Ranzau, Reform, for governor.

• David Haley, Democrat; Rob Hodgkinson, Libertarian; Joseph L. Martin, Reform; and Ron Thornburgh, the Republican incumbent, for secretary of state.

• Phill Kline, Republican incumbent, and Paul Morrison, Democrat, for attorney general.

• Lynn Jenkins, Republican incumbent, and Larry Wilson, Demo-

crat, for state treasurer.
• Sandy Praeger, Republican incumbent; state Rep. Bonnie Sharp, Democrat; and Patrick Wilbur, Democrat, for insurance commissioner.

• John Faber, Republican incumbent from Brewster, and Bob Strevey, Norcatgur Democrat, for state representative for the 120th district.

• Sally Cauble, Republican, and Tim Cruz, Democrat, for the state Board of Education. Incumbent Connie Morris of St. Francis was defeated in the primary.

Commissioners outline board duties

This letter signed by the Decatur County commissioners at their meeting last week outlines the jobs of the Decatur County Fair Board and Fair Foundation. It was mailed or delivered to the members of each group.

Dear Members:
We know that there has been a great deal of turmoil related to the new livestock building at the Decatur County Fairgrounds. We are very pleased that this project is now moving forward to provide a new, much needed facility.

We do want, though, to also make some suggestions to you to try and avoid confusion and disagreement in the future on other projects. It was never the intention of the Board of Commissioners, who originally set

up the Fair Foundation, to create a separate entity with substantive authority over the fair ground property or buildings. The charter of the Decatur County Fair Board provides that the board is to advise and counsel the Board of Commissioners regarding the fairgrounds property.

The Board of Commissioners, of course, has many issues that they have to deal with.... The Fair Board was created so that a group could be established to take care of the county fair and the property....

It is not the intention of the Board of Commissioners to "run" the fair. While the Board of Commissioners do have ultimate authority over all county property and operations, we do not intend to micromanage the

operations at the fair. That is precisely why we have a fair board and we will continue to have that faith and confidence in the fair board to make decisions that benefit the people of the county.

The purpose of creating the fair foundation was to provide a conduit through which money could be donated which would be potentially deductible for donors. This is why the fair foundation was originally established with a board composed of the chairman of the Board of Commissioners, the Fair Board president and the county treasurer.

We never envisioned that the foundation would be making ultimate decisions regarding expenditures. That authority should always be with the fair board and, ultimately, the Board of Commissioners.

We would strongly urge you to change the by-laws of the foundation to again make the foundation

board a very small one, with only the authority to receive donations and handle investments. It does not make sense to us to have a fair foundation board that is essentially making decisions concerning county property or acting as, in essence, a veto to decisions of the fair board.

We want a strong fair board which continues to strive to make the Decatur County Fair a spectacular event and we want a foundation vehicle that serves solely as a method to be able to finance those improvements necessary to accomplish the goals of the fair board. We stand ready to help you in making whatever changes need to be made to accomplish this vision. We have also visited with the county attorney/counselor and know that he will assist you with making the changes we have suggested.

The letter was signed by all three commissioners.

* Highway project gets OK from city

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as she understood it, the concrete would last longer, have less maintenance and cost more.

Yes, said Mr. Owens. The curbs will be fixed, he said, so if the city wants to come in later and put in concrete pavement, it can. He said costs have gone up a lot, so concrete for the whole job would cost more than the state allotted.

Mr. Owens said he can have the plans redesigned by December for a February bid letting and the contractor could start the job in April.

The choice is either to scale back


or not to do the project, said Mayor Ken Shobe. The city doesn't have any money to put into the work.

The highway now is all asphalt, said Mayor Shobe, so even if the plan calls for putting some asphalt back in, the city is still moving forward. Mr. Owens said the city will retain the excess millings from the old pavement, but after using some for the subgrade, there won't be that much left.

The council approved the revised plan with the delay in bid letting. The state had planned to take bids in December, with work to start April.

John Faber

**State Representative
120th District**



I've served as your State Representative the past 10 years and it has been a privilege and an honor.

**Don't throw away your vote!
Make your vote count!**

**YOUR BEST CHOICE FOR DISTRICT 1
DECATUR COUNTY COMMISSIONER**

Stan McEvoy

REPUBLICAN

**I NEED YOUR VOTE TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 7TH!**


☐ Experienced ☐ Hard Working ☐ Informed ☐ Dedicated ☐
Paid for by Stan McEvoy for District 1 Decatur County Commissioner. Stanley A. McEvoy Treasurer

I take this responsibility very seriously. My voting record reflects my core beliefs in family and fiscal responsibility as well as my support for local Western Kansas Schools. It's my belief that we have some of the strongest schools in the state and it will be my goal to continue to protect them from cuts in revenue.

Whoever is elected on November 7th will vote on issues that will affect every person in the 120th District.

Use your vote to support the candidate that best represents you and can give you the best representation. I believe I am the best choice, and I hope you do too.

**Your strongest link
Support John Faber**



to Topeka

Political advertisement paid for by campaign to elect John Faber, Treasurer, Ed Carson


JODY ROBERTSON

Write-in candidate for
District I, County Commissioner

Jody Robertson

I would greatly appreciate your vote on
Tuesday, November 7th.

To ensure the correct spelling of my name, feel free to take this sheet along to the polls.



Paid for by Jody Robertson, Jody Robertson, Treasurer