



City loses advocate from organization

By Casey McCormick

Monday evening the city council of Bird City met with several important items on the agenda. The Cheyenne County Development Corporation's budget request, county recycling, project bid quotes and the next year's city budget were addressed.

Susan Hobrock, representing the Cheyenne County Development Corporation, made a standard request for an appropriation for 2005

of \$1,000 in the spring and \$1,000 for the fall. This was approved by the council later in the meeting when they accepted the 2005 budget.

Mrs. Hobrock announced that she is resigning her position and that the board is looking at applications for the position. Before parting she thanked the council for working with her and accomplishing so much for Bird City and the county.

"I don't want to see the previous

work fall through," Mrs. Hobrock said.

She talked about the surveys that were taken last year and how they could be used for future grants. She congratulated the council on a recent Federal Emergency Management Agency grant for fire department operations. The writer of the grant was mayor Dave Hickert. In closing she encouraged the council to keep pushing forward.

The council then discussed the

recycling agreement with St. Francis. Since Mrs. Hobrock was still present, she spoke for Roger Jensen, St. Francis council member, stating that there had been a miscommunication and that when he made a request for payment last month he did not have all of the information he needed.

Both sides agreed that about 11 percent of the loads that are going from St. Francis to the recycling center in Colby are from Bird City.

The council agreed that, although recycling is a "nonprofit" project it is necessary and that \$155, or 12 percent, a month should be paid to St. Francis.

The council also discussed the vacancy created by Mrs. Hobrock's departure from the Northwest Kansas Regional Recycling Organization. Another board member is needed and anyone interested in a position, who will have a positive affect on the environment, should

contact one of the Cheyenne County Commissioners, and they will appoint the new board member.

The council reached the position where they are ready to submit a bid proposal to the Century II Development Foundation. The requested items are: a grinder for the sewer lift station and four fire hydrants. The cost of the grinder, with hoses, electrical hookups and a hydraulic line will be \$20,775 and the fire hy-

See CITY on Page 5

Remodeling plan to resume soon

By Leslie Hill

The Cheyenne County Fair Board went back to discussing the remodeling of the exhibit building at the July 1 meeting. At the June meeting, the board had decided to table the matter because there was a lack of funding for the project.

President Dick Bursch had been contacted after the commissioners read that the board decided to table the remodeling. One commissioner told Mr. Bursch that they did not want the project tabled and gave him a name of a business. Mr. Bursch contacted the business man and was told that they would donate \$1,000 and maybe even \$1,500.

Mr. Bursch went to the wildlife group and told them what he had and asked if they would still be interested in helping with the remodeling with no strings attached and he was told that the organization would also put up \$1,000.

Mr. Bursch then had Brent Rueb, owner of Tri-State Lumber in St. Francis, do an updated bid.

Mr. Bursch took the information to the commissioners and said they would put up the balance of what was needed. Jared Douthit moved to go into a closed session (no reason for the session mentioned) and when they returned they voted to make the improvements but they will not start until after the fair.

Fairbooks

Tye Faulkender, Extension director, was present and announced the fair books are in and are avail-

Fair full of excitement

The Cheyenne County Fair activities have been slated for Aug. 4 through 7 although they will start as early as July 28 with the 4-H arts and crafts conference judging and display.

On Monday, Aug. 2, the 4-H fashion revue judging, Life Skill Judging, clothing construction, knitting and crochet judging, will be held during the day. That evening, the public fashion revue will be held at the St. Francis Community High School.

Throughout the rest of the week, there will be 4-H, FFA and open class contests and judgings.

The home-owned carnival starts up at 7 p.m. on Wednesday and will run each night of the fair. That evening, Ann Zimmerman will be entertaining in front of the grandstand with

See EVENTS on Page 5

able at Bankwest, First National Bank, Saintry Super Foods and The Saint Francis Herald office.

Mr. Faulkender said there were a couple of mistakes in the books. The goat rule did not make it in. And also the new rule on the premium sale where exhibitors may take two projects through the premium sale,

See BOARD on Page 5

Voter deadline set

The registration books will close at the end of regular business hours on July 19 and will remain closed until Aug. 4, the day after the election.

Election officer Terry Miller reported that people may register at the clerk's office in the courthouse and the city office, both on Washington Street, St. Francis; or they

can register at the First National Bank in Bird City.

To register, the person must be 18 years of age or older, or will have attained the age of 18 years at the next election.

"When a voter has been registered according to law, his or her registration shall continue to be

See VOTER on Page 5

Thresher Show will impress

Time is drawing near for the 51st annual show. The Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Association and Tri-State Antique Auto Club will again sponsor the event which will be held in Bird City on July 29, 30, 31 and Aug. 1.

At the turn of the century the threshing rig and its labor-intensive crew made visits to neighboring farms throughout the midwest. Most communities had several family-owned crews that helped supplement the family's meager income. Today farmers have custom harvesters that do the threshing of wheat and deliver it to the elevators.

Mother Nature has not been kind to the tri-state area this year. In addition to the widespread drought, snow in its sixth year, the temperature fell to under 32 degrees most of a night in mid-May, just when the wheat was in bloom. This combination has given the poorest wheat crop in the tri-state region in many years.

Many farmers have zeroed out their production and taken the multi-peril insurance payment. The farmers at the turn of the century did not have insurance so they went



A STEAM CALLIOPE was just one of the many sights at the 2002 Thresher Show. Carl Bergman of Aspen, Colo., operated his music machine.

Photo courtesy of Stan Dorsch

ahead and bound the wheat and threshed what grain they could.

That is what spectators can see at the Threshing Show this year in Bird City. The Thresher Association raises its own wheat for the show each year, however this year's harvest is practically nothing. But the show must go on so the Threshing Association will be tossing bundles into the separator and going through the motions even

though very little wheat will be going into the truck.

The process of bringing in a crop at the turn of the 1900s consisted of binding the wheat and then shocking it in preparation for the threshing crew.

Many threshing outfits were family owned, some were individually owned, but the process was the same. The local farmer would have shocked the wheat. This kept the

THREE GENERATIONS OF HARVESTERS get their John Deere 4850 tractor ready for the fields. Wade, Tommy, Brandon and Jim Dishman of Wichita Falls, Texas, come to Bird City to harvest wheat every year.

Times staff photo by Casey McCormick

Cutters return for disappointing harvest

By Casey McCormick

A Texas harvest crew has been coming to Bird City for the last 60 years. But for Tommy Dishman, he said he has never seen a harvest like this one.

"This is a wipeout," Mr. Dishman said.

To give an example of how tough this year's season is; one quarter his crew harvested was 160 acres which normally produces a minimum of 9000 bushels.

"I think it made 800," said Mr. Dishman.

They did not even fill a full

truck for the whole quarter.

Mr. Dishman first came to Bird City to harvest with his father some 60 years ago. At the age of 15 he was able to own his equipment and has not missed a summer harvest here for 52 consecutive years.

He is known for his consistency. Mr. Dishman received an award from the United States Harvester's Hall of Fame when he was inducted three years ago. His award was for the longest streak of cutting for a farmer in Perryton, Texas, for 42 years.

Over the years he has cut for

many different farmers in and around Bird City. Alan Overturf, Helen Howk and Edgar Robertson are just a few. This year his crew is doing the best they can for Ted Partch, Rosemary Griffin and Robin Magley.

Keeping the Dishman tradition going are his sons, Wade and Jim, and Jim's eight-year-old son, Brandon.

"Dad started taking me on harvest when I was six-months-old," said Wade Dishman, "Never missed a year being here in Bird City."

Other family members who are

helping on the road and at home are Tommy's wife, Mayme, Wade's family of Crystal, Julie, Justin and Breanna, and Jim's wife Stephanie.

Dishman Harvesting is based in Wichita Falls, Texas and supplements its crew with harvesters from South Africa. This year's internationals are Jonathon, Nicko and Franice.

But all are working hard for very little this year. As well as declaring Bird City a "wipeout," the same is expected for South Dakota.

"We're gonna be two stops short of making our payments," said Mr. Dishman.

Ownership of bridge issue at meeting

By Karen Krien

Replacing bridges was among the items discussed when the Cheyenne County Commissioners met on Wednesday, June 30. No decisions were made.

Tim Raile, commissioner, asked Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, about the Mill and Seed bridge, located just west of the business. He felt that the bridge needed to be replaced and put on the five-year plan. Supervisor Flemming said that three-fourths of the bridge belongs to the city of St. Francis. However, the county had replaced the guard rail after an accident had occurred on the bridge. The supervisor will look further into what can be done to replace the bridge.

John Finley, St. Francis, who was in the audience, added that he thought if several of the trees were taken out on the south side of the road, it would allow better vision.

Building remodeling

The fair board president Dick Bursch was once again on the agenda to discuss the remodeling of the fair exhibit building. The remodeling had been tabled but the board had received \$2,500 promised for the remodeling. The board still needs \$1,800 to cover the expenses.

The commissioners said there was money in the Parks and Recre-

ation Fund which could probably be allocated to the fair board for the remodeling but they wanted the fair board members see if there were other people or businesses willing to give money.

President Bursch reported that Dan Penn, St. Francis contractor, had agreed to oversee the remodeling. The president had also compared prices and found that the price for materials given by Brent Rueb, owner of Tri-State Lumber, was under the prices in other businesses. Commissioner Raile said he would like to see carpet halfway up the wall to help with the acoustics.

It was noted that Janice Krien and Jon Roelfs were cleaning the kitchen and rest rooms and Keith Peter was finishing up the painting in the kitchen and other areas.

President Bursch said the fair board wanted the commissioners to make the decision on whether alcohol could be sold or served at the fairgrounds. The members were concerned about liability.

The board policy now reads that no alcohol is sold at the fairgrounds. In prior meetings, the commissioners did not allow alcohol at public functions such as the demolition derby.

Attorney Kevin Berens said that state law says the fair board and

See COUNTY on Page 5

Outdoors with Chuck

It's about snakes!
I don't like snakes.
I'm scared of snakes.
Snakes don't like me.
Snakes give me the heebie-jeebies and the gollywobbles.
I know, I know, some snakes are good snakes, but why didn't the man upstairs at least make the good snakes, or the bad snakes blaze or-

ange so you could tell the difference?
We are having a snake explosion this year, all kinds! The vet says they are treating way more animals for snake bite than normal. So, if you go for a walk, watch your step.
From "Hunters" Chuck Kribs

Public Notices

Petition filed in county court praying for administration

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, Thursdays, July 8, July 15 and July 22, 2004. (28-30)
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CHEYENNE COUNTY, KANSAS In the Matter of the Estate of Ervin Hilt, Deceased Case No. 04-PR-13
NOTICE OF HEARING THE STATE OF KANSAS TO ALL PERSONS CONCERNED:
You are hereby notified that on June 29, 2004, a Petition was filed in this Court by Martin G. Hilt, an heir and named Executor in the Last Will and Testament of Ervin Hilt, deceased, dated September 26, 1997, praying for Informal Administration and to Admit the Will to Probate and

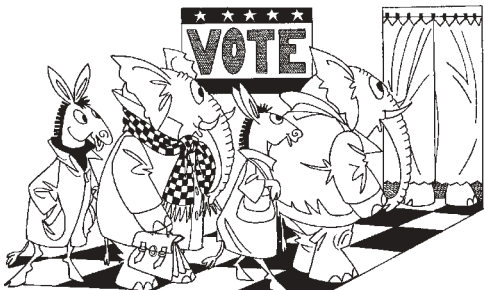
for Determination of Validity of Consent.
You are required to file your written defenses thereto on or before July 30, 2004 at 10:00 a.m. in this Court, in the City of St. Francis, in Cheyenne County, at which time and place the cause will be heard. Should you fail therein, judgment and decree will be entered in due course upon the Petition.
MARTIN G. HILT, PETITIONER
BROWN, CREIGHTON & PECKHAM Attorneys at Law 308 Main - Box 46 Atwood, KS 67730 (785) 626-3295 ATTORNEYS FOR PETITIONER

Notice of primary election and voting hours and voting places

Published in The Saint Francis Herald, St. Francis, Kansas, and The Bird City Times, Bird City, Kansas, Thursdays, July 8, July 15 and July 22, 2004. (28-30).
NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION August 3, 2004
STATE OF KANSAS, CHEYENNE COUNTY, ss Office of the County Clerk, St. Francis as required by K.S.A. 25-209, notice is hereby given that there will be a primary election held in Cheyenne County, Kansas, August 3, 2004.

VOTING HOURS AND VOTING PLACES
The polls will be open from 7:00 A.M. until 7:00 P.M. at several polling places in Cheyenne County, Kansas. The polling places are Benkelman Township-Courthouse Basement; Bird City Township-Bird City American Legion Hall; Calhoun Township-Courthouse Basement; Cleveland Run Township-Courthouse Basement; Jaqua Township-Courthouse Basement; Orlando Township-Courthouse Basement; Wano I Township-Peace Lutheran Church; Wano II Township-United Methodist Church.
FEDERAL OFFICE
United States Senate: Democratic: Robert A. Conroy, Shawnee, Lee Jones, Lenexa
Republican: Samuel D. Brownback, Topeka; Arch Naramore, Lawrence
United States House of Representatives, 1st District:
Democratic: None
Republican: Jerry Moran, Hays
STATE OFFICE
State Senate, 40th District: Democratic: Tim Peterson, Monument
Republican: Ralph Ostmeyer, Grinnell; Dan Rasure, Goodland
State Representative, 120th District:
Democratic: Bob Strevey, Norcatour
Republican: John Faber, Atwood; Doug Sebelius, Norton
District Court Judge District 15 Division 1: Democratic: none
Republican: Glenn D. Schifner,

Colby District Court Judge District 15 Division 2: Democratic: none
Republican: Jack L. Burr, Goodland
District Magistrate Judge District 15 Position 1
Democratic: Jolene Dodd, St. Francis
Republican: Robert Van Allen, Wheeler; William Kribs, Jr., St. Francis
COUNTY OFFICE
County Commissioner District 2
Democratic: None
Republican: John L. Finley, St. Francis; Ray Lee, Wheeler; Ronald R. Loudon, St. Francis; Kelly Morris, St. Francis
County Commissioner District 3:
Democratic: None
Republican: Andy Beikman, St. Francis; Ron Krien, St. Francis
County Clerk: Democratic: None
Republican: Terry Miller, St. Francis
County Treasurer: Democratic: None
Republican: Dolores Jenik, St. Francis
Register of Deeds: Democratic: None
Republican: Mary Morrow, St. Francis
County Attorney: Democratic: None
Republican: None
County Sheriff: Democratic: None
Republican: Eddie Dankenbring Jr., St. Francis; Chuck Kribs, Bird City; Gary D. Morris, St. Francis
Precinct Committeeman/Committeewoman
Bird City Township: Committeeman: Steven G. Carpenter, Republican
Bird City Township: Committeewoman: Darla Kaye Dible, Republican
One each, Each Township: Benkelman; Calhoun; Cleveland Run; Jaqua; Wano I; Wano II
Township Trustee: One for each Precinct
Township Treasurer: One for each Precinct
WITNESS MY HAND and seal of my office this 2nd day of July, 2004
SEAL
/s/ Terry Miller
TERRY MILLER
County Election Officer



City

Continued from Page 1
City treasurer Martin Burton presented the budget he had developed for review. The budget was accepted and will be published in the *Bird City Times* the week of August 2.
In other business
In other business:
• Building permits were approved for Darlene Bierbach, James Williams for the Wesleyan Community Church and Ted Parth. All three requests were for building fences.
• The council received a detailed financial report from the Cheylin Recreation Commission. It was recorded as submitted and the council expressed their appreciation toward the Recreation Commission.
• City attorney Leslie Beims gave her final draft of an ordinance which will regulate the building of fences within city limits. It was adopted and will be printed in next week's *Bird City Times*.
• The council continued to discuss changing the requirements for a quorum. No decision was made and Mrs. Beims will look into what is needed

to change a charter item if a change is made.
• Loren White, the head of the Equipment Committee, asked city manager Sam Beeson if he was ready to begin mosquito spraying. Mr. Beeson said that some of the mosquito donuts have been distributed and that spraying will start on Wednesday.
• Park and Recreation Committee head, Wendy Richmeier, brought up the lighting at the park around the new bathrooms. Although they are well lit from the street there is a dark area at the north side of the structure. The city hopes to attract visitors from the highway and they agreed that better lighting is a good idea.
Other concerns were voiced about preventing vandalism to park property and the need to remind people using the park that alcohol is not permitted there.
• Cheyenne County Deputy Sheriff Jeff Moser was present to report to the council. He is still completing his training at the academy in Hutchinson but was on duty in Bird City for several days.

Board

Continued from Page 1
it can be two livestock projects but cannot be the same species or they may take one livestock and one non-livestock project.
The board members were concerned with the dog show being in the food court, the members asked that the dog show be held in Jenkins Hall instead.
Weeds
President Bursch said he had made three calls and one personal appearance to the county shop and asked for the weeds to be sprayed on the fairgrounds and nothing has been done. Even if the county sprays it now there will be a lot of trash and debris to get rid of, so President Bursch suggested a day of mowing.
In other business
In other business
• Kody Krien, board member, had talked to Ann Zimmerman and she is available to perform at the fair. Ms. Zimmerman has performed at the Thresher Show in previous years. Mr.

Bursch mentioned that he had several people ask if they had thought about her. The board voted to call Ms. Zimmerman and book her for the Wednesday night entertainment. Mr. Krien will make the arrangements.
• Jared Douthit reported that he has everything taken care of for the barbecue.
• Royce Rambat and Rodney Shay will be doing the auctioneering at the premium sale again this year.
• Ernie Ketzner asked that there be a Sale Committee meeting set up.
• Janice Krien has been cleaning the fair building kitchen and rest rooms.
• Mr. Douthit and Candi Hetrick bought a refrigerator for the kitchen in the fair building. Mr. Douthit said that if the board wanted to they could reimburse him for it, if not it could be a donation from him and Candi.
• Cindy Fiedler asked about help with entering the open class projects. The board said all she has to do is ask and they will get them some help.

Thresher

Continued from Page 1
But the food was good.
Yes, the food was good. The cooks would fix breakfast, lunch, afternoon snacks and the evening meal. All this was done without the convenience of running water, refrigeration, electricity and air conditioning in a mobile kitchen roughly 10 foot by 25 foot.
Threshing is relived each year at the Tri-State Antique Engine and Thresher Show at the northeast section of Bird City along U.S. 36. Visitors can tour the cook shack, see the parade of farming equipment, steam engines, gas tractors and classic cars. There will be plowing with steamers out in the field.
There are 14 permanent buildings on the grounds that house a variety of displays. Guests can go back in time with a visit to the sod house, one room country school, historic Neville church, creamery, blacksmith shop, museum with living history presenters, quilt building and printing press shop.
There is also a museum filled with cars and another with tractors. Visitors can also enjoy an operational shingle maker and a saw mill.
Some of the building are air conditioned and the Thresher Association is making arrangements water conditioning units for some of the open facilities.
This is the Thresher Association's 51st show and a coffee table book

commemorating the first 50 years will be available for sale. The 138-page book was authored by Jennifer (Dorsch) Erickson, who will be present for a book signing on Saturday, July 31, at the dining building.
Friday night, July 30, will feature an antique tractor pull which is a popular event and promises to fulfill expectations. Throughout the show visitors can enjoy good food at the country kitchen.
On Saturday, July 31, the McDonald Lions will be feeding everyone with a barbecue and sweet corn from 5 until 7 p.m. Following the barbecue the entertainment will be a popular band from western Nebraska, "Deans Duckson and the Turkey Snorts." They play patriotic, western and gospel music.
Other events include an old fashioned literary at the country school on Thursday, July 29, at 7 p.m. Also the annual potluck will be held on Wednesday, July 28, in the evening. It is a chance for old friends to get together over a good meal.
"We have received nice rain the past couple of weeks and the buffalo grass is greening up," said Stan Dorsch of the Thresher Association, "We have four mowers giving the grounds a manicured look and we have done a major renovation to the bleachers."
The web site for the Thresher Association is www.networksplus.net/threshershow. A preview of this year's show is available at this site.

Events

Continued from Page 1
good family entertainment.
The Thursday evening entertainment in front of the grandstand is the Ranch Rodeo involving local kids.
The 4-H/FFA Premium Sale will be held on Friday. That evening, the antique tractor pull will be held in front of the grandstand.
The annual Fair Parade will be held Saturday morning on St. Francis' Main Street. There will be a variety of activities throughout the day with the last event being the Fair Demolition Derby entertaining the audience in the grandstand.

Voter

Continued from Page 1
valid until the voter changes their name by marriage, divorce or legal proceedings or changes their residence," Officer Miller said.
Any person may apply to be registered in person or by mail. Forms will be provided by the county election officer upon request in person or in writing by an individual. The applications will need to be signed by the applicant.

County

Continued from Page 1
commissioners are not liable if someone leaves the fairgrounds intoxicated and has a wreck.
The commissioners were firm on their stand that alcoholic beverages could not be sold at the fairgrounds. Attorney Berens said even if the commissioners allowed it, the people selling it would need a license. However, the final word on the commissioners was that no alcoholic beverages should be sold at the fairgrounds.
Road and bridge report
Frank Sowers, Benkelman, who owns land in Cheyenne County, spoke to the commissioners about a road which a farmer was farming so Mr. Sowers could not get through. Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, said he had talked to the farmer, Troy Burr. Supervisor Flemming and Commissioner Jane Brubaker will look at the road and report back at the next meeting.
Commissioner Raile commended Supervisor Flemming on the Wiley Bridge Project and said it looked good. Supervisor Flemming told the commissioners about a new "pull-behind" equipment for maintaining roads. The cost of one of the machines is \$12,500. Blowing dirt on the roads is a problem in some areas and Commissioner Raile thought if these areas were graveled, it would cut down on some of the blowing dirt problem.
Nuisance trees and plants.
Dan Schlittenhardt, noxious weed supervisor, reported on plants and

trees which need to be eliminated to keep the aquifer level from declining as quickly. He named salt cedars, Russian olive trees and Canada thistle as being common nuisances which grow best where the sun shines. There are chemical which are safe enough to use around water. Yuma County in Colorado is already spraying using these chemicals.
The supervisor had the Noxious Weed Management Plan for Cheyenne County which the commissioners okayed.
Supervisor Schlittenhardt said the four-wheeler which he uses for spraying and prairie dog control now had 3,400 miles on it and needs repairs. He said Van Allen Implement, Wheeler, had a similar four-wheeler (Artic Cat) which, if purchased that day would have a \$350 rebate and would cost \$2,750 (plus trade-in).
The commissioners talked about the pickup truck in that department and how much money was in that fund's reserve before making the decision to purchase the Artic Cat for the price named.
In other business
In other business:
• The commissioners agreed to go ahead with the purchase of the AS400 computer server. The system will cost \$23,882 (installed) with \$798 paid each month and the balance to be paid in January.
• There was around \$5,000 in the Parks and Recreation Fund so the board approved \$301 to be given to

the Cheylin Recreation Board to purchase two basketball nets, one tennis net and three quarters of paint.
• The commissioners signed a Federal Emergency Management Agency Participation/SLA form that Gary Rogers, emergency manager, had requested signed.
• Susan Roelfs, county health nurse, asked that one of the commissioners attend the Public Health Agency Role in Incident Command System meeting on July 23. Commissioner Krien said he would try to attend. She explained the Kansas Health Department Grant that had been awarded. She also wanted the commissioners to join the National Association of Local Boards of Health but the board did feel that they wanted to. Nurse Roelfs said she would look for alternate funding.
• Vouchers were discussed including vouchers which were not complete. These were generally meal tickets which were not itemized.
• Hospital administrator Les Lacy and hospital board member Traci Neitzel presented the proposed Cheyenne County Hospital budget request. It was noted that the board is not asking for an increase in funding — just asking that the board not cut from last year. They are asking for \$525,000—325,000 ad valorem and 200,000 sales tax
• Treasurer Dolores Jenik was approved to go to a certification class in Hays.
• Charollette Linser, representing

the Northwest Kansas Family Shelter, asked for funding. The commissioners told her to talk to Attorney Berens as he had taken funding from his budget to cover the county's cost.
• The Developmental Services of Northwest Kansas was represented by Jim Blume, Ruth Lang and Bonnie Burr. Parents attending to talk about how the services had helped their child were Judy Montoya, Deborah Cisneros and Betty Williams. They were requesting that the county not cut their funding. They were asking for \$7,840.
• Commissioner Brubaker asked that the commissioners consider having department heads or elected officials come to visit with the commissioners on a regular basis — maybe every six months. She thought that it would give the commissioners a better feel for what is going on in the different offices. The commissioners agreed to give it a try.
• Janelle Bowers, brought in a list of ambulance write-offs for the commissioners to see. The total of write offs or contractual obligations was \$6,641.
Next meeting
The next meeting of the commissioners was a special budget work session on Wednesday. The next regular meeting of the commissioners will start at 8 a.m. on July 15 in the commissioners' room in the courthouse at St. Francis.

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