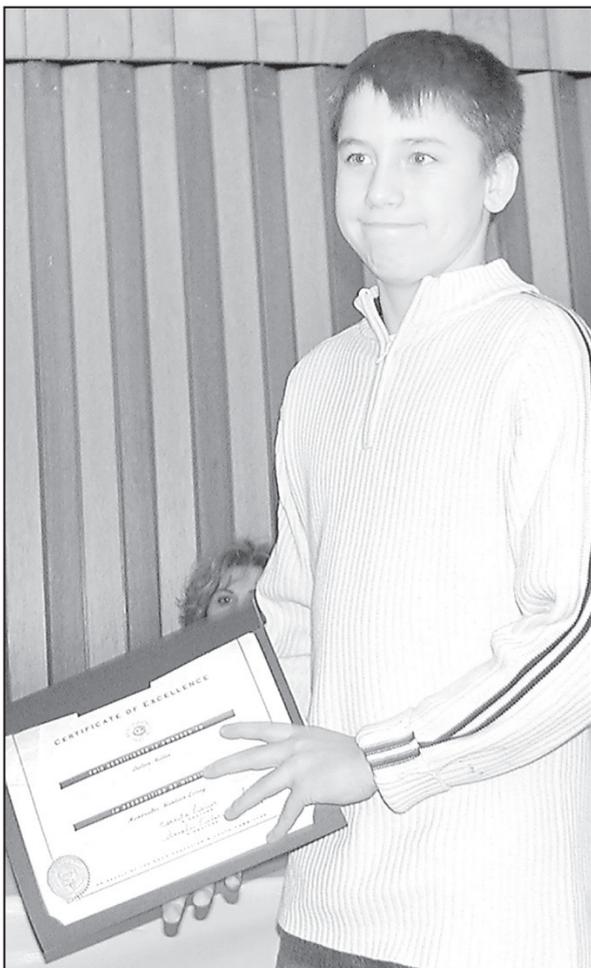




Conservation Board President Robert Clydesdale (above) welcomed the crowd at Saturday's Norton County Conservation District annual meeting. Mr. Clydesdale said conservation is a team effort. Dalton Miller was one of several youth recognized for taking the top places in the poster and essay contest. Dalton's essay placed at the state competition last year. — Telegram photos by Veronica Monier



## School board sorts through new capital outlay projects

By VERONICA MONIER  
vmonier@nwkansas.com

The Norton School Board has to decide which of 13 capital outlay projects the district will benefit from the most.

Superintendent Greg Mann said the 13 request total \$387,000. The district can safely spend between \$175,000 to \$200,000. However, he said, the board has already committed to spending \$30,000 for roof repairs at Eisenhower and the junior/senior high and another \$22,000 for a new vo-ag pick-up. So, with that \$52,000, they should stay in the spending range of \$123,000 to \$148,000.

This year's proposed projects are:

- Replace the concrete in the Stull Gym parking lot — estimated cost, \$75,000. Mr. Mann said they were going to do this last year, but ended having to replace other concrete in worse condition.
- Re-configure and replace the concrete in the area north of the junior/senior high kitchen and replace the walk-in freezer — estimated cost, \$37,000. Mr. Mann said the walk-in freezer is not in good shape; the cost estimate is for both the concrete and the freezer.
- Buy a mini boiler for hot water at Eisenhower Elementary — estimated cost, \$24,500. Mr. Mann said the hot water heaters they are using now need to be replaced about every five years. The last one the district bought cost \$7,000. The mini boilers are expected to last 20 to 25 years and are far more efficient, operating at

97 percent efficiency, compared to new water heaters at 80 to 85 percent efficiency.

- New doors for Stull Gymnasium — estimated cost, \$15,000.
- Acoustical shells for use at vocal concerts — estimated cost, \$13,000.
- A CNC plasma cutting table and related equipment for the ag shop — estimated cost, \$12,000.
- Acid resistant, black topped science tables for Eisenhower's fifth and sixth grade science room — estimated cost, \$11,000.
- Install an exhaust system for the Eisenhower gym — estimated cost, \$10,000.
- Replace or upgrade the intercom systems at Eisenhower and the junior/senior high — estimated cost, \$32,000. This would be done over two years with \$16,000 being spent a year.
- Replace the weight room and wrestling room windows — estimated cost, \$87,000.
- Replace the windows on the south side of the 1966 addition at the junior/senior high — estimated cost, \$49,500.
- Buy wood shop equipment, such as a shaper, lathe and miter saw — estimated cost, \$8,500.
- Buy new musical instruments, such as a piano, tuba and French horn — estimated cost, \$12,500.

Several of these projects and requests were listed last year.

Mr. Mann asked the board to rank the projects in order of importance and turn them in before the February meeting, so the matter could be decided at the Feb. 11 meeting.

## Conservation holds annual meeting

By VERONICA MONIER  
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The Norton County Conservation District held its 62nd annual meeting Saturday at the Norton American Legion.

Chairman Robert Clydesdale opened the meeting by saying that conservation is the ultimate team effort. Sometimes it takes several years for results to be seen, but it's a long-term effort.

"Conservation just makes our world a better place," he said.

In the annual report, Vice Chairman Greg Otter said for 2007, the conservation district received \$10,000 from the county and \$17,016 from the state for wages and district operations. The state also contributed \$2,531 to pay for administration and education of the Non-Point Source Pollution Plan.

He said a total of \$64,316.42 was allocated to Norton County and channeled out as cost share to Norton County landowners for the state water resources cost share program. Included in the

program were cost sharing for terraces, diversions, livestock wells, livestock pipelines, range seeding, feedlot and field windbreaks, and practices for water conservation in existing irrigation systems.

The district also offered to cost share failing septic systems, plug abandoned water wells, livestock pipelines and ag waste systems for feedlots meeting the right criteria. He said \$61,539.84 was allocated for these projects.

Treasurer Donna Hale gave the treasurer's report. She said at the end of the year in the operations fund the balance forward was \$141.79; with receipts of: county allotment, \$10,000; state allotment, \$17,016; interest, \$246.08; and transfer from enterprise, \$6,600; for a total of \$33,862.08; and expenditures were: wages and benefits, \$24,667.30; withholding taxes, \$3,087; and dues and fees, \$200; for a total of \$27,954.30; and a balance of \$6,049.57.

In the enterprise fund, the balance forward was \$15,125.72; with receipts of: sale of merchandise, including grass seed, trees, weed barrier and flags, \$107,932.45; annual meeting, \$2,286.56; and miscellaneous, \$11,719.35; for a total of \$121,938.36; and expenditures were: merchandise, \$77,816.72; annual meeting, \$3,003.53; miscellaneous, \$22,110.68; contract labor, \$11,777.20; and transfers, \$7,000; for total of \$131,308.13; and a fund balance of \$5,755.95 with savings at \$110,064.65 for a total balance of \$121,870.17.

Esslinger Ranch Inc. was recognized as the Kansas Bankers' Association soil conservation winner for 2007. Kirk and Misty Nuzum, who were unable to attend the meeting, were recognized as the Kansas Bankers' Association windbreak award winners for 2007.

Plaques were given out to the county's coloring and poster contest and essay contest winners.

The county winners were: kindergarten and first grade coloring contest — James Sturgill, first; Henry Boutwell, second; and Connor Haresnape, third; poster contest — second grade: Shane Cozad, first; Jace Ruder, second; Trenton Chisham, third; third and fourth grade: Lizzie Smith, first; Baylee Miller, second; Kristin Stewart, third; fifth and sixth grade: Darci Bainter, first; Tanner Furbush, second; Kortney Cunningham, third; essay — Jared Shelton, first; Bryce Baker, second; Hannah Pollock, third.

Dalton Miller, essay, and Carson Wallace, poster, were state winners.

"We really appreciate the teachers, schools and parents letting the kids do this," said board member Chris Harting.

Mr. Clydesdale and Mr. Harting were both re-elected to three year terms.

Door prizes were given and Wilmer Severns said the benediction.

## Universities set up manure management training

AMES, Iowa — A continuing education program for technical service providers involved in writing comprehensive nutrient management plans has been slated for March 11-13 at the Comfort Inn and Suites in Omaha, Neb.

The program is sponsored by the Heartland Regional Water Coordination Initiative's Animal Manure Management Team. The team is comprised of a consortium of universities and government agencies, which includes Kansas State University.

The focus will be on the latest research-based information on manure and nutrient management and will acquire the skills for helping clients achieve their goals, said K-State Research and Extension livestock specialist Joel DeRouchev.

The program covers three content areas - manure management, design and engineering, and software tools - which are addressed in half-day sessions. Participants

may pick and choose sessions among the three content areas, as well as attend the full three-day training or just individual workshops.

"They (participants) are going to get the latest nutrient research that's been conducted for preparing nutrient management plans," said Joe Lally, project coordinator for the program. "It will be hands-on training, so they will be able to take the materials home and put them to work right away. In addition, we're especially pleased to offer the Manure Management Planner software training." The software was developed at Purdue University.

Participants should receive credit for about four continuing education units for each half-day session they attend. This applies to technical service providers, certified crop advisers and members of the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists.

Pre-registration is required;

fees include two lunches and refreshment breaks. Early bird registration is due Feb. 24 and costs \$100 for each half-day session or \$350 to attend the entire three-day program.

Registration after that date costs \$125 per session or \$450 for the entire program. Registrations will be accepted through March 7.

Registration can be completed online at [www.heartlandwq.iastate.edu/news](http://www.heartlandwq.iastate.edu/news) or <http://cariregistration.unl.edu> and follow the link. To register via postal mail, download a form at [www.iowabeefcenter.org](http://www.iowabeefcenter.org) or [www.heartlandwq.iastate.edu/ManureManagement](http://www.heartlandwq.iastate.edu/ManureManagement). These sites also include details about making hotel accommodations.

More information is available by contacting Joe Lally at 515-294-1496 or [lally@iastate.edu](mailto:lally@iastate.edu) or Teshome Regassa at 402-476-6844 or [tregassa2@unl.edu](mailto:tregassa2@unl.edu).

The Heartland Regional Water

Coordination Initiative is a partnership of Iowa State University, Kansas State University, the University of Missouri, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7.

## Coyote, crow calling contest to be Feb. 9

It's time to start boning up on your wildlife calls as the annual coyote and crow calling contest is just around the corner.

The contest will be held on Saturday, Feb. 9.

All contestants must be pre-registered by 6 p.m. Friday, Feb. 8.

The contest will begin one-half hour before sunrise and end at sunset. Callers can use any legal means to call and shoot coyotes and crows.

Coyotes and bobcats count for ten points, while crows are one

point. The team with the most points will be the winner. In case of a tie, the earliest team to check in will be the winner.

A trophy will be awarded to the top team with a 70 percent payback to the top five teams. There will be an award for the largest coyote and an award for the most crows. The remainder of the proceeds will be donated to youth shooting sports.

Check in time on Saturday will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at O'Briens rear parking lot, 110 S. State St.,

Norton. No one will be allowed to check in after 7 p.m.

Price of entry is \$30 per two-man team and includes a meal Saturday night.

Each contestant's name will be put in a drawing for a .243 rifle; contestants must be present to win.

Checks should be made payable to John Baker, 1005 Hartford, Norton, Kan. 67654.

For more information, contact Rick McChesney at 877-2606 or John Baker at 877-3253.

**LODGE NOTICES**

**American Legion**  
Harmonson Redd  
Post No. 63  
Second and Fourth Monday  
Joe Ballinger, Commander

**Eagles Lodge**  
FOE 3288  
Second and Fourth  
Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.  
Dennis Gilhousen, President  
Lee Smith, Secretary

**Sons of the American Legion**  
Fourth Monday  
7:30 p.m.  
James Railsback,  
Commander

**Veterans of Foreign Wars**  
Reg. 7:00 p.m.  
First Mon. of each month  
Curt Archibald, Commander  
Joe Ballinger, Quartermaster

**I.O.O.F.**  
No. 157  
108 South Kansas, Norton  
Thursday-7:30 p.m.  
Fun Night—Last Thursday  
of each month  
Randy Knoll, Noble Grand  
Bill Cochran, Secretary

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