

Kitchen remodel discussed again

A partial remodeling of the kitchen was discussed when the Cheyenne County Hospital Board met on Thursday. At the end of the discussion, the board agreed to invest the money needed.

Les Lacy, hospital administrator, reported on the kitchen project. Earlier in the meeting, Christa Brown, nutrition department manager, had said she felt the remodeling of the kitchen would be a waste of money if the kitchen was going to be moved in the future.

However, Mr. Lacy said he felt that the hospital needed to address the flooring and countertops to help meet compliance until something is decided on the entire project. He said Bill Wilger, maintenance manager, had priced flooring and it would run around \$5,000 plus floor preparation. Mr. Wilger, he said, would re-do the countertops and he thought he could keep the entire project under \$10,000.

The board questioned if the kitchen would have to be shut down during this process?

The project, Mr. Lacy said, should take the kitchen down for about one week.

He asked the board to approve \$12,000 be taken out of funded depreciation to complete the project. The board approved.

Meeting with the county commissioners

Traci Neitzel, board member, asked how the meeting went with Mr. Lacy and the county commissioners?

Mr. Lacy said he felt that the commissioners were receptive to the hospital's needs. The hospital will be receiving \$610,500 this next budget year.

He had emphasized the importance of keeping funding stable to protect the future of the hospital in the current reimbursement environment. He mentioned that this was especially important to the kitchen project. The board, he told the commissioners, feels a need to be good stewards and look ahead at other needs the hospital has as it approaches the kitchen project.

He also told the commissioners that the hospital's needs can't be addressed in the current footprint of the facility and indicated that he shared the board's desire to be sure the project carried minimum risk for the county and the future of the hospital.

Statistics

In the physician volume Dr. Mary Beth Miller and Tyler Raile, physician assistant, were strong. Dr. Allard was out the month of August for maternity leave. Both clinic volumes have been strong. Dr. Miller is carrying the inpatient load at the hospital.

-Bowling News-

Wednesday Coffee 9-30

Team standings: Lodge Sleepers 10-6, Western State Bank 8.5-3.5, Dairy King 7-9, Kale's Girls 7-5, Idalia Team 4.5-7.5

High game (scratch): Carol Peterson 188, Marlys Poulignot 183, Debbie Bush 162; (handicap): Peterson 260, Bush 234, Poulignot 230

High series (scratch): Peterson 448, Poulignot 445, Ann Davison 416; (handicap): Peterson 664, Davison 608, Bush 601.

Ultrasound numbers are climbing, Mr. Lacy said, indicating that should continue as Darrell Reed is licensed to do more exams.

There have been 18 babies born this year.

The outpatient clinic numbers remain stable. Dr. Curtis and Dr. Rainwater, cardiologists are coming to see patients now. The relationship with the Heart Center in Colorado Springs has been severed since Dr. Warren's departure due to their failure to achieve Kansas Licensure.

County health report

The county health has been busy with adult wellness for county employees and continuing the diabetes support group that meets monthly. Amanda Jensen is now certified as a breastfeeding educator and took a week-long training at Hays Medical Center.

County health nurse, Mila Bandel, is back in Bird City on Mondays as the school nurse. She is also staying on top of the H1N1 and flu season.

The county health has 65 individuals in the case management program. Through this program, families are contacted to assist them with their medical needs as a service paid for by the Primary Care Clinic Grant.

In other business

- The hospital has received \$5,000 from a Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved grant for capital equipment to purchase a colposcope.

- The administrator reported he had found a treadmill and negotiated for a delivered price of \$8,600. He said this is a \$25,000 machine that is also used at DeBakey Heart Institute. He made an executive decision to proceed with the purchase to prevent loss of the opportunity. The cost of the equipment will come from funded depreciation.

- The CT scan lease is paid off.
- Jerry Toler, board president, said the hospital quarterly newsletter was really good this time and very informative. He said it was really good that the hospital has 33 employees trained in the decontamination. Mr. Lacy said that Shawna Blanka, administrative secretary, puts the newsletter together.

- Kary Meyer had turned in her resignation from the laboratory and Erika Zimbelman will be out on bed rest starting next week but has permission to work from home.

- The hospital and clinic are working with new scheduling software that will allow the patient, before leaving the clinic, to know what time their MRI, ultrasound, X-ray and what their prep is before their procedure.

- As a hospital leased by Great Plains Health Alliance, the employees will be required to take seasonal flu and H1N1 vaccines as a proactive step to remain in service to control absenteeism as the community is cared for.

Next meetings

The next three months board meeting dates were set for Monday, Oct. 26; Monday, Nov. 16 and Wednesday, Dec. 16. All meetings will begin at 3 p.m. in the basement meeting room of the St. Francis Clinic.

Editor's note: The above article was taken from the unapproved minutes of Sept. 30 hospital board meeting.



THE "PRAYERWALKERS FOR LIFE" formed into two groups last Sunday, and stopped at every church in St. Francis and Bird City to pray with the pastor and members. Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

New officers elected at Fair Board

By Linda Schneider
dublins@hotmail.com

It was election night at the October Cheyenne County Fair Board meeting on Thursday. After business as usual with the reading and approval of the treasurer's report and last month's minutes, the elections began.

Dick Bursch was re-elected president for another year and Nick Ketzner was also re-elected vice-president. Board members elected Gary Cooper to remain the board secretary and Lacy Reed as treasurer.

Grounds construction and repairs

Members did not waste any time and got right down to business with discussion on repair and building projects that need to be done before the 2010 fair.

With approximately \$6,500 balance in the account after bills paid, members talked about how money could be spent toward one of the larger projects or several smaller ones.

At last month's meeting, they discussed building an office building under the stadium bleachers. It would be a 9- by 30-foot insulated, locked office that could be used to store important records. Also discussed was the option of installing a ticket window for more security when selling event tickets. Mr. Bursch said he received a bid of \$8,500 from Ron Krien for labor and materials.

"If the board approves the bid, the cement can be poured right now," said Mr. Bursch.

The members turned the discussion to the repairs needed on the horse barn. A bid of \$7,900 was received; however, Mr. Bursch says that he believes it included taxes, which the board is tax exempt. He

continued by saying that he was going to propose that if someone who wanted the roof tin would remove it, they could have it, then the bid could be lowered.

Another project was adding three yellow lights to the pit stop area in the stadium. Mr. Bursch said that J.R. Landenberger, St. Francis city superintendent, would not charge to bring the electricity to the area. In addition, the only cost would be if a pole was installed. Most of the labor would be running an underground line up to the pole.

Mr. Bursch mentioned that he thought it was a good idea to have Mr. Landenberger put the electrical line in simply because he was donating his time to do it. The board will decide what and how later.

It seemed like one project led to another and the next for discussion was the 4-H Exhibit building and needing a new door. John Finley, board member, said the doors needed to be fixed and one of the doors

will not shut at all. Motion carried to instruct Mr. Finley to get bids.

Clay Zimbelman, member, brought up the point that there are many small repair and construction projects that need to be done and would take up a lot of the money from the larger projects. He added that getting the driveway into the fairgrounds needed to be paved because of potholes and if the board would do the grounds side, maybe the county would meet the road at the back gate.

"Let's think ahead and finish one major project before starting on the office," said Mr. Zimbelman.

4-H Club

It was reported that Joe Leibbrandt, Cheyenne County extension agent, resigned and went to Imperial, Neb. The members discussed what was done with the tables and chairs that had been donated.

Mr. Bursch said that he had been asked for board approval for a Market Heifer Class in the 4-H fair com-

petition.

Mrs. Reed said that the interested parties just wanted another class to compete with the Market Steer Class. After some discussion, Jared Douthit, member, said he could not see anything wrong with adding another competition class and state fair had a heifer class. Board approved adding a Market Heifer Class.

2010 fair

With the meeting coming to an end, Brian Hobrock, member, made the suggestion of someone attending the fair association meeting in Topeka. He added that if anything, to get some fresh ideas for entertainment.

Executive session was called for personnel. Upon reconvening, motion was carried for the fair board to take the responsibility of awarding the prize money to the driver who won with the most driving points, which included the races from Sherman and Thomas counties.

Six youth place in livestock show

By Karen Krien
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The six St. Francis youth who participated in the Kansas Junior Livestock show came home with placings from third to 13th in classes including Meat Goats, Crossbred Market Barrows, Shorthorn Market Steers, Crossbred Market Steers, Yorkshire Market Barrows and Heavyweight Market Barrows.

Placing fifth or better were Karly Bandel, who was third in class 15, Crossbred Market Barrow, and Shakotah Blanka who placed fourth in class 3 Meat Goat.

The show was held Sept. 25 through Sept. 28 in Wichita and

featured 744 4-H and FFA members from 83 counties exhibiting 1,268 head of livestock.

Major sponsors of the show are the Kansas Livestock Association, Kansas State University and the Agri-Business Council of Wichita. Hundreds of volunteers helped organize and put on the show.

Prior to the Auction of Champions, The Kansas Junior Livestock Show presented \$18,950 in scholarships to 15 exhibitors.

St. Francis entries had the following results.

Karly Bandel: Meat Goat, 11th in class 11; Crossbred Market Barrow, 13th in class 19; Crossbred Market Barrow, 3rd in class 15.

Kyla Bandel, Crossbred Market Barrow, 12th in class 22; Crossbred Market Barrow, 13th in class 16.

Mariah Beikman: Shorthorn Market Steer, 8th in class 4; Crossbred Market Steer, 9th in class 12.

Martin Beikman: Crossbred Market Barrow, 11th in class 24; Yorkshire Market Barrow: 7th in class 11.

Shakotah Blanka: Meat Goat, fourth in class 3; Meat Goat, 6th in class 10.

Dallas Reed: Heavyweight Market Barrow, 10th in class 2; Meat Goat, 9th in class 2; Meat goat, 9th in class 3.

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