



LOTS OF ICE collected along the curb on Main Street and city crews were out on Monday clearing it off.
Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

RULES

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Zimelman said they will need to be decided on the number of classes.
The board approved the rules for printing.
Mr. Zimelman said that Eddie Brunk will help tech in the lawn mowers. Sixteen year olds and older may race, however those 16 and 17 will need a consent formed signed by a parent.

door, not Wade Krien.
In other business:
• Nick Ketzner said at the January meeting that he had a person interested in printing the fair books for the board at cost. Mr. Ketzner was to get more information and bring it back to the board. However, Mr. Ketzner was not at the meeting.
• The city of St. Francis agreed to give the fair board electricity free during the fair.
• Megan Douthit called a 5 to 10 minute executive session. No rea-

son was given and no decision was made following the session.
• Ms. Douthit and Michael Hanson will help Erika Lehman edit the fair book.
• The board is working on possibly having a raffle at the fair this year. More information is being gathered. The board had an offer of a donation for all but \$100 of a barbecue grill, and the people donating the grill want double exhibit space during the fair. The board didn't feel like that would be a problem

GRANT

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receives the grant, they would be required to start in June and the project would need to be completed by August 2008.
Ray Lee, commissioner, asked if the courthouse steps were going back to the original steps, how will the people replacing them know just what the steps were built out of.

getting the grant is being able to submit letters of support from the commissioners, Chamber, Historical Society, Cheyenne County Development, and other organizations and individuals.
The question was asked, "what if we don't want to put the steps back the way they were?"
Mr. Kite said that the Kansas State Historical Society is willing to pay to have it work. The Society could take away the Historical Society's status.

cause he is a hometown boy and he wants to do it for the city and county as well as seeing the courthouse steps restored.
Stan and Janet Carman, representing the Cheyenne County Historical Society, made the comment that people coming from out-of-town think the courthouse is a beautiful building and sometimes, people living in the county don't realize just what the county has.

Mr. Kite said he was sure that the original steps were limestone because when the courthouse was built, that was the material being used. Some of the steps which were torn out earlier, were still up at the county shop and Mr. Kite would look at them. If he can get pieces from them, he will be able to talk to experts who can tell what kind of limestone and where it came from.

Mr. Kite said that he would be honored if the commissioners would allow him to apply for the grant. He will do it for no cost be-

Those present for the courthouse steps issue were: Scott Schultz, St. Francis Mayor; Troy Porter, contractor; Dave Flemming, county road and bridge supervisor; Mr. and Mrs. Carman.

MAPS

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ing the vehicle.
He said that he would like to get on a plan to trade off a vehicle when it had around 70,000 miles because there would be a better trade-in value. Sheriff Gardner will come to the next meeting with the two bids.
The sheriff said officer Craig Van Allen was up for the next level of pay increase. The commissioners agreed to the increase.
The agreement for providing law enforcement between the county and the city of St. Francis was signed.

tional program needed to be put on the computer in her office but the hard drive was not big enough. She said she had put in all the memory possible in the present computer which was six years old.
Clerk Miller suggested that she purchase a new computer which would have a bigger hard drive. After discussion, it was agreed to see what Dell or Gateway would have.
Road and bridge department report
Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, and the commissioners again discussed removing snow from private drives. They agreed to keep their original decision of not clearing these drives. Mr. Flemming pointed out that there is no way that all liability could be removed as, when there is deep snow, it is hard telling where there are curbs and other items which could be destroyed. There is also the problem of ruining one of the grader tires.

Dolores Jenik, treasurer; Dave Flemming and Dave Fry, road and bridge; Dan Schlittenhardt, noxious weed and prairie dog; and Carol Gamblin, law enforcement.
• Roger Jensen, county representative for the Northwest Kansas Regional Recycling Organization, talked about recycling in the county. See related article.
• Greg Kite, former resident, offered to write a grant for replacing the courthouse steps. See related article.

Emergency management
Gary Rogers, county emergency manager, said he was concerned about the ways things were changing with the Salvation Army and Red Cross when it came to funding. "It is getting harder and harder to access their funding," he said.
When the Thanksgiving snowstorm stranded travelers in St. Francis, the Salvation Army was able to provide funds to pay the school for the food used. However, if there was another blizzard, he wasn't sure that money would be available. He asked that the county budget money for the purpose of helping with expenses if there was another blizzard or emergency.

They did agree that if there is a medical emergency, the county will help clear the drive and the crew will not leave a ridge in front of the drive.
The county has spent many hours keeping the roads open and removing snow. He said he needed new grader tires and this time, he planned to get an all-season tire. He said the tires are better and it will be money well spent.

• The commissioners agreed to raise the mileage rate for county employees from 35 cents per mile to 40 cents. Dolores Jenik, treasurer, said other counties were paying up to 43.5 percent per mileage.
• A resolution was signed to help keep driver's license testing in the county. It is no guarantee that the federal government will agree to let states and counties keep this service.
• The commissioners agreed that if there was a run for firemen, the emergency medical technicians should also go to the fire just in case there might be an injury.
Next meeting
The next meeting will be held at 8 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 15, in the commissioners' room at the courthouse.

He said he has been working closely with the Red Cross. If there is an emergency and agreements have not been established with the organization, it will not help out. Then the county would be totally responsible.
The commissioners will discuss the matter with the county auditor.
Noxious weed department
A report on what had been done in 2006 was signed for Dan Schlittenhardt, noxious weed and prairie dog control.
Commissioner Ernie Ketzner wanted to know if the county was gaining on prairie dog control. Mr. Schlittenhardt said letters had been sent to those with serious dog problems but the weather had not permitted much prairie dog control.

He called for an executive session to discuss personnel. Coming out of the meeting, the commissioners said no decision had been made.
Bunker gear for Bird City
Tom Raile, member of the Bird City Fire Department, said the firemen need new bunker gear. Some of the gear is five years old but the majority of it is up to 20 years old.
One set of bunker gear is around \$2,000. The department needs 23 or 24 sets of gear. Mr. Raile said they had contacted a company which sells the gear and they have a person who will write a grant. There was around a 60-percent chance that the grant would be awarded. If the city gets the grant, it would pay for 95 percent with the county picking up the other 5 percent.

Justin Barrett, county attorney, asked if \$90,000 would cover the cost of the job?
Mr. Kite said this is one of the questions that he needs to find out. He said that he will need to get three firm bids from contractors experienced in restoring.
Troy Porter, who had installed the concrete steps, had earlier agreed to remove them but, Mr. Kite was hesitant to have them removed until the grant had been received and until the contractor's bidding on the project had a chance to look at the steps.
The other important part of the

The commissioners signed a highway contract allowing Mr. Schlittenhardt to spray for noxious weeds along state highways. The rate of \$25 per hour for the operator and \$35 for the equipment will remain the same as it was last year.
Commissioner Andy Beikman asked Mr. Schlittenhardt to keep a log of his work schedule. That way, if people call, the commissioners would be able to tell people who ask exactly what he was doing and where he was working.
Ambulance department
Jannelle Bowers, emergency medical service director, asked what the commissioners wanted to do with the old repeaters and antennas taken out of the building east of Wheeler. They said to ask Gary Rogers, emergency manager.

The commissioners agreed to see if they could get the grant.
Appraiser's office
Randy Sangster, county attorney, asked that his office staff be given a 5-percent raise for their work in getting the maps, numbers and other information for the 911 system. The commissioners said that the sheriff's and road and bridge offices had also spent additional time in this area and they, like the appraiser's office staff, got a 3 percent raise. It was not fair to the appraiser's staff to get more.

• Most people would like to see these (buildings) originally restore," Mr. Kite said. "This building is so well maintained and it is our duty to maintain the authenticity."
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Those installing the repeater equipment said there was a serious problem with rodents. They suggested that the equipment be covered with metal instead of wood to keep the rats and mice out of it.
Mrs. Bowers said that an addi-

Commissioner Beikman, before the meeting, had asked Clerk Miller to check on the number of hours worked in the appraiser's office in 2006 compared to those worked in 2005. He had found that the staff had actually worked more hours in 2005 than in 2006.
In other business
In other business:
• Those employees approved to attend meetings or trainings were

FLOWERS

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Businesses participating are: Goodell Greenhouse and Floral, Owens True Value, Hilltop General Store, P & L Meat Market, Krien Pharmacy, Schultz's, Donna's Gift Palace, Burr Liquor, Tangles and

Video Connection and *The Saint Francis Herald*.
Check out the businesses and the specials they are offering for Valentine's Day. The special ad with information is located on Page 10A of this issue.



HISTORY

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county poorhouse. The old courthouse was to be auctioned in April 1893, but it is not known what happened as in July 1894, it was being used as a poorhouse.

the occasion.
The old courthouse was built by the citizens of St. Francis in 1889 for the sum of \$2,460. The cost of the new courthouse was \$163,921.

The end of World War I and a return to prosperity ushered in a wave of new courthouse construction in Kansas. During this period, the classical idiom became more streamlined as courthouses began to grow in size in response to increased economic activity and administrative functions.
The restrained classical references such as the designs for the Cheyenne County Courthouse, reflect the flurring of the "City Beautiful Movement."
On May 8, 1924, the cornerstone for the new courthouse was laid. Robert Good, state Business manager, spoke on good citizenship and more than 2,500 residents were present for

The architect for the courthouse was Thomas Williamson and Company and he designed the building in the Classical Revival style.
The courthouse was dedicated July 7, 1925. It was a huge success with nearly 5,000 people coming to enjoy the festivities.
Mayor N.A. Ketchum had charge of the affair. Delegates were present from Goodland and Sherman County, Rawlins and Decatur counties. Attorney General C.B. Griffith and Judge Simmons made inspiring addresses. The Benkelman Band, Bird City Chorus and Robert J. Taylor entertained the crowd with their music.

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Cooking School

Savor

Spring

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6:30 p.m. Mountain Time
Doors open at 5 p.m.
\$8 per person
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