

RODEO

Continued from Page 1

barrel racing will wrap up the evening.

The committee decided against having the Ranch Rodeo this year since it coincides with the Professional Bull Riders event in Goodland, which is the same evening.

Team sorting/team roping

The sorting and roping event will be held on Thursday evening and will be similar to last year. The committee will go through the same person for obtaining the roping steers as last year and will use Ryan McAtee's steers for the

sorting contest.

Lawn Mower Races

The Lawn Mower Races will take place on Friday evening. Clay Zimmbelman said he had a lot of feedback from people in the community who are excited about participating in it or watching it. The information for a contact person and rules for the races will be included in the derby flyer.

The Derby Committee needs a ream of paper and 100 stamps to get out their flyers.

Petting zoo

The board discussed some ideas about a offering a petting zoo in

Jenkins Hall between the front area and the sale arena. It was noted that it would require a significant amount of time and participation to do, so it was tabled to the next meeting hoping for more ideas about how to make it successful.

Fairgrounds upgrades

The wooden floor in the new fair board building by the east arena gate needs repair and the board considered a permanent, concrete floor. Once the board receives prices for concrete, they will schedule a workday to finish the 10 by 16-foot slab that needs to be done before the new building is placed. It will also help make it a permanent structure.

They discussed adding dirt or sand to the grandstand arena, since it's about 2-feet lower in the center. Dave Flemming, road and bridge supervisor, agreed to help haul in the needed material, but, recommended limiting the amount of sand since it will blow away quickly. He said the board could have silt from the city pond since it would hold better, but it would not dry out as well as sand would. The board is going to look into a mixture of dirt and sand to see what may work best. There is not price on sand yet and it was decided the board should level the arena before deciding how much more would be needed to get it to the depth they need for the horse events and the Derby event.

The door on the north side of the barn needs to be completed. The board decided to obtain a bid from Billy Krien and board president, Dick Bursch, will talk to a construction company in Goodland for a bid on the metal door.

Donations

Gary Cooper, member, suggested that donations to help keep up the fair be made at the First National Bank in St. Francis. He thought this would easily allow the board to keep track of the name and addresses of the donor, as well as the name of the memorial. He noted that it be emphasized that donors know only the First National Bank in St. Francis would be able to accommodate the donations.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the fair board has tentatively been set for 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 3, in the commissioners' room in the courthouse.

Land dispute continues; council makes no decision

By Margaret Bucholtz
margeb@cityofstfrancis.net

The St. Francis City Council was back to discussing a land dispute on which one of the city wells is located. Again, no decision was made.

At the last meeting, Craig Schoenrogge, who lives south of St. Francis, had presented the city council with a proposal for settling with the city. The council asked for time to review all the easements and report back at the Tuesday, March 4, meeting.

Rodney Bracelin, council member, had worked with Mr. Schoenrogge in the past two weeks. Mr. Schoenrogge had said he didn't want the money (\$25,000), but would like to have the fence fixed and maintained around the well, the property cleaned up which included the old telephone poles taken down, wants the electrical line raised to 30-foot high, and access to water from city Well 7.

J.R. Landenberger, city manager, said, "The pumps from city wells are not always on for periods of time so he would need to have a hydrant and a holding tank installed." The council asked him to look at the cost for installing the hydrant and holding tank. Mr. Landenberger told the council that the city crew could start fixing the fence and remove old fences on the property, but raising the lines would add another cost to the city.

Mr. Bracelin said he would contact Mr. Schoenrogge with the information that the city will start on the two projects of fixing fence and moving poles, however the other two requests will be put on hold until they can be researched further

Health insurance

The health insurance representative for Blue Cross/Blue Shield had given the city the cost for next year. For the employees, there will be 12-percent increase. There are 20 employees working for the city.

Mary Lampe, city clerk, said because of the profile they had done last year on the employees, the cost was \$9,400 less than it would have been if they had not had done that.

"The employees appreciate the insurance and feel that

good insurance is better or the equal value of a raise," said Mr. Landenberger.

"We have good employees and we want to be able to keep them," said Roger Jensen, councilman.

The council voted to accept the bid and they will look into different insurances for next year. Yet they want to make sure that a different insurance will give the employees the same coverage.

Sawhill Park

At the last council meeting the council voted to accept the benches donated from the Bob and Joyce Wiley memorial. There will be three benches that will be placed in the park by April of this year. Greg Kite, former St. Francis resident and president of the Historic Preservation Alliance of Wichita and Sedgwick County, sent a letter to the city stating he will know by May 3, if the park will be place on the National Register. Mr. Kite has done many hours of paperwork and the council noted that they appreciated his efforts.

Police report

Deborah Farland, chief of police, gave her report. Shane Guggenmos and Chief Farland will be gone this week to a training meeting. Chief Farland has joined a mentoring group on line and reported she had already found answers to some of her questions so she is sure it will help.

"Officer Thomas is no longer with the police department", the chief said. She then asked for 15 minutes in executive session to discuss personal.

911 Board

There have been changes in the county's 911 Board. The board had at 15 members on it and now they have cut it down to five. The people serving on this board will be Andy Beikman, commissioner; Natalie Knodel, St. Francis City Council member; Janelle Bowers; emergency medical service director, Gary Rogers, Cheyenne County Emergency Manager; George Harper, St. Francis Fire Chief.

Visitor

Brent Rueb was present at the meeting to ask what he needed to present to the council as he is wanted to move his resident and business to Main Street. The council asked that he draw a plan of what he would be doing and

bring it back to the council.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Landenberger gave a report on the sewer pond. After meeting with Chris Miller of Miller Associates of McCook, and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the city will need to put more rip rap on the ponds, because of the lack of amount dikes are beginning to wash down from erosion. Prices are being checked.

In other business

In other business:
 • The council will be checking to see if 911 funds can be used to move the tornado siren to the county 911 dispatch office.
 • The council will be reviewing agreement with county on Sawhill Park to check on funding to correct the northwest corner of the park that is filled in from blow sand.
 • They will be talking with engineer of Grasse Construction about the seam on the Parkway Street.
 • The owner of the house on Jackson Street is starting to clean up property.
 • It was noted that the fire system at the Power Plant is now complete.

Appointments

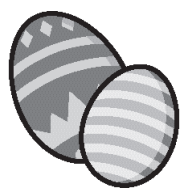
The council appointed representatives for the following:
 • Kansas Municipal Energy Agency District 2 - J.R. Landenberger.
 • Kansas Rural Water Association - Voting delegate would be Dan Blair

Airport Report

Rodney Bracelin, councilman, said the county Airport Authority informed Vireo Wireless that the tract of ground they were looking at south of the county shop would be in the airway of the airport so they would not be able to put the tower on that property.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the St. Francis City Council will be at 7:30 on Tuesday in the city hall meeting room on Main Street.



NEARING

Continued from Page 1

office or the First National Bank, said councilwoman Carla Lampe. Michele Kippes, grant administrator and Linda Hunsicker, Kansas Department of Commerce with he march 11 for the close out.

At 8 p.m. on March 18, there is a public hearing with Ms. Kippes.

Shane Holthaus, Kansas Rural Water Agency, will do a walk through and sign off on March 12.

Don Hall, project architect, will be in St. Francis at the Emergency Building on at noon on April 9. That will be the final inspection of the project.

The last of the bills were submitted:

- BG Consultants-\$4,471.
- Rasure Lumber - 2,131.
- NW Kansas Planning -

\$3,975.

- Kansas Rural Water - \$11,176.
- Lampe Hardware - \$14,456.

The total will be \$36,210. The board approved the bills to be paid.

Mr. Weeks said that there was at least 1/2 mile of drywall tape and 24,000 pounds of drywall mud on the walls in the building.

"This has been a large project but we are all very proud of the way the community has stepped forward and helped," Mr. Weeks said.

Mayor Scott Schultz said he appreciated all the people who have gone out of their way to work for the last two years.

"We have a wonderful emergency building," he said.

on the name of the project. That will take you to the description of the grant proposal and a place to add comments. Deadline is March 31.

The society is aiming for at least 100 comments from the community. Help remind people to post comments. And send the link to friends, former Cheyenne County residents, etc.

Support is needed to receive grant

County residents are asked to support a grant proposal for \$15,000 written by the Cheyenne County Historical Society to help refurbish Ye Ole' Country Church at the museum. Grants will be awarded according to need and community support.

Go to myhometownhelper.com. Click on "Find a Project." Then select "Kansas" and type in St. Francis. At the next page, click

Upcoming Promotions

For more information contact Casey McCormick at:

The Saint Francis Herald
 P.O. Box 1050, St. Francis, KS 67756 • 785-332-3162

AGRICULTURE WEEK

We Believe Agriculture is the Main Stay of Community Prosperity!

Join us in Saluting the Area Farmers!



Spring School Section

Featuring students involved in sports, vocal, band, drama, honor society and journalism



Rural Health

This section is packed full of information on hospitals, physicans and medical services available in the area

900 The
~~800~~-pound
 Gorilla

GETS THINGS MOVED... FAST!!

The Country Advocate

CALL CASEY AT:

The Saint Francis Herald

310 W. Washington St. Francis, Kan. 67756 785-332-3162