

County commissioners wait to make decision on building

By Karen Krien

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At the commissioner/city council meeting on Jan. 24, the St. Francis City Council offered to turn over the Emergency Building to the county. However, at the Monday meeting of the Cheyenne County Commissioners, little was said about the offer.

Janelle Bowers, emergency medical service director, said the boiler appeared to have a problem. She understood that the boiler sensor had not been installed or maybe wasn't working... there was a problem with the sensor.

She said they are careful to not use any more heat than possible and turn the thermostat down at night.

Before the commissioners make any decisions, they will need more information, especially concerning the boiler and the cost of insurance.

Level raises

Department heads requested class level raises for employees. Cody Beeson, Jennifer Padgett and Marilyn Hnizdil were at level 2 and they had been in their present position and, obviously shown progress. However, the county employees had received a 3-percent cost-of-living raise at the first of the year. Now, to add an additional \$4,125 (total) to the three wages was something the commissioners had to discuss.

They agreed that the additional wages would come out of each of the department head's budgets. They voted to approve all three employees level raises to level 3.

Road and bridge department report

Dave Flemming, road and bridge department supervisor, talked about box bridges in the county that were in poor shape and either needed to be repaired, replaced or removed. These bridges had not been inspected for several years. He named five bridges, all in

different parts of the county.

He said the Kenworth truck needed work. He estimated it would cost around \$4,000 to get it running right. The commissioners agreed that they couldn't replace the truck for \$4,000 so Mr. Flemming will get the parts ordered and the truck repaired.

He talked about the condition of the Rangeline road southwest of St. Francis. He said at the end of the pavement, the road was in bad shape. It has been 12 years since this stretch of road had serious work. He proposed to bring in equipment to incorporate larger rocks and a packer. If the rock was ready to go, Mr. Flemming said he felt the work could be done within three weeks. He would like to start the work before March as the equipment will be available then.

The commissioners signed a highway permit from Parrish Drilling to bore under the county road and install a water line; and Paragon Geological Service to do a 3D seismograph in the northeast part of the county.

He talked about purchasing a new grader. The money had been put away for an equipment purchase and he thought the trade-in of an old grader would be good.

The commissioners asked him to get a price and see if they would allow him to bring it to the county for a demonstration. The matter will be on a future agenda.

Andy Beikman, commissioner, said he would like to have the landfill close one day a week, probably on a Wednesday. This day would be spent picking up and cleaning up trash. I believe KDHE (Kansas Department of Health and Environment) is watching our landfill, he said. If it is logged that we are making an effort to keep the landfill free of blowing trash, it might help.

Mr. Flemming offered to call the head of the department of

health and environment and ask his advice. Mr. Beikman thought that it certainly wouldn't hurt to get a second opinion.

Mr. Flemming will also talk to Ed Garner, landfill supervisor.

Emergency medical service report

Mrs. Bowers said the emergency medical service department had \$5,434 in insurance adjustments for December.

She asked for executive session to discuss personnel. No decision was made when they came out of the session.

911 department report

Mrs. Padgett reported that, 2010, there were 653 911 calls made and 4,398 administrative calls were logged for police and sheriff.

Mrs. Padgett asked if there was a way that part-time help could be offered on-call pay? What it would do would guarantee the part-time help an extra 10 hours a month. It was suggested that the pay should be 50-cents an hour. Kari Gilliland, county attorney, asked if her budget could handle the extra pay? She said she would have to check.

She said Rawlins County dispatch has three full-time dispatchers and several part-time. Cheyenne County dispatchers have 12 hour shifts. She will see what information she can find and report back to the commissioners.

They talked about having 911 hook equipment at the emergency manager's office in the St. Francis Emergency building. The office would be a backup site in case there was an emergency and the courthouse office was not useable. The commissioners said the office had been approved to have two trunks installed. She will need to contact AT&T to have the work done.

In other business

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The commissioners signed the Bird City law agreement for \$34,000. Last year, the cost was \$33,000. This guarantees law coverage for Bird City.

Karen Flemming, with the appraiser's office, was approved to attend Orion classes in Dodge City.

The commissioners held two checks: one for the High Plains Community Mental Health for \$5,724; and the second was for the Developmental Services in Atwood, \$7,632. The commissioners decided to pay the amounts quarterly instead all in one amount.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the commissioners has been set for 8 a.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 15, at the courthouse.



TRENTON BARTELS AND ZACH KOGEN are presenting the Kansas Day Program held on Monday.

Herald staff photo by Karen Krien

Memorial Roster

The Memorial Roster Committee of the Kansas Day Association assembled the following record of Cheyenne County residents or past residents who died during 2010.

Even their best efforts are not enough to be able to say, with certainty, that the record is complete, for the deaths of many of the county's past residents are never known by the Kansas Day Memorial Roster Committee. Public input is encouraged in helping compile the roster.

Should anyone know of the death of a former Cheyenne County resident who is not included on this year's record, please contact, Janet Carman, the Kansas Day Association secretary.

In the coming months, should anyone be aware of any names which should be included, please let the committee know so the information can be included in the Memorial Day Roster 2010.

Jan. 5, Vernon Frederick William Hass, Jan. 14, 1929; Jan. 13, Robert Tobias Walter, Nov. 5, 1916; Jan. 13, Isabella Grace Zimbelman, Jan. 13, 2010; Jan. 18, Ruby Mae Elliott Mueller, Aug. 4, 1913; Jan. 22, Steven Anthony Krien, June 25, 1951; Jan. 31, Dorothy Lucille "Doty" Hilton Boardman, March 26, 1921.

Feb. 2, Marvin Keith "Dutch" Walz, Oct. 7, 1941; Feb. 5, Duane Paul Wilkens, Sept. 11, 1952; Feb. 9, Lydia Pauline Lippert Hilt, Aug. 15, 1917; Feb. 10, Delbert Wayne Powell, March 14, 1925; Feb. 14, Larry Lee Shaw; Feb. 28, Ruby Graves Roesner Roberts, March 30, 1921.

March 9, Royce Dale Kellner, May 18, 1939; March 9, Doris Byers Lane, Feb. 21, 1913; March 13, Oscar "Whitey" Krien, Jan. 24, 1921; March 21, Janice Yvonne Schlepp Peterson, Feb. 11, 1940; March 22, Robert Allen Modrell, June 6, 1938; March 25, Margaret Lucille "Marge" Bohringer Gripp, Oct. 11, 1921; Lambertson Fossett.

April 1, Myra Lee Bloom

Grimes, May 14, 1946; April 1, Emmett Dale Seaman, Feb. 3, 1927; April 7, Frederick Darrel Magley, July 4, 1932; April 11, Reacie Mae Elliott, May 30, 1918; April 12, Beulah Delilah Tiff Stull, April 1918; April 25, Maude Grace Murray Elliott, Jan. 29, 1914; April 30, Lewis Carl Sowers, Aug. 27, 1925.

May 3, Kay Deardoff Tice; May 4, William Overton Fuller, March 27, 1920; May 6, Margaret Mary Slattery Alsup, March 1, 1921; May 21, Raquel Ann Brunswig, Jan. 24, 1935; May 20, Bob L. Wiecek, Jan. 1, 1934; May 22, Dwayne Krien; May 23, Cora Hope Miller Bressler, April 26, 1916; May 27, Lydia Margard Zwegardt Krien, March 9, 1922; May 27, Robert Allen Smith, Jan. 2, 1948; May 28, Sylvia C. Kinen Fisher, Sept. 24, 1928.

June 2, John Andrew Walz, April 26, 1928; June 6, Lois "Vivien" Hurlock Horwege, Aug. 25, 1912; June 11, Vivian Gail Scheel Seymour, Feb. 4, 1920; June 12, Annabelle Lee Williams Nelsen; Jan. 10, 1926; June 21, Stanley Loy Zuege, July 10, 1920; June 26, Clyde Edson Smith, Nov. 16, 1921; June 27, Velta Ludwig Powell, Oct. 14, 1927; June 30, Edna Pauline Zwegardt Zimbelman, Nov. 21, 1918 Wendell Kite.

July 1, Eugene Victor "Gene" Siegfried, Oct. 5, 1918; July 4, Helen M. "Kitty" Whitehead Kite, Aug. 28, 1931; July 5, Beulah Agnes Cox, Dec. 11, 1918; July 8, Norvin D. Carson; July 8, Melvin Ray Watkins, Dec. 2, 1943; July 9, Richard Owen Peterson, Jan. 18, 1929; July 10, Phyllis Lavay Lueschen Amos Hook, Jan. 18, 1933, July 11, Eldean Marie Reinert Cahoj, Sept. 11, 1931; July 12, Roberta Ramsey Graves, March 12, 1924; July 22, Dale Lavern Burr, June 24, 1926; July 23, Royce Wade Wiley, Jan. 21, 1932; Ethel "Louise: Gleason Sawyer, Dec. 20, 1919; July 25, Dale Ernest Linin, Sept. 3, 1946; July 26, David Neil Andrews, Aug. 27, 1930; July 27,

Connie D. Bolyard Miller, Sept. 20, 1937; July 29, Claude O'Leary, Dec. 19, 1921.

Aug. 6, Lois Albert Welch Cress, March 30, 1932; Aug. 12, Cheryl K. Fink Mosley, July 4, 1967; Aug. 13, Carolyn Ruth Walz Pettit, Feb. 12, 1948; Aug. 17, Kenneth Neil Kahle, April 5, 1931; Aug. 19, Rachael Phebe Wagaman Keller, May 13, 1918; Aug. 22, Glenn Donald Walter, Aug. 14, 1933; Aug. 24, Grace Irene Lewis Bannister, July 2, 1914; Aug. 27, Alvena Ahrens Williams, Sept. 7, 1931; Aug. 31, Milford "Gene" Young, Jan. 27, 1934.

Sept. Sept. 8, Doris Schlepp Little; Sept. 27, Mildred Pyle Ward, May 24, 1916.

Oct. 6, Elsie May Callagan Garner Lehrer, Dec. 7, 1913; Oct. 13, Martha Jane Jackson Schultz, Dec. 5, 1925; Oct. 20, Arlene Joyce Confer Nash Peter, Dec. 9, 1929; Oct. 20, Margaret Wickwar Schultz, Dec. 2, 1919; Oct. 28, Wilmot E. Klid, Sept. 12, 1927; Oct. 31, Harold Leroy Connett, Nov. 10, 1919.

Nov. 5, Ruby J. Roseborough Anderson, April 6, 1920; Nov. 6, Gladys Marie Palmer Thomas, Nov. 21, 1933; Nov. 9, Willis Ned Holliman; Nov. 11, Janet Leona Zimbelman Rogers, Nov. 2, 1927; Nov. 12, Katherine Virginia "Kitty" Keeker, March 19, 1947; Nov. 16, Viola Bernadine Larson Smith, Aug. 3, 1925; Nov. 21, Rozella Pizel Shoemaker, Oct. 28, 1927; Nov. 27, Clara Alice Holzwarth Pittman, May 24, 1920.

Dec. 1, Dixie Lee Waters Keller, June 10, 1926; Dec. 2, Elberta Anna Calnon, Dec. 19, 1922; Dec. 6, Maurice Eugene Stramel, May 5, 1933; Dec. 13, Floyd Leland Frisbie, May 7, 1922; Dec. 14, Wade Douglas Walz, Feb. 18, 1969; Dec. 19, Clyde W. Munn, April 26, 1919; Dec. 21, Ellen Dorothy Brunswig Raile, Oct. 8, 1921; Dec. 25, Chloris Ethel Anderson Krien, June 4, 1920; Dec. 31, Harvey E. Larm, July 5, 1935.

Meetings main items is the towns emergency building

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Every two months, the Cheyenne County Commissioners and the St. Francis City Council meet before the regular meeting. Monday, Jan. 24, they met at the city hall before the city council meeting.

One of the main items on the agenda was the St. Francis Emergency Building. The city of St. Francis has been the owner of the building which was built with grant funds and volunteer labor. Since it has opened several years ago, the emergency manager and the emergency medical service director have established their offices there. The county has the majority of the fire trucks and ambulances stored there (the city of St. Francis has two fire trucks). There is a meeting room used by both firemen and emergency medical technicians.

St. Francis has no one working in the building so, when Janelle Bowers, emergency medical service director, or Ryan Murray, emergency manager, need

something, they look up the city superintendent. It would just be easier, said J.R. Landenberger, superintendent, if the county was in charge of the building.

Mr. Landenberger said the boiler will continue to be an issue. There is the cost of running it as it heats a huge space. There is also the problem of the ice buildup on the north side of the building.

The city, Mr. Landenberger said, will still provide the utilities at cost.

There would still be an Emergency Building board. Right now, members of this board are Ryan Murray, emergency manager; Janelle Bowers, emergency medical service director; Carla Lampe, St. Francis City Councilwoman; Scott Schultz, St. Francis mayor; Andy Beikman, county commissioner; and George Harper, fire chief. They don't meet regularly but act more like an advisory board.

The commissioners will meet the following Monday and discuss the matter further.

The commissioners and council members discussed health insurance, comparing costs and discussing a different plan. Ernie Ketzner, commissioner, said it was frightening how much health insurance costs. He wondered if the county and city couldn't partner with other entities. The larger the pool, he said, helps the rates. It makes good sense to have increased numbers which could help the city and help the county. It might be beneficial to both. No decision was made.

The commissioners and city council will plan to meet again in March.



Book Review

Book review from the St. Francis Public Library
A Sister's Secret

By Wanda E. Brunstetter

Putting her rumschpringe (running-around years) behind her, Grace Hostettler returns to Holmes County, Ohio, joins the Amish church, and begins a new life with a new romance. The next four years are nearly

idyllic for the oldest Hostettler child - except for the hidden pain of a carefully harbored secret. Then her peaceful world is shattered the day she runs into Gary Walker - an Englisher who knows enough about her past to destroy her future. And his arrival coincides with a series of startling attacks against the Amish community.

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