

# Oberlin school board votes to cut one custodian, two cooks

OBERLIN — The Oberlin School Board agreed to terminate three classified staff members, combine the kitchens in the district and increase the lunch prices by 50 cents for students.

Superintendent Kelly Glodt said the district has already taken several steps to cut costs this year, but with the fixed costs, three jobs had to be cut.

Those terminated included Custodian Gloria Schultz and Cooks Sharon Mockry and Jeanette Diederich.

Schultz has worked for the district for 12 years, Mockry 15 and Diederich 14.

Board Member Dewayne Jackson asked if any of the women were retiring or if they were all being terminated. Glodt said at this time it was a termination.

By terminating the three women the district saves \$23,000 in payroll for the rest of

the year. In a full year, Glodt said the district would save around \$53,000.

Glodt said there has been a lot of research done about combining the kitchens to save money.

The money savings will come in when ordering in bulk and also having to only run the ovens and everything else at one school.

Last year, he said, the district had to supplement food services \$110,000. The goal is for the food services to stand alone, although that isn't reality.

This year, said Glodt, the district will have to supplement it from \$70,000 to \$80,000.

He said he called the state and checked into the regulations about combining the kitchens.

Glodt said the state officials told him that they had too many expenditures with food and personnel and they weren't bringing in enough money.

For free and reduced lunch prices the school gets reimbursed \$2.33. The official from the state said that the district lunch prices should be closer to what the district gets reimbursed.

Currently at the grade school lunch costs \$1.45 and at the high school \$1.75.

Glodt said this will not be popular, but he recommended the board increase the meal prices.

For every quarter raised, there is \$12,000 more revenue for the whole year, said Glodt.

Basically the district raised the lunch prices a quarter at the beginning of the year and that raised \$12,000.

He said with the additional 50-cent increase that will be around \$12,000 more

raised from now until the end of the year. This is district wide revenue.

Glodt said the price change doesn't mean that the servings will be smaller or that the meals will change. Students will still be able to get a hot lunch and also go to the salad bar.

The district's job is to serve a nutritious meal, he said.

What about adult meals, asked Board Member Barb Olson. The price for an adult is \$2.50 and the board didn't raise the prices.

Glodt said he didn't think that the breakfast prices should be raised either. He said there may be a greater percentage of cold breakfasts now.

The board agreed to raise the prices, which brought the grade school lunches to \$1.95 and the high school lunches to \$2.25.

Glodt said he was working Thursday on a letter to the parents to explain the increase. The prices will change as of Monday, Feb. 2.

In other business, the board:

- Held a closed session for negotiations for 23 minutes. There was no action taken.
- Had a visit from Phil Lahman who wanted to hand out information to the board stating that they could choose to go directly to an election for the increase of the local option budget to 25 percent.

The board by statute has the authority to go right to an election, otherwise it can be petitioned and if the petition gets the signatures then it has to go to a vote.

After the meeting was adjourned Lahman approached the board members. Olson said she didn't think they could address anything.

## Former Colby man wins \$25,000 lottery

GOODLAND — A Goodland broadcaster started the new year off with a bang, winning \$25,000 on \$5 lottery ticket.

Curtis Duncan, program director and news director at KLOE, who formerly was employed at KQLS-KXXX in Colby, bought a Casino Nights ticket at Presto, 2510 Commerce Rd., Friday, Jan. 9, at 11:30 a.m. and won the top prize.

"It was presto-changeo," he said. Duncan said he had the ticket verified and signed at the counter, then on the way out, a truck driver said, "I hope you win something."

Duncan said he told the man he won \$25,000, and the trucker didn't believe him.

But many people who have heard have been happy for the broadcaster. A lot of people are glad the money's staying in the area, Duncan said, that someone local won. Duncan thinks of it as either a late Christmas present or an early birthday present.

"I'll be 50 at the end of July," Duncan said. "Winning \$25,000 is a great way to start off the year."

Duncan has been in the broadcasting business for 38 years and enjoys his work.

"I love my job because every day I can expect something different to happen," he said. "You never know what is going to happen."

Duncan is the chairman of the Sherman County Red Cross and is involved with the Methodist Church council. He said he plans to help the church, Red Cross and Genesis.

"I want to spread it around and help others," he said, "and still have some left for myself."

Duncan said his daughter, Malia, 27, was happy for him. She lives in Kansas City, Kan., and works for Sprint.

Duncan said he likes to play Kansas Lottery instant scratch tickets, so he decided to buy one.

"I went to the gas station, and the Casino Nights ticket caught my eye," he said. "I liked the color and the design of the ticket."

Although Duncan was excited when he first found out that he won, he still went back to the radio station after he got the news.

Duncan has some plans for the money.

"I want to buy a washer and dryer," he said. "I also want to make some donations and buy my daughter some jewelry."

## Airport and adult stores highlight meeting

**By TOM BETZ**  
*The Goodland Star-News*

GOODLAND — Handling questions about height restrictions at the Goodland airport and having a way to have a say in what businesses operate in the county were among the issues raised at Monday's joint meeting of the Sherman County commissioners and the city commission.

City Manager Ron Pickman said there are a couple of areas where the city and county need to work together with one being a way to maintain the height restrictions within a 10,000 foot radius from the airport runways, and a second was to be able to prevent undesirable businesses to open in the county.

"We know it is tough to bring up the 'Z' word," said Pickman, "but there are some things we need to address to respond to these issues."

Pickman said there is a growing movement to locate adult novelty stores along the interstates, and that neither the city or county currently has a way to prohibit this.

"We need to do something before it happens," Pickman said. "Again this brings up the fact that the city has zoning, but the county does not."

"Zoning is something we have a problem with," said County Commissioner Kevin Rasure. "It is hard to explain to people that zoning is a way to protect people," Pickman said. "I am not sure what the county could do."

"We have business licenses in the city which gives us a way to handle this type of problem."

City Commissioner Dean Blume said he felt something needed to be in place before they have to react.

"We need to work together on this," Commissioner Chuck Lutters agreed.

"We need to protect the entire county and Kanorado," Pickman said, "and do it together or somebody would sure complain."

Rasure said he had talked to County Attorney Bonnie Selby about this, but that she had not gotten back to him with any suggestions.

"The 'Z' word seems to be a hot one," Rasure said. "What are other cities doing?"

Pickman said he was contacting Abilene and another city which have been facing the opening of

adult novelty stores to see how they are handling it.

"We can handle the restrictions within the city," Pickman said, "but we need to coordinate our efforts outside the city limits."

"We would rather address these problems before they get built, but under the federal rules it is something that causes hard feelings when the person is told to take down or move the structure which violates the height restriction."

Darin Neufeld with EBH Engineering said it might be a good idea for the county to require anyone wishing to build something over 30 feet high to notify the county or city to make sure it does not interfere with the aviation regulations.

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