

Weather

# County hears options for possible jail project

From "COUNTY," Page 1

taxes (to pay)," he wrote.

This alternative for the jail project would require an election, Haas said, because it would exceed the \$300,000 limit, but the county could expect a low percent interest rate – about 2 percent – if paid over 10 years. Over 20 years, the county could expect a 3.85 percent rate.

The commissioners agreed that they hope to stay away from an election, saying that the perception of the public is in their favor. They also hope to move ahead with the project sooner than what an election would allow.

Commission Chairman Ken Christiansen told Haas he thinks it is widely known that the county needs a new jail, and that became evident on Feb. 13, when businessmen and women, city and county officials heard a jail expansion presentation.

There were so many people attending this meeting that it was moved into the courtroom. People heard Sheriff Rod Taylor describe the many plumbing, electrical, ventilation and safety concerns he and his staff face every day.

The department regularly spends about \$2,000 per month to house prisoners at other counties because they don't have the

space here. During Monday's meeting, Taylor added that they don't have adequate space for private conversation or kitchen space for daily meal preparation.

Commissioner Paul Steele presented a letter he found from about 2000 stating the conditions of the jail.

"We've known for 12 years that the jail was a problem," said Steele, adding that the jail was built before the present commissioners' time, but a solution to the problem is long overdue.

"I've estimated that we spend about \$52,000 per year for prisoner care elsewhere," said Steele, "and that doesn't include salary, fuel or meals to transport them. We are easily spending a jail payment already."

Commissioners told Haas that the county has about \$350,000 in reserves that they could use for the project. Taylor has said that about the same amount is available in the drug forfeiture fund.

The coming elections could change things. With Christiansen not running for re-election and Taylor's position being contested, the commissioners said, they fear plans for the jail project may not be held in good faith when and if new people take those positions. They don't want the county's money wasted if

the jail never comes to fruition, which is another reason they hope to move along the project without waiting for the November election.

Based on these concerns, the commissioners and Haas focused on the second of four financial options presented. Haas described the development of a three- to nine-member Public Building Commission to build and borrow money for the jail. Haas said that county commissioners could sit on that board or they could appoint others for it.

This commission would be given authorization to issue bonds for the purpose of building a jail. Any opponents could issue a notice of protest petition within 30 days to force an election, he said.

"I'm going to Oberlin this afternoon," said Haas, "who are considering this option to finance a swimming pool."

"This alternative is readily accepted in the market, and investors understand it, which allows for such attractive interest rates. Financing could be in place in 90 to 120 days if there is no protest."

Details on the information presented at the meeting are available at the county clerk's office.

# City Council plans review of vehicle nuisance ordinance

From "CITY," Page 1

hot new decorating trend" and said some of the gas pumps were sold as collectibles, but then he decided to recycle the rest at his lot inside the city limits because of thefts in the county.

He said the one thing that puzzled him was why he was being singled out for complaints when there are other businesses in town that have excess inventory as well.

Interim City Manager Randy Jones agreed with Stephens on this point, saying there are several lots around town that are unkempt.

Stephens said he thinks the complaints against him might be just personal complaints, and since all of the complaints have been oral, and there are no written ones, these complaints shouldn't be valid.

"In my opinion, the city manager (Carolyn Armstrong) has

single me out for whatever reason," Stephens said. "Other people that are issued letters of complaints from the city do not have to go in front of the council once they comply."

"I asked Rick to take me off the council's agenda and he refused, so I guess it's time for him to explain why am I here?" Mayor Gary Adrian asked what initiated the first complaints, and Dickman said just that the lot looked like it was full of junk.

Councilman Mark Beringer said he agreed with Stephens that there should be written complaints on file, not just oral ones.

Jones said he thinks the city needs to revisit its ordinances on the subject because he thinks they are kind of vague and need to be rewritten.

Councilman Pat Mallory asked if the school bus or the boat on Stephens' lot were col-

lectibles, and Stephens said he didn't know what was wrong with having those items. Mallory said those items give the lot all the appearances of a salvage or junk yard.

Jones went back to the point that they would need to revisit the ordinances, and however they change the ordinances, they will need to be applied uniformly throughout town. Councilman Mark Beringer said he thinks checking for salvage yard licenses needs to be enforced, too.

Councilman Phil DeYoung said it's going to be difficult to create an ordinance that identifies a violation when it comes to this topic because it is subjective and thinks it's a case-by-case situation most of the time.

In the end, Stephens said he's not opposed to rules, he just wants to be told why he's in violation of an ordinance and is willing to work with the city.

Briefly

### Baptist church offering free lunch Saturday

The First Baptist Church of Colby invites everyone to a free meal from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the church, 715 W. Webster (the corner of Webster and Grant). Bring a friend. For information, call Radonda Burford at 443-1889.

### Public meeting set Monday on housing plans

The Kansas Housing Resources Corp. will hold a public meeting at 1:30 p.m. Monday in the Little Theatre of the Colby Community Building to hear citizen comments and ideas on its plan to help cities and counties develop moderate-income housing and infrastructure in rural areas. For information, call the agency at (785) 296-0081.

### Kids, adults invited to learn, portray history

Adults and kids who have completed fourth grade are invited to register now for Night at the Museum camp to be held afternoons the week of July 9 to 13 at the Prairie Museum of Art and History. Campers will learn how to develop an accurate and entertaining portrayal of a figure from area history, and will bring the museum to life on the evening of Friday, July 13. The camp is free, but limited to 15 participants. Call Ann Miner at the museum, 460-4590, for information, or stop by to register.

### Sanitation Department will not work July 4

The Colby Sanitation Department will take the day off on Wednesday, July 4. Wednesday's residential route will be picked up on Thursday, July 5. Have your tipper cans to the curb by 8 a.m. For information, call Anita Powell at the Public Works Department, 460-4420.

### 'Flying Debris Show' coming to library July 5

The Pioneer Memorial Library plans have author Richard Holmgren do his "Flying Debris Show" at 8 p.m. Thursday, July 5, on the east lawn. Bring chairs, blankets and sunglasses. This is for individuals, couples or the whole family. Come experience comedy, zany stunts and lots of audience participation. For information, call Melany Wilks at 460-4470; she says she's not sure what to expect except zany.

### Pets ready for adoption at Animal Clinic

Colby Animal Clinic has a chihuahua-terrier mix and an intact male tan wirehaired terrier mix, 3 to 4 years old and about 15 pounds, available for adoption. Lost or strayed animals are often brought to the clinic. Call or stop by 810 E. Fourth St. All animals have current shots, and costs are minimal. For questions, call 460-8621.

### Harvest matchmaker available for farmers

Roger Hale is available again this year to help farmers and custom harvesters get together. His office is at Truck Town, 105 W. Horton. There is no cost for this service. For information, call him at (785) 269-7712 or 460-8785.

### Commodities to be given out here July 2

U.S. Department of Agriculture commodities will be distributed from 9 to 10 a.m. Monday, July 2, at the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program office in the Senior Progress Center at Fike Park. Distribution is first come, first-served, but you may send a signed permission slip with another person. Bring a sack or box. Commodities could include corn, chicken, beef stew, fruit mix and macaroni. For questions, call the office at 462-6744.

### Museum displays student art work

The Prairie Museum of Art and History has a free exhibit of art by students from kindergarten to high school from area schools through Sunday, July 29. The museum, 1905 S. Franklin Ave., is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. on weekends. Call Ann Miner at 460-4590 for information.

### Fair books now available at Extension office

Fair books for this year are available at the Thomas County Extension office in the county office complex, 350 S. Range Ave., Suite 16, during business hours, 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 5 p.m. For information, call Jody McCain at the office, 460-4580.

### Junior Golf practice Thursdays at course

Practice for Colby Junior Golf, for kids 7 to 17, will be held from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Thursdays through July 26 at the Meadow Lake Golf Course. Cost is \$15 for Meadow Lake members and \$65 for nonmembers, but scholarships are available. Coaches will be Kevan Taylor, Sara Betz and Ed Schmitt. For information, call Betz at (785) 269-7394 or (785) 460-9855.

# College trustees learn about improving, increasing enrollment

From "COLLEGE," Page 1

plan," Nichols said. "Colby Community College is about the college, it's also about the community...."

"We're not going to do this because this is how it's always been done. We're not going to do this because we're afraid to try something. We're going to have to really be inspired, and we're the people that are going have to do that, all of us, and I think that we can."

Board Chair Kenton Krehbiel and Vice Chair and Treasurer Arlen Leiker commended Nichols on the plan and said they think she's off to a good start.

In other business, the board: • Heard Barry Kaaz, dean of external affairs, report that about 92 percent of the Honeywell project, designed to tune the campus to use less energy, is complete. Leiker asked if the college is seeing any savings in its utilities yet, and Kaaz said it's hard to compare right now. He said he's only taken a rough look at the numbers, but the cost of electricity went down a little bit. Leiker asked about natural gas savings and Kaaz said he hasn't looked at that yet. • Heard from Athletic Direc-

tor Ryan Sturdy, who said eight student-athletes had been selected as Academic All American, but that is not what the honor is called anymore. He also said nine of the college's 14 teams made Academic Team of the Year, which means their grade average is a 3.0 or higher. He said it would have been 10, but that team missed the average by one-hundredth of a point.

• Held a public hearing for the Neighborhood Revitalization Plan, which no one took part in, and then approved the plan, designed to provide tax rebates for new construction and remodeling or expansion. Trustee Dale Herschberger did not vote because he is on the board of the Economic Development Alliance, which has backed the plan.

• Approved a lease renewal for one year for the WaKeeney nursing site, which President Stephen Vacik said is the same as the previous agreement.

• Approved the resignations of Steve Zerr, maintenance supervisor, and Ron Walz, general education development examiner.

• Approved a request from Chris Ellison, director of federal grants, to sell equipment paid for with Title III federal money. Debbie Schwanke, public infor-

mation director, explained that the equipment was essentially "a production studio in a box" that was supposed to be used by the television department. Since there really isn't such a department anymore, she said, there is no need for this equipment. She said once the equipment is sold, the money will go back into the Title III fund.

• Approved guidelines for use of the student union, one set for organizations making a profit and another for nonprofit groups. Vacik said clubs and groups using the union won't be affected by this. Krehbiel wanted it made clear that for-profit groups can't use the building when students are on campus, and there is not much time when the union is open but students are not on campus. Vacik said that is correct. He said they don't want to displace students.

• Approved the student handbook as proposed with one change, from "federal or student criminal" to "federal or state criminal."

• Approved an agreement for legal services with John Gatz as college attorney for the 2012-13 school year.

**LOCAL TV Listings** Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS

Monday Evening June 25, 2012										
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	The Bachelorette				The Glass House	Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live		
KBSL/CBS	How I Met U   2 Broke G	Two Men   Mike			Hawaii Five-0	Local	Late Show Letterman	Ferguson		
KSNK/NBC	U.S. Olympic Trials	America's Got Talent	Ninja Warrior			Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	J. Fallon		
KSAS/FOX	Hell's Kitchen	MasterChef			Local					
<b>Cable Channels</b>										
A & E	Duck D.	Duck D.	Family Jewels		Monster	Monster		Monster	Duck D.	Duck D.
AMC	Shawshank R.						Collateral Damage			
ANIM	Wildman	Wildman	Gator Boys		River Monsters		Wildman	Wildman	Gator Boys	
BRAVO	Housewives/NJ	Housewives/NYC	Miss Advised				Happings	Housewives/NYC	Advised	
CMT	My Big Redneck Inter	Wedding   Wedding	Wedding   Wedding				Wedding	Wedding	My, Redneck Wedding	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360	Piers Morgan Tonight	Anderson Cooper 360				E. B. OutFront	Piers Morgan Tonight		
COMEDY	Jeff Dunham Special	Work.	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny		Daily	Colbert	South Pk	Futurama
DISC	Outlaw Empires	Outlaw Empires	Fast N' Loud				Outlaw Empires	Fast N' Loud		
DISN	Good Luck   Shake It	Let It Shine					Vampire	Austin	Wizards	Wizards
E!	Bridal to Homicidal	Kardashian	Kardashian				Chelsea	E! News		Chelsea
ESPN	College Baseball						SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPN2	MLB Baseball				Baseball Tonight		NFL Live		Baseball Tonight	
FAM	Secret-Teen	Bunheads			Secret-Teen		The 700 Club	Prince	Prince	
FOOD	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Mystery D	Diners	Diners	Diners
FX	Transformers						Transformers			
HGTV	Love It or List It	Love It or List It	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Love It or List It	Love It or List It				
HIST	Pawn	Pawn	American Pickers	Pawn	Pawn		Cajun Pwn	Cajun Pwn	Pawn	Pawn
LIFE	Reba	Reba	Tall Hot Blonde				Army Wives		Reba	Reba
MTV	Ridic.	Snooki	Teen Wolf	Teen Wolf			Teen Wolf	Teen Wolf		Teen Wolf
NICK	Friends	Friends	Hollywood Heights	Yes, Dear	Yes, Dear		Friends	Friends	George	George
SCI	Eureka	Eureka	Lost Girl				Eureka		Lost Girl	
SPIKE	Police Videos	Stings	Stings	Police Videos			Police Videos		Stings	Stings
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy		Conan		The Office	
TCM	Hot Money		We're in the Money		China Clipper					Ready
TLC	Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Extreme C	Extreme C	Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Cake Boss	Cake Boss
TNT	The Mentalist	The Mentalist	The Mentalist				CSI: NY		CSI: NY	
TOON	Regular	Annoying	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Squid
TRAV	Off Limits	No Reservation	Hotel Impossible				Hotel Impossible		No Reservation	
TV LAND	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	King	King	70s Show	70s Show
USA	NCIS		WWE Monday Night RAW				Common Law		NCIS	
VH1	Love, Hip Hop	Single Ladies	Hollywood Exes				Love, Hip Hop		Single Ladies	
WGN	Funniest Home Videos	Funniest Home Videos	WGN News at Nine				30 Rock	Scrubs	Scrubs	Death
<b>Premium Channels</b>										
HBO	Real Time/Bill Maher	Me at the Zoo			The Hangover Part II					Gervais
MAX	The Debt				Little Fockers				Bikini Time Machine	
SHOW	Weeds	Episodes	The Hunted		Another Happy Day					The Ledge

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