

Weather

Kansas tax talks in hands of leaders

By John Hanna
AP Political Writer

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Republican Gov. Sam Brownback was negotiating directly with the Kansas Legislature's top GOP leaders to end an impasse over additional tax cuts as lawmakers reconvened Wednesday to begin wrapping up business for the year.

Brownback and Republican legislative leaders want to follow up on massive personal income tax cuts enacted last year by further reducing rates. But they also must stabilize the state budget, and the governor has proposed canceling a decrease in the state's sales tax scheduled by law for July.

The governor, Senate President Susan Wagle of Wichita, and House Speaker Ray Merrick of Stilwell confirmed they met Tuesday to discuss tax issues and expect to continue talks. All three said it's too early to predict the outlines of a compromise.

"Your tax plan has to match your budget," Brownback told The Associated Press in a brief interview. "I'm looking at everything."

The Senate has approved Brownback's proposed income tax cuts and his plan to keep the sales tax at 6.3 percent. The House passed legislation to

the sales tax drop to 5.7 percent in July as planned, with less aggressive income tax cuts.

cuts in state funding for higher education, and spokeswoman Sherriene Jones-Sontag said he's not backing away from that budget recommendation.

Merrick and other GOP leaders in the House had said their chamber would insist upon decreasing the sales tax as planned. Before lawmakers began their spring break, the House voted unanimously against the Senate's tax legislation.

Legislators boosted the sales tax in 2010 to help balance the budget, promising most of the increase would be temporary. Many legislators in both parties want to keep the promise.

But on Wednesday, Merrick said, "Anything is possible." Most GOP senators are willing to cancel the sales tax decrease because they believe cutting personal income taxes further will stimulate the state's economy.

The Senate's legislation, like Brownback's proposals, would guarantee additional cuts in personal income tax rates during the next four years. The House plan would drop rates only after overall state revenues grew more than 2 percent.

"We're regularly meeting," Wagle said. "I'm sensing that there is a desire to resolve our differences."

County begins budget talks

From "COUNTY," Page 1

cuts [in the past] because our department heads have been rather reasonable in their requests," said Commissioner Paul Steele.

Accountants at Adams, Brown, Beran and Ball will use those figures to calculate the mill levy required to meet that budget. In August, the commissioners will publish the proposed budget figures in the *Colby Free Press* and will hold public budget hearings to allow residents to comment on the budget and mill rate.

"People can show up to complain but they never do," said Steele.

He said he expects to receive a large increase in tax dollars this year because of recent increases in farmland valuation.

"This commission has been complaining for a long time about the unfairness of farmland valuation," Steele said. Agricultural land values have increased by 23.8 percent in Thomas County this

Retired teacher to get degree

From "DEGREE," Page 1

selor at the college. His daughter Dana is a medical assistant in Scottsdale, Ariz.

The degree will be conferred

during commencement at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 11, at the Community Building. Everyone is invited to a reception following the ceremony in the basement meeting room.

In other business, the commissioners

- Approved accounts payable in the amount of \$26,974.98

- Received updates on the county's health insurance plan from representatives of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Kansas. The commissioners tabled a decision on insurance matters because they are waiting on a proposal from another insurance company.

- Instructed Health Department Director Kasiah Rothschild to create monthly balance sheets to simplify her accounting methods for the commissioners and auditors. Commissioner Steele expressed frustration with the stacks of paperwork she provided in the past. Rothschild said the county's auditors asked her last year to keep paper records to help with these auditing problems but admitted she has not done as they asked.



Briefly

The deadline for Briefly is noon the day before. Items submitted in the morning will be set up for the next edition. The deadline for Monday's paper is noon Friday.

Piano students to give recital

Students of Pat Ziegelmeier will perform in a spring piano recital at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the sanctuary of Colby United Methodist Church. The program will be a variety of solo and duet selections. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge. For information call Ziegelmeier at 460-5518.

Firemen will be flushing, testing hydrants

The Colby Fire Department will be testing hydrants for two or three weeks in May to clean out any debris and make sure they are working. For information, call Ross Carney at 460-4454.

Clinic collecting pet food for animal shelter

Swartz Veterinary Hospital, 1775 W. Fourth St. in Colby, is accepting pet food donations to help the Northwest Kansas Animal Shelter in Goodland mark National Pet Week, through Friday this week. Help them feed a friend. For information, call Doris Helin at 460-1078.

City's spring cleanup runs through Friday

Colby's 2013 Spring Cleanup runs through Friday, offering homeowners a chance to spruce up their yards and have the city remove items that are boxed and bagged, weigh less than 50 pounds and placed at the curb. Call the Public Works office at 460-4410 to schedule a pickup before noon Friday. This is for residential customers only.

Smart Start offering car-seat safety checks

Smart Start Northwest Kansas plans a drop-in car-seat check from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursday. Come see if your child is ready for a bigger seat and check for recalls, out-of-date seats or bad installation from at 460 N. Garfield. Replacement seats are available to those who qualify. If you can't make it, seat-check appointments can be scheduled Monday through Friday by calling Denise Singer at 465-9103.

Farm Credit to have Business After Five

Come congratulate Larry Maxwell on his retirement and Randy Wilson, new president of Farm Credit of Western Kansas, at a Business After Five event from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at 1190 S. Range. For information, call Cathy Hawk at 462-6714.

Signup for Little League Football is Friday

Colby Little League Football will hold an information and registration meeting from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friday in the Commons at Colby High School for kids who will be in third through sixth grades. Bring your child to be sized for a jersey. Anyone new to the league should bring a photocopy of the child's birth certificate and insurance information. If you have questions, are interested in coaching or are not able to attend, call Amy Wildeman at 460-7815.

Event to raise money for cancer victim

A spaghetti benefit for Danielle Wolf, who is fighting cancer, will begin at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Colby American Legion Hall. An auction and dance with deejay Chris Wassmiller will follow. Donations will be taken for dinner; dance tickets are \$10 at the door, or send a donation to S&T Communication, Box 345, Colby, Kan., 67701. For information, call Deanna Mallory at 443-2767.

Gospel singers to give concert

The husband-wife country-gospel singing duo Harlow and Jareen Rudolph, known as Sonrise, will present a concert at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Mingo Bible Church. An offering will be taken for them. For information, call Pastor Tom Peyton at 462-2930.

Learning Center to have graduation

The public is invited to the Thomas County Learning Center's graduation ceremony at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Little Theater of the Community Building. Ward "Scarman" Foley of Norton will be the speaker. For information call Melinda Fikan at 465-7900.

Church offering 'Once a Month Lunch'

The Once a Month Lunch will be served from 11:30 to 12:30 Saturday at the First Presbyterian Church, 515 W. Fourth St. in Colby. This free meal is served the second Saturday of each month. For questions, contact the church office at 462-6342.

National Weather Service
Tonight: Showers and thunderstorms likely, mainly after 10 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 50. Northeast wind 10 to 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 60 percent.

Thursday: A 50 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms, mainly before 1 p.m. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 64. Northeast wind around 15 mph.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 43. North wind 5 to 15 mph.

Friday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 73. North wind around 5 mph.

Friday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 41.

Saturday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 66.

Saturday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 42.

Sunday: Mostly sunny, with a high near 75.

Sunday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around 49.

Monday: Sunny, with a high near 88.

Monday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 53.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near 89.

Monday: High, 74; Low 42
Tuesday: High, 79; Low 50
Precip: Monday None
Tuesday 0.07 inches
Month: 0.21 inches
Year: 2.10 inches
Normal: 7.21 inches
(K-State Experiment Station)
Sunrise and Sunset
Thursday 6:36 a.m. 8:46 p.m.
New moon at 7:30 p.m.
(U.S. Naval Observatory)

LOCAL TV Listings Sponsored by the COLBY FREE PRESS



Thursday Evening May 9, 2013										
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Wipeout		Grey's Anatomy		Scandal		Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live		Nightline
KBSL/CBS	Big Bang	Two Men	Person of Interest		Elementary		Local	Late Show Letterman		Ferguson
KSNK/NBC	Community	Office	The Office		Hannibal		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno		J. Fallon
KSAS/FOX	American Idol		Glee		Local					
Cable Channels										
A & E	The First 48		The First 48		The Killer Speaks		Bates Motel		The First 48	
AMC	Town	Town	Town	Town	Town	Town	Town	Town	Galaxy Quest	
ANIM	Wild Serengeti		North Woods Law		River Monsters		North Woods Law		River Monsters	
BRAVO	Married to Medicine		Married to Medicine		Tabatha Takes Over		Happens	Tabatha Takes Over	Million	
CMT	Mrs. Doubtfire						Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.	Mrs. Doubtfire	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Live		Anderson Cooper 360		E. B. OutFront		Piers Morgan Live	
COMEDY	Futurama	Futurama	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Sunny	Sunny	Daily	Colbert	Tosh.0	Tosh.0
DISC	Buying Al	Buying Al	Buying Al	Buying Al	Buying Al	Buying Al	Buying Al	Buying Al	Buying Al	Buying Al
DISN	Good Luck	Dog	Jessie	Austin	Jessie	Good Luck	Austin	ANT Farm	Wizards	Wizards
EI	The Soup	All Grown	What-Ryan	What-Ryan	Nick Cannon's Big Su		Chelsea	EI News	Chelsea	
ESPN	NBA Basketball						NBA Basketball			
ESPN2	Catching Hell				Baseball Tonight		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
FAM	Princess	Enchanted					The 700 Club		Prince	Prince
FOOD	Chopped		Chopped		Giving You the Busin		Iron Chef America		Chopped	
FX	The Other Guys		Anger	Two Men	Two Men	Biased	BrandX With		Biased	
HGTV	Income Property		Rehab	Rehab	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Rehab	Rehab
HIST	Swamp People		Swamp People		Chasing	Chasing	Slang	Slang	Swamp People	
LIFE	Unfaithful				The Client List		TBA		Unfaithful	
MTV	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	The Show	The Show	Zach	The Show	Zach	The Real World	
NICK	Big Time	Wendell	Full H'se	Full H'se	The Nanny	The Nanny	Friends	Friends	Friends	
SCI	Case 39		S1m0ne				Repo Men			
SPIKE	iMPACT Wrestling				Hunt to Kill		Jail		Jail	
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Big Bang	Big Bang	Men-Work	Big Bang	Conan		Men-Work	Conan
TCM	There's Always Tomorrow		A Summer Place							
TLC	Tattoos	Casino	Tattoos	Tattoos	Tattoos	Tattoos	Tattoos	Tattoos	Tattoos	Tattoos
TNT	Castle		Castle		CSI: NY		CSI: NY		CSI: NY	
TOON	Incredibl	Regular	King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Face	Childrens
TRAV	Mysteries-Museum		Monumental Mysteries		Mysteries-Museum		Mysteries-Museum		Monumental Mysteries	
TV LAND	Golden	Golden	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	The King of Queens			
USA	NCIS		NCIS		NCIS		Psych		CSI: Crime Scene	
VH1	Boyz N the Hood		Love, Hip Hop		Master of the Mix		Boyz N the Hood			
WGN	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	How I Met	News/Nine	Videos	Funniest Home Videos		Rules	Rules
Premium Channels										
HBO	Chernobyl Diaries		Game of Thrones		Veep		Cathouse	Cathouse	VICE	Bridesmds
MAX	Deep Impact		Tower Heist				Gigolos	The Borgias		Gigolos
SHOW	Legendary		Bulletproof Monk				Gigolos	The Borgias		Gigolos

Friday Evening May 10, 2013										
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
KAKE/ABC	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		20/20		Local	Jimmy Kimmel Live		Nightline
KBSL/CBS	Undercover Boss		Vegas		Blue Bloods		Local	Late Show Letterman		Ferguson
KSNK/NBC	Fashion Star		Dateline NBC		Rock Center		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno		J. Fallon
KSAS/FOX	Kitchen Nightmares		Touch		Local					
Cable Channels										
A & E	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage	Storage
AMC	I Am Legend				I Am Legend				Town	Town
ANIM	Swamp'd!	Swamp'd!	Tanked		Tanked		Tanked		Tanked	
BRAVO	Scream 3		Bad Boys II						Bad Boys II	
CMT	Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.	Dog and Beth		Cops Rel.	Cops Rel.	Ron White: They Call	
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Manhunt-bin Laden				Fareed Zakaria GPS		Manhunt-bin Laden	
COMEDY	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Amy Sch.	Work.	Tosh.0	The Comedy	Central Roast		Half Hour	Half Hour
DISC	Sons of Guns: Locked		Sons of Guns		Wild West Alaska		Sons of Guns		Wild West Alaska	
DISN	The Incredibles		Dog		Good Luck	Austin	ANT Farm	Jessie	Shake It	
EI	What-Ryan	What-Ryan	Fashion Police		Fashion Police		Chelsea	EI News	Chelsea	
ESPN	NBA Basketball						NBA Basketball			
ESPN2	NASCAR Racing				Boxing				SportsCenter	
FAM	Enchanted	Twilight					The 700 Club		Prince	Prince
FOOD	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Mystery D	Mystery D	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
FX	Soul Surfer				Easy A				Justified	
HGTV	Garage	Garage	Flea Mark	Flea Mark	Hunters	Hunt Intl	Hunt Intl	Hunt Intl	Flea Mark	Flea Mark
American Profile We Celebrate Hometown Life Stories from hometowns just like yours. Look for us each week in this paper.										
HIST	American Pickers		American Pickers		American Pickers		American Pickers		American Pickers	
LIFE	Hoarders		Hoarders		Hoarders		Hoarders		Hoarders	
MTV	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Jackass: The Movie		Jackass 3.5		Jackass 3.5	
NICK	Over the Hedge		Full H'se	Full H'se	The Nanny	The Nanny	Friends	Friends	Friends	Friends
SCI	WWE SmackDown!				Merlin		Defiance		Merlin	
SPIKE	Walking Tall				The Punisher				Rescue	
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Rush Hour 3				Are We Th	Are We Th	Are We Th	Are We Th
TCM	The Great Moment				The Horn Blows at Midnight		Under Capricorn			
TLC	Four Weddings: Unvei		Say Yes	Say Yes	Gown		Say Yes	Say Yes	Gown	Gown
TNT	Gran Torino						The Sum of All Fears			
TOON	Cartoon Planet		King/Hill	King/Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen
TRAV	Ghost Adventures		Ghost Adventures		The Dead Files		The Dead Files		Ghost Adventures	
TV LAND	Golden	Golden	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	The King of Queens	
USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		The Moment		CSI: Crime Scene	
VH1	Hot Shots! Part Deux				Best Week Jenny		Model Employee		Best Week Jenny	
WGN	MLB Baseball				WGN News at Nine		Funniest Home Videos		Rules	Rules
Premium Channels										
HBO	Hall Pass				Real Time/Bill Maher		VICE	Real Time/Bill Maher	VICE	
MAX	Savages		American Reunion				Jump Off		Dirty Blondes From Beyond	
SHOW	The School of Rock				Saget-What		Boxing			