

Resignation accepted

RESIGNATION, from Page 1

lot going on with the county between now and the end of the year and he wanted Tiede to get involved now. County Clerk Janet Rumpel said she will have to send the letter of resignation to the state, and then the Sherman County Democratic party will have to vote to appoint Tiede for the next two months. Donna Hurd is the only member of the party committee from Tiede's district, which might create a problem, said Rumpel. She said she would have

to check with the state to see if one person can make the decision. Tiede said he didn't want to comment on Davis' resignation but said it shouldn't create any problems for him to start earlier than anticipated. "It will be at least two weeks before I could start," he said, "but I will be attending the commissioners' meetings in the mean time." The party has to wait 10 days before they can nominate him to the position and then the governor will have to appoint him, officials said.

Incumbent ousted

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be counted, and being awakened at 5:45 a.m. with the first congratulatory phone calls, the 50-year-old Tiede said he was happy with the outcome, but glad the campaigning was over. "I was a little concerned when the first votes came in," said Tiede, adding that the election went about like he expected. Tiede said he will be the new body in the operation for awhile, and it may take some time to figure out how things work. "I am looking forward to working with the other two commissioners," he said. He said he plans to try to make some changes in the county, and hopes to get things going a little bit better for Sherman County. Tiede, who owns Mitch Tiede Terracing, started his campaigning in September, he said, after several people approached him about running. He and his wife Patty have a son, Patrick, 24, and a daughter, Erica, 19. He said while the election went as he expected it to go, he was never really

sure, being a write-in candidate, if he would be able to win. Tiede said he thought the people voted for him because he was a lifelong resident. "I think they voted for me because they are aware of what I am and what I do," he said. Davis said he had called Tiede to congratulate him on his win this morning and to tell him that he would be resigning. "I really want to thank all the people who voted for me," said Davis. "Their votes really meant a lot." The other write-in campaign didn't go as well for candidate Swayne. "I wasn't very surprised," she said, "but I was a little disappointed." Elections are exciting, she said, and it was a lot of fun running: "I was tickled I got the votes that I did." Armstrong said she was pleased. "I want to wish Lynn well," she said, "and I want to thank everyone who came out to vote." Armstrong, who has held the office since June 1994, said things will be business as usual now.

Vote doesn't have final say

SEEDING, from Page 1

substance which could cause environmental damage. "I farm with my family," said Sherry Barrett, one of the leading opponents of the program. "I believe it has affected the weather in my area." The program covers 16,000 square miles, or 10.2 million acres of western Kansas. Officials with the Northwest Kansas Groundwater Management District in Colby — the agency which manages the program in northwest Kansas —

declined to comment on the Thomas County election at the request of its board. "This vote is a nonbinding ballot — it really doesn't decide a lot," said Wayne Bossert, manager for the district. The program covers Sherman, Thomas, Sheridan, Wallace, Greeley, Wichita, Scott, Lane, Hamilton, Kearny, Finney, Stanton, Grant, Haskell, Gray, Ford, and portions of Graham, Logan and Gove counties. It also includes portions of Cheyenne County, Colo.



Metal boxes containing uncounted ballots lined a wall in the commissioners' room Tuesday night. Election workers were done counting around 1 a.m. Photo by Rachel Miscal/The Goodland Daily News

Except for one upset, incumbents keep seats

Except for one upset in Sherman County — where write-in candidate Mitch Tiede took the District 2 commission seat from incumbent Kenny Davis — incumbents held their own in Tuesday's general election. By 1:10 a.m., all the Sherman County ballots had been counted and it was clear there will be the same faces in most courthouse offices next year. Carol Armstrong, register of deeds, held onto her office, beating out write-in candidate Lynn Swayne, a matron at the Sherman County Bastille. It was a landslide, with Armstrong winning 2,202 votes to Swayne's 244. Sheriff Doug Whitson kept his office, earning 63 percent of votes in Sherman County to defeat Undersheriff Arthur "Dee" Albers. Whitson and Albers were at a law enforcement school in Salina on Tuesday and were expected to return together today. Other courthouse offices up for reelection this year were not contested,

and County Clerk Janet Rumpel and County Attorney Bonnie Selby, who was appointed last year, easily stayed in office. Kevin Rasure — appointed this summer to take the late Gary Townsend's seat — was elected without opposition. Rep. Jim Morrison of Colby, who represents the 121st District, will keep his seat after beating Goodland's Harlan House in the primaries and running unopposed in the general election. Both 15th District Judges kept their positions, with Glenn Schiffner, Division 1 judge, getting 2,051 votes in Sherman County and Jack Burr, Division 2 judge, earning 2,305 votes here. Rep. Jerry Moran of Hays, who represents the 1st District in the U.S. House of Representatives, will remain in office after beating out Dodge City Libertarian Jack Warner. Moran had 2,287 votes in Sherman County and Warner had 238.

Senator keeps seat for one more term

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statewide groups. He said he won that race by pounding the pavement. "That was the key in the primary," said the senator, who defeated Tribune farmer Steve Mangan 2-1, "we went door to door. People want to meet you and make an impression. You have to meet them, listen to them and show that you care." Spending time caring for her mother, who turns 99 today, and paying for her campaign with her own money, Flora admitted she didn't get out as much as she should have and was planning for the legislative session, which begins in January. "I'm looking forward to it," said Clark, adding that he'll continue work-

ing on problems his rural district faces, including declining population, declining enrollment in schools and a depressed farm economy. Clark said the Kansas Livestock Association — which supported Mangan, a past association president — targeted him and Sen. Tim Huelscamp, a Republican in the 38th District, because they are members of a coalition that pushed initiatives to help small family farmers. Huelscamp defeated Democrat Steve Irsik — who was backed by the livestock association — in Tuesday's election, winning 67 percent of the votes. Clark said the fact that he and Huelscamp had big wins shows a majority of voters in their district support what their doing in the Legislature. "It looks like two-thirds of citizens in our districts say we're on the right side," he said. Flora said she'll continue doing what she's always done — writing and phoning people in Congress and state legislators to talk about the issues that she thinks are important. And she said she'll move on. "I've already taken another job," said Flora, who said she'll help start a historical society in Quinter to help bring a museum to the city. "I do appreciate all the votes I got."

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