

# Commissioners accept van

By Tom Betz

*The Goodland Daily News*  
Sherman County Commissioners agreed Tuesday to accept a van from the state to be used in the Women, Infant and Children program, but tabled issues dealing with appointing member of the Convention and Visitors Bureau board and an agreement with the city to repair a rough stretch of old U.S. 24.

Dorendo Harrel, county health administrator, ask commissioners to accept a 1996 Ford van being offered by the state to be used in the Women, Infant and Children program. The van is to be given to Sherman County, which will be responsible for licensing and insurance.

Harrel said the van would become county property, and would be used to travel to the clinic sites for the Women, Infant and Children program in the seven counties in northwest Kansas which are handled by the Sherman County Health Department.

The commissioners unanimously agreed to accept the van.

Recommendations for appointment to the Sherman County Convention and Visitors Bureau board were tabled because there were not enough motel people being appointed as required in the bylaws.

The recommendation included only five motel representatives while the bylaws require six to be from motels.

The commissioners also decided to withhold money from the county "bed tax" on motel rooms until the proper board can be appointed. The board spends the money to promote tourism here.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby told the commissioners she had received a call from City Manager Ron Pickman asking that the agreement between the city and county cover the maintenance of all roads currently shared by the city and county.

The original agreement was drafted by Selby to allow the county to repair the city's portions of old U.S. 24. She said Pickman reported the city commission had some questions and concerns, and they want to see a solid agreement which addresses the whole issue.

Other than the sections of old U.S.

24, the city and county share ownership of a portion of west Eighth Street and Armory Road.

The commissioners suggested a joint meeting be held with Selby, Curt Way and Commissioner Mitch Tiede representing the county and city officials including at least one city commissioner to work out details of an agreement which could be presented to both commissions as soon as possible.

The joint meeting is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 29, at the city building with Pickman, Ed Wolak and City Commissioner Tom Rohr.

Commissioners reviewed the annual salary resolution, but delayed approval to give them time to study and see if any of the salary ranges need to be changed. The item will be on the agenda for Wednesday, Jan. 31.

Crystal Linsner, county payroll clerk, presented information about the direct deposit program, and said a survey of employees showed a majority, 50 of 81, would like to participate.

The commissioners approved implementing the direct deposit program, and agreed that those who agree to participate must stay with it at least one year.

They also decided that there would be an open enrollment each year to allow employees to opt in or out.

Selby told the commissioners the contract with Grasser Construction for excavation of the new landfill has been signed.

Dan Grasser had sent a letter to the commissioners asking to have the bonding requirement waived, but Selby told the commissioners the bond is a requirement of state law and that she had told Grasser.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Approved the annual contract with the state for spraying weeds in the highway ditches.

- Reappointed Christine Schiefen, Max Alderman and Rev. Loren Strait to the Sherman County Good Samaritan Center board for two year terms, and to reappoint Vernyce Leslie, Jackie Jorgenson and Kathryn Wedermeyer to serve three year terms.

- Agreed to have Frankenfeld represent the county on the Local Emergency Planning Committee. They also approved a list of committee members to be submitted to the state.

They are: extension agent Dana Belshe, communications director Mary Messamore, Police Chief Ray Smee, Sheriff Doug Whitson, Kt, Kevin Winston of the Kansas Highway Patrol, LeAnn Taylor, ambulance director Karen Hooker, Dorendo Harrel, Roxie Yonkey, Butch Vandiver, city Public Works Director Ed Wolak, rural Fire Chief Kenny Griffith, city Fire Chief Dean Jensen, Kevin Lynott and Scott Mentzer of the National Weather Service, Mark Reasoner, Mary Ann Elliott, Karl Charron and Commissioner Frankenfeld.

- Discussed the county's farm leases. The commissioners decided they want to look at changing to a cash basis lease rather than a crop share basis as it now exists. They tabled the issue until information can be gathered about cash basis rental.

- Discussed the parking area between the courthouse and the Bastille. Sheriff Whitson, Attorney Selby and William McKnight, building manager, met with the commissioners about the parking.

Whitson said he would be willing to move some of the sheriff's vehicles into the south lot to open up more parking on the west side of the Bastille, between the jail and the courthouse.

Selby said there was also a problem with how people park in the area. She suggested that if all cars parked straight rather than angled there would also be more parking available.

However, McKnight said he thought the angle parking was safer. He also suggested the alley be made a one-way going north toward Eighth Street.

The commissioners decided they want to look at the options to see which way would be the best.

The next regular commission meeting will be 8 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County Courthouse on Broadway Avenue between Eighth and Ninth Street.

## Snoball royalty



Seven young men and women who are seniors at Goodland High School were nominated for Snoball king and queen. Students will pick the winners, who will be crowned at the basketball game on Friday, Jan. 26. The nominees include (front, from left) Kendra Brack, Holly Stephens, Cristina Bertelli, Stuart Campbell and Christina Lalicker, (second row) Evann Hardy, Laurie Scott, Erinn Hardy and Danny Rasure, (back row) Lee McCoy, Jason Showalter, Michael Pickett and Brad Larson. Blake Helderman was not present for the picture.

Photo by Rachel Miscall/The Goodland Daily News

## Car stolen from lot

A car, cellular phone and mobile phone were stolen from Herl Chevrolet-Buick late Tuesday night or early Wednesday morning after thieves broke into the dealership through a window.

Police Chief Ray Smee said a 1997 Eagle Talon worth about \$18,000 was stolen off the lot at 1516 Main, and a

\$500 window was broken. He said the thieves took the keys to the car and the phones from inside the dealership.

The chief said the investigation will be limited unless the car, which was purple, is found. He said the department finds many cars in Goodland that were stolen from dealerships in Denver or Colorado Springs.

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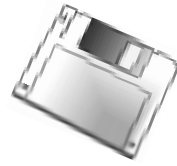


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