

Economic group selects board, name

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Daily News
 Sherman County's new economic development group chose board members and a name Thursday, deciding to call itself the Sherman County Economic Development Council.

Meeting at Wheat Ridge Acres, 20 members of the steering committee discussed the best manner to select the seven board members, with options from using a nominating committee to holding nominations and voting during a public meeting.

"I think the best would be to select the first board from those who are here," said Curtis Hurd, a city commissioner. "I think we need to get this process moving forward, and selecting the board will help."

Several people wanted to do a combination of the nominating committee and holding nominations at a public meeting. Dave Daniels, temporary chairman, asked Sherman County Commissioner Kevin Rasure what he felt the county would like to see, as the commissioners will be doing the actual appointment. Rasure said for himself he would rather see the steering committee submit the names of the recommended board members along with a plan of organization.

After a vote, the steering committee decided to elect the board, and to submit the seven names with the plan. Following the nominations, a secret ballot was held which resulted in the election of Daniels, Kim Bohme, Royal Reid, Harlan Dale House, John Garcia, Patty Eckhardt and Larry Harper as board candidates.

The board members agreed to meet at 7 p.m. tonight at Wheat Ridge to proceed with planning. The consensus was to get the minimum organization estab-

lished and to begin looking at the goals and fund raising.

Harper suggested one of the important things was to determine a name for the group.

"How do we gather community support if we don't even have a name?" he asked.

Since the organization is to operate under the county, it was easy to come up with Sherman County Economic Development as the base of the name. There was discussion about whether to use committee, commission or council, but after a vote council won out.

The group decided that the steering committee should continue in an advisory capacity, assisting the board where needed. Several committees were appointed including advertising and public relations, a finance committee to include representatives from all of the banks, and a bylaws committee to investigate the status of the existing Goodland Economic Development Corp. and what has to be done to get the board established legally.

Members of the bylaw committee and the board met Friday with Mark Bauer, the county auditor from Larned, to determine what was needed. He suggested it might be easier if the group could coordinate in some manner with the existing non-profit corporation, but if not, to look at establishing one to make the council a separate legal entity. He also discussed the resolution process to create the council through the commissioners.

When the board meets tonight, they will select officers and discuss the operation planning to be presented to the county commission later in June.

A public meeting is being planned for 7 p.m. Thursday, June 20, to give all a chance to hear recommendations from the steering committee.

One big fish



Blaine Sapp, Goodland, and his great grandfather Milton Walter, Kanorado, caught this eight-pound catfish Sunday morning while fishing from the bridge at Smoky Gardens. Sapp hooked the big fish, and Walter helped to reel it in. The family enjoyed a meal of catfish steaks Sunday evening.

Photo by Eric Yonkey/The Goodland Daily News

College student slashed in parking lot

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"Summer was scared, and she didn't know all the details," Baumfalk said. "She told me Joe has been stabbed. I called the hospital, and I found out he had been slashed."

"He was very lucky. That cut was meant to kill. There was no reason for it. He was just an animal."

Smith, a 2000 graduate of Goodland High School, attends Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Prescott. His first year was on a wrestling scholarship, Baumfalk said, and he now takes part in student government and other activities.

Smith plans to become a commercial pilot, and the Coast Guard should help him do that. He is enrolling in an officer training program which will help put him through college, and hopes to go through the Coast Guard's flight train-

ing program.

The attack will delay the start of his training until June 24, Baumfalk said.

"He has gone through a lot to get into this program and become a pilot," Baumfalk said. "In one moment, all of that was almost lost. All of his hard work would have been for nothing."

Smith got out of the hospital Thursday, and Baumfalk says he is doing fine, although he is in some pain.

When he was on the ground in the parking lot, Smith said, he thought he was going to die.

"Seconds become eternities," he said. "I was thinking 'Do I say 'bye to everybody?'"

Once he got to the hospital, he said he knew he would live.

"It's hard for me to fathom," Smith said. "It really opens your eyes. You don't imagine getting your throat cut, but I guess everything happens for a reason."

Hospital board agenda

The board of the Goodland Regional Medical Center will meet at 6:30 p.m. tonight to talk about:

- Medical staff credentials for Gerald Poticha and Carl Fieser.
- Coroner's cases.

- Aircraft liability coverage.
- Emergency medical services training assistance.
- A hospital bioterrorism plan.
- Kansas nursing scholarship program applications.

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Preliminary hearing scheduled in liquor store robbery

A preliminary hearing will be held Tuesday for a Sharon Springs man who was shot while allegedly trying to rob a Goodland liquor store.

Del Ray Dreiling, 20, is accused of trying to rob Kamper Retail Liquor on New Year's Eve. Police reports said

that Dreiling went into the store at 426 W. Business U.S. 24 with a loaded .22 caliber pistol and pantyhose over his head.

He allegedly demanded money from cashier Marvin Thomas of Kanorado. Jack Kamper, owner of the store, came

out of his office and shot Dreiling once in the chest with a handgun. Kamper was later cleared of any wrongdoing by County Attorney Bonnie Selby.

Dreiling was taken by ambulance to Goodland Regional Medical Center, and was then flown to a Denver hospi-

tal, where the bullet was removed.

The hearing will be at 1:30 p.m. at the Sherman County courthouse, where District Judge Jack Burr will decide if there is enough evidence to try the case.

Dreiling will be represented by court-appointed attorney R. Dean Dinkle of Sharon Springs. He made his first court appearance Tuesday, April 2, where he heard the charges against him and was released on his own recognizance.

Congress begins hearings on intelligence

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress sets out this week to learn why, despite disturbing reports at home and abroad, the FBI and CIA didn't do more to anticipate and prevent the Sept. 11 attacks.

"Our main goal is to protect the American people," said Rep. Nancy Pelosi of California, top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee. "In order to do that, we must find out what got us to where we are now."

The House and Senate intelligence panels meet jointly behind closed doors Tuesday to begin an analysis of intelligence agencies' preparedness for Sept. 11 and future terrorist threats.

On Thursday, the Senate Judiciary Committee is expected to hear in public session from Coleen Rowley, the Minneapolis FBI agent who has charged that bureau headquarters mis-handled the investigation of an alleged terrorist now linked to the attacks.

The FBI has come under sharp criticism for not seeing a link between the Minneapolis case and the warnings of a Phoenix field agent that Middle Eastern men were training at American flight schools.

Newsweek magazine reported that the CIA tracked two of the Sept. 11 hijackers when they attended an al-Qaida meeting in Malaysia in January 2000 and afterward, but didn't inform the FBI or the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The immigration service could have denied them entry into the United States or the FBI could have monitored them while they were in the United States.

The CIA declined comment, but a U.S. intelligence official familiar with the investigation told The Associated Press that the significance of the meeting increased after it became clear the two — Nawaf Alhazmi and Khalid Almhidhar — were associated with an alleged mastermind of the October 2000 bombing of the USS Cole in Yemen.

Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, declined to confirm the Newsweek report. In an interview today on ABC's "Good Morning America," he complained of a pattern of CIA failures. "I know the director over there is in denial. But I believe he is totally wrong," Shelby said.

"Some hard questions have to be answered," Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., a member of the Senate Intelligence and Judiciary committees, said on CNN's "Late Edition." She said the hearings would probably reveal other missed chances to foresee the attacks.

"I expect there are numbers of bits and pieces that weren't put together."

FBI Director Robert Mueller and Attorney General John Ashcroft, appearing separately on several Sunday news programs, agreed the agencies need to improve how they gather and share information. But they added that better coordination still probably wouldn't have stopped the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"There is a torrent of information that comes in" from the FBI's 56 U.S. and 44 overseas offices, Mueller said on NBC's "Meet the Press." The bureau's inspector general is looking into the Minneapolis and Phoenix cases, he said, but "there was nothing specific in either of those instances that had a direct relationship to Sept. 11."

Last week, Mueller announced major FBI changes intended to better collect and analyze information about terrorist threats and place more emphasis on prevention.

The Bush administration also decided last week to issue new surveillance guidelines that allow the FBI to monitor Internet sites, libraries, churches and other places open to the public to help prevent domestic terrorism.

Critics of the expanded powers say they will infringe on civil liberties. "We've got a wartime situation," Ashcroft said on CNN, stressing that the guidelines would apply only to anti-terrorism activities.

"We need to make sure that we're doing everything possible to prevent the next attack."

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