

weather report

61°
at noon



Today

• Sunset, 6:11 p.m.

Tomorrow

• Sunrise, 6:57 a.m.

• Sunset, 6:10 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 53 degrees
- Humidity 33 percent
- Sky mostly sunny
- Winds north 18-26 m.p.h.
- Barometer 29.94 inches and rising

- Record High 92° (1968)
- Record Low 26° (1952)

Last 24 Hours*

High 82°
Low 33°
Precipitation none

N.W. Kansas Forecast

Today: partly cloudy, high mid 60s, low mid 30s, winds west 10 m.p.h. Wednesday: partly cloudy, high upper 60s, low mid 30s, winds west 5-15 m.p.h. changing to the north 10-15 m.p.h. in the afternoon.

Extended Forecast

Thursday: partly cloudy, high mid 60s, lows around 40. Friday: partly cloudy, breezy, high upper 60s, low upper 30s. Saturday: partly cloudy, low upper 30s.
(National Weather Service)
Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz.
* Readings taken at 7 a.m.

City OKs contract *Raises salary \$1,200 a year*

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

A new two-year contract for City Manager Ron Pickman was approved by a 4-0 vote of the city commission Monday, along with a \$100-a-month raise beginning in January, but only after seven closed-door sessions.

It took the commissioners seven closed-door session and nearly two hours to reach the agreement. City Commissioner Chuck Lutters left the meeting during the fourth closed session, so he was not present to vote on the contract.

"We agree you are doing a great job," Mayor Rick Billinger told the manager after the fifth session. "We are going to offer you a two-year contract with a two-year renewable extension. We have all agreed on the details, but the compensation is the holdup."

The commission went into their sixth session for five minutes, and then asked Pickman to be part of an seventh closed session.

After the seventh session, Billinger made a motion to approve the contract with a \$100-per-month raise beginning in January, a total of \$72,723 annually.

Commissioner John Garcia seconded the motion to approve the contract and it passed on a 4-0 vote.

Lutters later said he felt the discussions were not moving along. He said he felt the basic decision to keep Pickman as city manager had been made in an earlier session, and did not see any reason to stay.

The commission went into the first closed session at 6:48 p.m. for 10 minutes. Lutters made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Dave Daniels.

The second session was held for 15 minutes beginning at 7:04. Lutters made the motion and Daniels

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Twisted steel being removed

Two city workers (above) cut a heat-damaged I-beam in the roof of the old IGA building Friday morning so they could take it out. Work is progressing quickly to get the building ready for Aircraft Seal and Gasket Corp., which is moving from California. With the roof off, damage to some of the support beams was visible. Some will be replaced and others reinforced, city officials said. The firm hopes to begin manufacturing operations next month.

Photo by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News



County considers remodeling options, price

By Tom Betz

The Goodland Star-News

The Sherman County commissioners agree that remodeling the county-owned Southwestern Bell building at Main and 10th would be a good thing for the city, but they have to decide how much can they spend and what needs to be done.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure reported at the meeting Tuesday that he had walked through the building with several people and that the building is structurally sound.

He said it would be pretty pricey

to add an elevator, but that there is room on the back side in the future.

The main thing is removing the asbestos, which is downstairs, he said. This can either be removed or encapsulated, but he has no estimate on cost. It was suggested that at the next meeting the commissioners look at the two proposals the county received earlier this year from companies to examine the asbestos problem.

Rasure said the heating and air conditioning equipment needs to be replaced, but that the electrical was

not in bad shape.

One thing the building needs is to have the outside brick walls repaired, he said, and something needs to be done about the chimney.

"This is something that is in need on many buildings, including our courthouse," Rasure said.

No matter what they plan to do at the Bell building, the commissioners agreed they have to find a place to store all the records that are in the basement of the building now.

Someone suggested that a building could be built at the fairgrounds.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede said the county could build a metal building with some insulation and a minimum of lighting to handle storage.

Rasure said the money could come from the capital reserve fund, which has about \$175,000 in it. He asked the other two commissioners to think about a dollar amount they would spend on the Southwest Bell building as part of this project. Commissioner Chuck Thomas asked what the offices in the telephone building would be used for.

Rasure said he hoped that in the

long run, the offices of the Economic Development Council, the Convention and Visitors Bureau and the Goodland Area Chamber of Commerce might be housed there, and the upstairs used as a community meeting room.

"There are a number of things we could do," he said. "We could rent the spaces to other businesses or even consider selling the building in the future. It would be a great boost to Main to have the building occu

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local markets

Noon

Wheat — \$3.07 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.97
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Corn — \$2.07 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.99
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Milo — \$1.80 bushel
Soybeans — \$6.43 bushel
Posted county price — \$6.12
Loan deficiency pmt. — 0¢
Millet — \$5.50 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$10.35 cwt.
NuSun — \$10.90 cwt.
Confection — \$17/\$10 cwt.
Pinto beans — Withdrawn
(Markets by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and 21st Century Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

inside today

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Oktoberfest in Kanorado

Bob Hellman, former band instructor, won in the walking entries at Kanorado's Oktoberfest for his portrayal of Uncle Sam. See photos, story on Page 3.