

Liner may solve sewer problem on east side

By Tom Betz
ntbetz@nwkans.com

City Manger Wayne Hill presented a proposal from a Nebraska contractor Monday to fix a sewer problem on the east side of town he said has cost the city some \$30,000 in sewer-backup claims.

Hill told city commissioners Public Works Director Rich Simon had talked to the company about fixing the problem while they are in town working on the 17th Street project.

Brad Wegner, vice president of Johnson

Service Company of Kearney, Neb., said the main problem is roots coming through the pipe joints and sewer services in a main in the alley between Eustis and Washington from Sixth to Eighth Street.

Wegner said he studied the site and reviewed video inspections from the city, and gave three options to fix the problem, lining the existing pipe, replacing it or just killing the roots. He recommended the liner.

"Some cracks in the clay pipe will become a major problem in the future,"

Wegner said. "Using a cured-in-place liner to restore the existing pipe's structure would solve this problem."

He said the most extreme solution would be to dig up and replace the sewer line with plastic pipe, but this would cost about \$75,000.

The cheapest would be to apply a foam root control herbicide, which would kill the roots and prevent re-growth for five years. The estimated cost was \$2,200. Wegner said his company would guarantee no re-growth of roots for three years, but this

would not fix the pipe.

Wegner recommended a three-step process at a cost of about \$24,560. Kill the roots, insert a sewer lining system and then heat-cure the liner. The resin/felt liner is slipped through the existing sewer, inflated using air pressure and then steam cured to fix its shape to the pipe, he said.

Wegner said the liner prevents roots from getting in, and restores the integrity of the existing sewer main. He said the liner has a five-year structural guarantee and a 50-year design life.

City Clerk Mary Volk said the city has paid out insurance claims in this area of over \$30,000.

Hill recommended the liner plan, and said he and Simon were working on a plan to clean out the city's lines on a rotation.

"If we implement a cleaning plan, it will help the system and reduce our insurance claims," Hill said.

Daniels made a motion to approve the repair, saying it would save the city money in the long run.

Logan County trial set in August

By Jan Katz Ackerman

ackermanjk@ruraltel.net

A battle between Logan County officials and landowners over control of prairie dogs appears to be headed for trial.

Commissioners Doug Mackley, Carl Uhrich and Nick Scott in January filed a suit in Logan County District Court to force the landowners to comply with a state law which gives commissioners authority to poison prairie dogs.

Documents filed Wednesday in Oakley say both sides have agreed to take their battle before Senior Judge Jack Lively of Coffeyville. A two-day trial, without a jury, has been set for Aug. 21-22.

Landowners Larry and Elizabeth Haverfield of Russell Springs; Robert G. Barnhardt, Jr. of Bucklin; Donald and Lillian Becker of Winona; Dixie Surratt of Panhandle, Texas; and Maxine Blank of Willard, Utah, claim state law protects them from lawsuits such as the one filed by the commissioners.

In August, the commissioners told all Logan County landowners starting Oct. 1, any landowner having a formal complaint filed against them about out-of-control prairie dogs would have 15 days to comply with state law requiring the animals be controlled.

As of December, the county claims, 47 residents had complained about one or more of the defendants. County Attorney Andrea Wyrick filed a lawsuit on behalf of the commissioners to enforce compliance. In January, the commissioners asked Lively, the judge appointed to the case by Kansas Supreme Court Chief Justice Kay McFarland, to force the landowners to control prairie dogs.

Uhrich said about 18,000 acres of Logan County is infested with prairie dogs. Mike Mitchner of the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Department at Pratt says Kansas has about 130,000 acres of land with prairie dogs overall.

Wichita attorney Randall Rathbun, representing the landowners, claims state law protects them from what they are calling a "nuisance" lawsuit. In February, Rathbun said law protects and encourages development and improvement of farmland.

The Haverfields, Barnhardt and the Beckers also claim prairie dogs are an "at-risk species" and have been named as a candidate for the federal list of endangered and threatened wildlife and plants three times since 2000.

Landowner settles case out of court

By Jan Katz Ackerman

ackermanjk@ruraltel.net

One of seven defendants in a lawsuit over prairie dog infestation in Logan County has been dismissed from the case.

Court documents filed Monday in Logan County District Court show that Dixie Surratt of Panhandle, Texas, has settled out of court with Logan County commissioners.

The commissioners in January filed a suit to force compliance with state law which gives county commissioners authority to kill prairie dogs.

Surratt, according to paperwork filed by her attorney, Allan Hurlburt of Sharon Springs, admits prairie dogs on her land are a nuisance to her and to the general public.

She has agreed to take "affirmative steps to treat and attempt to eradicate the prairie dogs" on her property before June 1.

Surratt has also agreed that Logan County officials can inspect her land and verify measures she has taken. Should her work not be satisfactory to the officials, Surratt has agreed the county can enter her property and eradicate the prairie dogs at her expense.

Surratt was dismissed from the lawsuit, which goes to trial Aug. 21-22.

A journal entry signed by Logan County Attorney Andrea Wyrick and co-counsel Donald Hoffman of Hays, along with Hurlburt, was approved and signed by Judge Jack Lively, who was appointed to the case by the state Supreme Court.

The Haverfields and Barnhardt, he said, have an agreement with the U.S. Department of Interior to allow reintroduction of the endangered black-footed ferret onto their property as a way to control prairie dogs. They claim the county trying to force them to eradicate prairie dogs is a "deprivation of a valuable property right."

Wilmer W. Bahe Revocable Trust, to Wilmer W. Bahe, an undivided 1/2 interest Lot 7, Block 6, Rosewood Addition to the City of Goodland.

Pet the pretty bird



Terri Richardson of Enchanted White Doves let Kalee Willems, daughter of Shelly and Kent Willems, touch one of the doves she had on display in cages at the Home and Garden Show. Richardson's doves can be released at parties, weddings and

funerals and return to her. The show gave businesses a chance to show off their products on Saturday and Sunday at Max Jones Fieldhouse.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

corrections

The Goodland Star-News will correct any mistake or misunderstanding in a news story. Please call our office at (785) 899-2338 to report errors. We believe that news should be fair and factual. We want to keep an accurate record and appreciate you calling to our attention any failure to live up to this standard.

matters of record

Divorces Granted

The following divorces have been granted by the Sherman County District Court:

Avion L. Webster of Sherman County and Barbara A. Webster of El Paso, Texas.

Lonnie J. Guyton of Geary County and Kimberly A. Guyton of Sherman County.

Joseph A. Schaffer of Sherman County and Margaret M. Schaffer

of Logan County.

James O. Burke, IV of Page County, Va., and Melissa A. Burke of Sherman County.

Dax A. Webring and Stacie L. Webring, both of Sherman County.

Eugene Fuller and Linda J. Fuller, both of Sherman County.

Kevin D. Best of Laramie County, Wyo., and Jean A. Best of Sherman County.

matters of record

District Traffic

The following fines were paid in the Sherman County District Court:

April 3 — Jonathan L. Gray, \$246 for speeding.

April 4 — Kristopher T. Wise, \$132 for speeding.

April 7 — Coleen M. Brotherton, \$114 for speeding.

Lisa L. Millspaugh, \$126 for speeding.

April 8 — Franck A. Belibi, \$126 for speeding.

Christian S. Webb, \$126 for improper parking.

Real Estate

The following real estate transactions were reported by the Sherman County Register of Deeds:

Vickie J. Crotinger and Roger W. Crotinger quit claim to Roger W. Crotinger and Vickie J. Crotinger, Lots 17, 18 and 19, Block 76, Original Town of Goodland.

Peggy L. Bahe and Wilmer W. Bahe to Peggy L. Bahe Revocable Trust, an undivided 1/2 interest in Lot 7, Block 6, Rosewood Addition to the City of Goodland.

Wilmer W. Bahe, trustee of

Colby Community College Goodland Outreach

Summer 2007

Goodland Enrollment:

Thursday, May 3rd, 1:00 - 4:30 p.m. MT; Northwest Kansas Technical College Murray Center
Thursday, May 3rd, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. MT, at the Goodland High School Cafeteria

All courses are listed in Mountain Time

Course Number	Course Name	Instructor	CR	Tuition + Fees	Place	Time	Start Date
THURSDAY							
IH 177	American History 1865 to Present (\$40 Telecourse Fee)	R. Walz	3	\$265	Murray Center	6:00-9:00 pm	5/24
MONDAY - WEDNESDAY							
SP 176	Public Speaking — ITV (\$15 ITV Fee)	S. Calliham	3	\$240	Murray Center	5:00-8:00 pm	5/29 - 7/19

Tuition indicated is for Kansas residents only. Refer to tuition note below for non-resident rates.

Colby Community College does reserve the right to cancel any class for which enrollment is insufficient.

Tuition is \$75.00 per credit hour for Kansas residents; \$114.00 per credit hour for non-residents; \$85.00 per credit hour for special non-residents. Some classes have additional fees. Special non-residents are any residents of Colorado and Nebraska.

ITV classes require pre-registration and have an additional \$5.00 per credit hour fee. Contact Sharon Hall

For additional information contact: Sharon Hall (785) 899-5930

www.colbycc.edu

student of the week



Name: Nicollete Clancy

Parents: Casey &

Connie Russell

Grade: Senior

Age: 18

We've nominated this student because: she is a reliable, dependable and a well organized student that comes to class with her assignments completed. She is active in the community and school projects and will succeed in her chosen career.

Student Comment: I love coming to school and seeing

my friends. My favorite subject is English. After graduation, I will always remember all the fun and great times with the girls.

Activities involved in at school: Volleyball, Basketball, STUCO, FCCLA and GAA

My choice of movies, books, and games: I love scary and funny movies. My favorite movie is Pearl Harbor.

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to: go to the University of Nebraska at Kearney, then transfer to Kansas University and either become a nurse or a 5th grade teacher.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be: married to the man I love, have a family and loving my job.

Favorite Quote: "Life is either living a daring adventure or nothing."

— Helen Keller

WEIS OIL Co.

PO Box 423, Goodland, Kan
785-890-3286