

Sugar Hills golfers ask about Road 16 design plans

By Tom Betz

ntbetz@nwkans.com
Two members of the Sugar Hills Golf Club board met with the Sherman County commissioners to ask about the plans for paving the road that runs in front of the golf course.

At a meeting last Tuesday, Alan Townsend and Randy Topliff asked when the paving would be done on County Road 16.

Curt Way, county public works manager, said the road is still in the design stage.

"When do we see it happening?" Townsend asked.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede said it would probably be next spring much is done.

Way said Jerol DeBoer, engineer from Penco Engineering of Plainville, who is designing the project, told him the county may need to look at buying some right of way by the railroad crossing.

"The cost design for this piece will be the most complicated of the projects," Way said. "There are some drainage problems by the railroad crossing. The north will not be much of a problem, and it is not much of a problem once you get past the railroad crossing."

Townsend said he thought part of the problem was that there was "zero visibility" crossing the tracks northbound.

Low bidder wins Eighth Street project

Work on the five-mile stretch of County Road 65 west of K-27 — the west extension of Eighth Street — will begin in August after the Sherman County commissioners awarded the contract to Venture Corp. of Great Bend.

Curt Way, county public works manager, said Jerol DeBoer, engineer and owner of Penco Engineering of Plainville, had talked to the contractor, Venture Corp. He said they planned to do everything on the job and would not have any subcontractors on this project.

Way said Venture was the lowest of three bidders and the only contractor that was going to start this year. He said the other two, APAC Paving of Hays and Grasser Construction of Stratton, Colo., were going to wait until next year.

Commissioner Kevin Rasure said Venture was the low bidder by about \$130,000. Venture bid \$1,919,619, APAC \$2,049,520 and Grasser \$2,299,004.

Commissioner Mitch Tiede, acting as chairman in the absence of Chuck Thomas, said his questions about Venture's last project here had been answered,

and he understood that all the subcontractors on the Smoky Hill River bridge had been paid.

The commissioners approved awarding the contract to Venture.

Way said DeBoer told him he would work with the landowners along the road. He expects to do the work in phases to give people to get in and out of their property.

Way said T-Bone Feeders has a back way into their property, as does Century Feeders, but there are some homes that will have to have access.

Pavement on the five miles of Road 65 will be torn up and the base reworked before new pavement is laid down. The design includes eight-inches of pavement to handle the truck traffic along the road from the feedlots and the Goodland Energy Center at Road 14.

He said the project should take about 60 days for the base work, and the 1 1/2 inch surface layer would be completed by next May.

The job is part of the county's projects under the city-county joint road program being paid for by the special one-cent sales tax that went into effect in July to pay off \$12 million in bonds.

"Is there any way we could be a blinking light at the crossing?" Townsend asked.

"There is not enough traffic to warrant anything," said Darin Neufeld, engineer from Evans, Bierly, Hutchison and Associates, who is handling the County Road 14

project for the county. He said he doubted the railroad would be willing to do anything.

Townsend said he's afraid someone might be killed coming from the south.

"Can we get three or four loads of gravel on the road?" Townsend

asked. "At the cost of diesel?" Tiede said jokingly.

"Guess we could give you the gravel and let you pick it up," Way said with a smile.

Topliff said there are a couple of places where the water is ponding,

School district asked to pay for all state competitions

STATE, from Page 1

regularly and they need to do better next year. They met the first Monday of the month.

At the end of January, she said, Tina Goodwin, director of the Carnegie Arts Center, did an art institute for the students featuring painter Vincent Van Gogh. The first graders did their own sunflower picture after Van Gogh and the second graders worked on starry night pictures.

She said the Boxtops for Education goal was 10,000. The kids collected 7,500, earning a "safari day."

They had a family reading night starting with hot dogs which brought in \$500 in donations. They served 240 hot dogs, and Wal-Mart matched the \$500 for \$1,000. The idea was to give parents an idea of how the school's reading rotation worked, she said.

Theresa David said the Central Elementary council planned a soup supper in January, but had to cancel because of the snow. They tried to reschedule it twice with no success. She said they had pretty good attendance at meetings.

The group gave \$100 for a fire safety program and now the Rural

Fire Department will have its own trailer, bought with grant money and donations, and won't have to go to McCook and borrow one.

The council bought food for the third graders when they went to the zoo. Monday, she said, the group will sponsor a Reading "Camp A lot" at Bellamy's Farm. They brought in goodies for Teacher Appreciation Week and provided hand sanitizers for each room.

They are planning to plant a tree in memory of Susie Jensen, a teacher at Central who died last

year, she said. Swimming day for the school will be Tuesday.

Barb Winston said the Grant Junior High council wants the school to set higher expectations for the students. The group talked about restructuring if the junior high building is closed.

The school had two assemblies, she said; Miss Kansas, Michelle Walthers, spoke and a Flamenco guitarist played. The group had a barbecue for the kids after spring clean up and brought goodies for Teacher Appreciation Week.

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and felt the gravel might help. "We can bring in some gravel," Way said, "but I have another idea we can look at."

Topliff said there could be a lot of traffic to the golf course in June, with a tournament every weekend including the annual Sweet Swingers and the Goodland Regional Medical Center's Slice of Life.

Way said he wouldn't make any promises, but would do what he could to fix the road.

"Does the county own the road to the top of the hill?" Townsend asked, referring to the drive into the club. Way said the county took 2,000 feet as a public road in 1973.

Townsend asked what it would cost to pave that section, and if the county could get a bid.

Way said it is about \$70 a ton to

lay pavement. "You want subgrade down on that," he added. "The road is not going to be any better than what you have underneath."

Neufeld said a quick estimate is it would take 1,450 tons to get up the hill, and an estimated cost for the paving would be \$101,000.

"That is laid," he said. "It is \$50 a foot for a 20-foot-wide road."

Townsend said he would keep that in mind, and asked the county if there would be any way to split the cost. Tiede said that wasn't in the budget.

The next commissioners' meeting will be 8 a.m. Thursday, May 31, in the commission room on the main floor of the Sherman County courthouse, 813 Broadway.

Good Tales? Call Sharon 899-2338

City of Topeka Police Officer

The City of Topeka is accepting registration for the Police Officer entry-level examination to be conducted on Saturday, June 9, 2007. For full details and to register for the test, please visit the City's website at www.topeka.org and click on Employment.

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Crossword Puzzle

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CLUES ACROSS

- Surrendered
- Trolley
- Hebrew month
- Nose cone
- Dover dish
- Cut with teeth
- Winter Olympic site
- River in England
- Lymphatic tissues
- Last (Spanish)
- Used to be United
- Fraternity founded 3-9-1856
- Cobb and Trevino
- Executive who operates the firm
- Firmness
- Type genus of Cycadaceae
- Nutritionist's organization
- Tropical constrictor
- Game: Go to the ___ of the Class
- Stabs with a horn
- Fruit tree growth chemical
- Swiss river
- ___ Jima, WW II battlefield
- Textile
- Makes ready
- Annoy constantly
- Spanish city
- Feel ill
- River in England
- Of this
- Remove surgically; of limbs
- Iris family genus
- Commence shooting
- Quilters, ___ and Porter
- Any place of bliss or delight
- Suggestive of the supernatural
- German woman's name

CLUES DOWN

- Soft drinks
- Good Gosh!
- One who builds stone walls w/out lime
- No variation
- Takes a deposition
- Hebrew letter
- Mythological birds
- Fighter Muhammad
- Inner core of organs
- Subsided
- Separable
- A tiny piece of anything
- Gambling town
- Chinese dynasty
- Chaplet
- Usually precedes CAM
- Gulf of, in the Aegean
- A lyric poem
- Hall in The Wind and the Willows
- Agile, lively
- Sore rough skin
- Once around the sun
- Moving along at high speed
- African ruminants
- Be in debt
- Month
- Proposes a toast to
- Delight
- Fuss
- Large Australasian palm
- After prayers
- Small terrier from Scotland
- French targeting pod
- Disturbance
- High fidelity
- Governor of NE 1971-79
- Height X width =
- Dainty or elegant
- Integrated data processing (abbr.)

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