

Progress at the 'green' house



Northwest Tech carpentry students continued installing dry wall in the "green" house project on Center Ave. Bryant Nemechek, carpentry instructor, said the students have been learning a lot in the dry wall process and hopes to have the walls ready for taping by next week. He said the students are waiting on cabinets to

finish the dorm project at the college. The green house is becoming a warmer place to work Nemechek said with the insulation installed and the wall board going up.

Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Mowing contract changes allow new techniques

By Tom Betz
nt.betz@nwkansas.com

The county commissioners approved a mowing contract for this year at the meeting on Monday, but made some minor changes to allow some experimentation with mowing techniques to better handle some weed problems.

Darrel Schrader, who has done the mowing for several years, was at the meeting to renew his contract and talk about options to improve the results.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas asked Schrader what the terms would be for mowing.

Schrader said he had come up with \$190,000, and said that is where the contract was two years ago. He said fuel is not bad now, but the price came back up last year.

Thomas said the contract would be for one swath and then come back to do two swaths.

Commissioner Cynthia Strnad said she would vote to approve the mowing contract, but felt the county ought to be bidding a large contract like the \$190,000 of this contract.

Schrader said he would suggest using a disk mower for the first cut, but it would only be and eight feet swath.

Strnad said she felt Schrader could mow with any kind of mower he wanted.

Thomas said what Schrader was saying that if he tries this mower in the future he might be able to do the whole county cheaper.

Schrader said for experimental purposes it would be good to concentrate on one section and would work with Curt Way, public works manager, to work with the district man and reduce the windrows.

Strnad said the contract would need to be changed to allow the first cut to be eight feet wide rather than the wider swath listed in the contract.

Schrader said it might be good to experiment with the district near Kanorado as it was closer to where the mowers are kept.

Commissioner Max Linin said he was in favor of the disk mower as it was faster than the normal ones.

Schrader said without coordinating with the district guy he would have to stop and wait because the graders do not move that fast.

"I wish we were bidding," Strnad said. "I have no problem making a change in the contract. I have no problem explaining to people what we are doing."

Linin agreed, saying he thought people were wanting a change, and want something different at less cost.

Way arrived at the meeting and Thomas explained what Schrader and the commissioners had been talking about experimenting in the Kanorado area.

Way said he could see doing the experiment in the Kanorado district, and said there are some areas where the Brome grass has been coming back and choking out many of the weeds.

The commissioners agreed the experiment should include doing the first mowing with the rotary mower, and any areas of Brome grass would be left alone until the second mowing.

The commissioners approved the contract with an addendum about the District One experiment and the Brome grass.

West, North Elementary principals reassigned

By Pat Schiefen
pjschiefen@nwkansas.com

With the closing of North Elementary School to take place at the end of the current school year, the Goodland School Board did some reassigning among principals at their meeting on Monday night.

West Elementary Principal Verna Milnes will be reassigned as the District Curriculum Specialist, District Assessment Specialist, District School Improvement Specialist, District Professional Development Specialist, District English as a Second Language Coordinator and District At-Risk Coordinator. Her contract was extended through the 2011-12 school year.

Central Elementary Principal Harvey Swager's contract was

extended through 2011-12 school year.

North Elementary Principal Jim Mull will be reassigned as principal of West Elementary on a continuing contract for next year.

Grant Junior High Principal Steve Raymer's contract was extended through 2011-12 school year.

Goodland High School Principal Sharon Gregory's contract was continued for the next year.

Superintendent Shelly Angelos' contract was extended through the 2011-12 year.

During the discussion under negotiations, the school board was presented an addition to the current year's teacher's contract from the negotiation team of Board Member Amy Sederstrom as chief negotia-

tor, Board President Jane Philbrick, Superintendent Angelos and Board Clerk Pat Juhl and National Education Association-Goodland team of Chief Negotiator Mary Porterfield, Kara Smith, Pam Bloom, Mary Mills and Sue Hagerman.

The addition was an incentive to teachers who could retire to go ahead and retire. The incentive has two options. One is that the retiring teacher would get 10 percent of their total salary to be paid in a lump sum following their KPERS retirement date or board paid health insurance premiums for a single policy to a maximum amount of \$5,000 for up to three years or that person is eligible for Medicare or covered under another employer's primary health insurance. If after three years

the person has not reached the age of 65 under the negotiated agreement the board would pay up to \$2,800 in health insurance premiums.

In other business the board

- Paid \$145,117 in bills.
- Spent an hour in executive session on administrator contracts.
- Adjourned the meeting at 10:35 p.m.

Was reminded that the Monday, March 8, meeting would also be the Town Hall meeting about what to do with North Elementary School. The location has not yet been determined.

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.

COMING EARLY MARCH!!! Digital Cinema and 3-D

FEBRUARY 12-18

Extraordinary Measures

PG: Thematic material; language; suggestive moment.

www.goodlandnet.com/movies

Bring this ad to the theatre for \$1 off on a large popcorn & 2 med drinks. EXP. 12/31/10

Nightly 7 p.m.

Sunday Matinee 1:30 p.m.

Movie bucks make great gifts!

Sherman

1203 Main - Phone 899-6103

Classifieds work! 899-2338

2nd Annual NW Kansas Beginners Pheasant Hunt

February 26 and 27, beginning at 4 p.m. MT

Hunter Education course and Pheasant hunt
at Kuhrt Ranch

www.kuhrtranch.com (for directions)

Pre-registration and application is required.

Class room limit: 25

Call Brent Flanders at (785) 899-5306 or

Mike Hopper at (785) 899-5199

