

Fire rings in at Smoky Gardens, sign coming soon

By Tom Betz
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Improvements continue at Smoky Gardens/Soldiers Memorial Park the Sherman County commissioners heard Friday morning at their end of month meeting.

Dick Emig, who has been the volunteer ramrod on the effort to clean out the bottom of the pond and make the part more usable, told the commissioners the fire rings are in and being used, and he is working to get the barbecue grills installed.

Emig told the commissioners he would like to see a formal committee set up.

Commissioner Chuck Thomas said the county had a Smoky Gardens board.

“I think we need a new one,” Emig said.

Thomas said it would be good to get those on the existing board and see if they want to continue to be involved or get some new people.

Commissioner Cynthia Strnad said she would like to know what to tell the existing board members and what the plans are.

“They need to meet and develop a plan to present to the commissioners to make the park usable,” Emig said.

“What do you see the board doing,” said

Commissioner Max Linin.

Emig said getting a way to oversee and keep the park up and make it usable.

“Can we do what with what we have,” Linin said.

“I think we have some good volunteers now,” Emig said. “I feel we need to do more things to improve it and need some ideas of what can be done.”

Thomas said he had been down to look at Smoky Gardens and said what he saw looks great.

“We have done a lot,” Emig said, “but have a few things left to do and have not done the final burn of the bottom. We did the main campground, but other places need to be worked on.”

Thomas said the county would check with the old Smoky Gardens board and see who is interested and if they get down to one or two and then appoint more people.

“I think we need to get something put together,” Emig said. “Not sure I am stepping on some toes, but I want to get it going.”

Emig said someone was working on holding a talent show at the park in September.

Linin said he heard there were a lot of people down there at least by the lights.

Emig said there have been some people down to use the park, and there are four yard lights that come on at night. He said he has someone working on the design for a new sign, and would bring it to the commissioners for their approval before having it made.

Later in the meeting Emig brought a sample of the sign design in to show the commissioners and they agreed it would look good.

Emig said the fire rings are in and they put them on stone and created a foundation for the rings. He said the next thing is to work on the grills.

He said the mowing has not worked out as well as he hoped. He said he talked to Darrel Schrader and he did mow some of the bad stuff.

County Attorney Bonnie Selby asked Emig if he was looking for people who are interested in donating their talents physically?

“Physically and mentally,” Emig said.

“Lots of thinking needs to be done about what we can do to make it look more beautiful.”

“You want a working committee,”

Thomas said.

“It has been a working committee,” Emig said, “but they have not been working.”

Emig said the bottom of the pond has a problem because sections do not have a seal. He said the county needs to bring in some material to seal the bottom.

“I know you are looking at budgets,” Emig said.

Thomas said the commissioners would have to look at what is in the Smoky Gardens budget.

Strnad said it has been \$30,000, but the commissioners were talking about not going that high next year.

Emig said he thought the caretaker cost would be much less with the retirement of Bob McClure.

Linin asked what Emig would estimate it would cost to bring the seal material to the pond.

Emig said he was not sure, but it is about 45 miles from where the seal material is available. He said it would be about \$1,600 a load and probably take 10 loads.

Thomas said he had mentioned to Emig getting someone to mow the park and possibly paying \$10 a hour. He said he mentioned

paying by the hour to see how many hours it might take.

Emig said it needs to be mowed, and said he thought he could find someone to do it.

Strnad asked who was going to look after the mower?

“I guess it is me,” Emig said.

“Who is going to put fuel in the mowers?” Thomas said.

“I was thinking I could get a purchase order,” Emig said.

“Yes, you could do that,” Thomas said.

Thomas said the commissioners would check out the people on the board and see who wants to stay.

Emig said he felt the board could be five, if you have a good group who will work.

Strnad said McClure did a lot by himself to keep the park looking good and he worked hard to keep it nice.

Emig said his changes have been more in getting the bottom of the pond cleaned out. Emig said he had some young people who want to do something.

Thomas said it was good to see young people getting involved.

County commissioners begin cutting budgets

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Way’s estimate was \$14,644, but did not include purchasing any right of way or the cost of relocation of the gas line.

Thomas said it would be good to send the petitioner a letter explaining the costs, and the county can proceed from there.

- Had a proposal from Trego County to help fund the juvenile detention center at WaKeeney.

The letter was that each of the 25 counties in the area would need to contribute .25 of a mill of property tax, and would have to agree to use the facility every year.

Do we want to send them .25 mills to do this,” Strand asked.

“That would be different than what we are doing now,” Selby said.

The letter said the county needed to make a decision that day.

Rumpel said the county has spent

\$2,000 on juvenile detention this year and has budgeted \$12,000.

Selby said the .25 mill is not for the whole thing. She said the county would have to pay for the daily care and transportation.

The commissioners decided unanimously not to participate in the Trego County program.

- Heard the county has a dog collection and detention resolution in place. The fee is \$25 for collection and \$10 a day for care.

Selby said an addendum needs to be made to the resolution to have the money collected come directly to Sherman County.

The commissioners agreed to have her draft the addendum.

The commissioners will meet at 8 a.m. on Friday to canvas the Primary Election ballots. The next meeting will be 7:30 a.m. on Monday.

Boat riders hoping for more rains



Three young people were riding in a boat and throwing candy during the parade Saturday evening. It might have been wishful thinking, but s the parade continued light rain began falling from the sky, but not enough to float a boat. With the recent rains many hope Smoky Gardens will again hold water and fish.
Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News



USD 352 Goodland School begins August 23, 2010

ENROLLMENT:
Enrollment procedures will include: verifying schedules, paying fees/lunches, and confirming transportation.

Proof of Identity: State law requires proof of identity be provided to the school for all students new to the district.

Late Enrollment: Students unable to report to enrollment as scheduled should contact their school for late enrollment information.

Elementary (grades K-5):
August 10, 11 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at West Elementary School. A parent or guardian must be present. Proof of birth and immunization records are required. Social Security cards are requested for enrollment in Kindergarten. All new students age 8 and under will be required to have a health assessment.

Grant Junior High (grades 6-8):
August 9, 10, 11 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Goodland High School (grades 9-12):
August 9, 10, 11 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m..

FRESHMAN ORIENTATION:
August 11 from 1-3 p.m. in the High School Cafeteria.

OPEN HOUSE:
Thursday, August 19th:
4:30-6:00 p.m.
Central and West Elementary Schools
5:00-6:30 p.m.
Grant Junior High
6:30-8:00 p.m.
Goodland High School

SCHOOL HOURS:
We will have late start Wednesdays in order to accommodate for Professional Learning Communities (PLC’s). Teachers will use the designated collaborative time to design, develop, adjust and coordinate effective and specific strategies for our programs and instruction, specific to the learning needs of students. Our goal is to continually improve upon our ability to educate all students at high levels.

Class Times:
7:45-3:20 High School and Elementary (Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.)
7:50-3:25 Junior High (Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.)

Wednesdays:
7:30-8:10 PLCs for All Teachers
8:20-3:20 High School and Elementary
8:20-3:25 Junior High

Breakfast:
7:20-7:40 (Mon., Tues., Thurs., Fri.)
7:55-8:15 (Wed.)

Transportation: Buses will run 30 minutes later on Wednesday mornings only.

SPORTS PARTICIPATION:
Any senior or junior high school student wishing to participate in fall, winter, or spring sports must have a signed physical examination form signed by both a doctor and his/her parents to participate. The first date of practice for fall sports is August 16th. Practice schedules will be available at enrollment.

SCHOOL CONNECTS:
USD 352 has an automated calling system for rapid notification purposes. Be sure the school has your current phone number.

SCHOOL NUTRITION PROGRAM:
Applications for free or reduced lunches are available at each school.

	LUNCH	BREAKFAST
K-5:	\$1.75	\$1.00
6-8:	\$1.85	\$1.10
9-12:	\$1.95	\$1.10
Adults:	\$3.05	\$1.85
Extra Milk:	\$0.35	\$0.35
Reduced prices:	\$0.40	\$0.30

TRANSPORTATION:
By state law students who live 2.5 miles or more from school are eligible for transportation. USD 352 provides a shuttle bus between elementary schools. For more information, check with your school at enrollment. Bus Barn (785) 890-3011.



ASBESTOS ISSUE IN USD 352
Asbestos is an issue USD 352 has been dealing with for several years. The Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1986 was enacted by Congress. This Act determines the extent of and develops solutions for any problems schools may have with asbestos. USD 352 has recently had their facilities inspected by a certified asbestos inspector. The inspector located, sampled and rated the condition and hazard potential of material and lab analysis records were turned over to a certified management planner to develop asbestos management plans. A copy of the asbestos management plan is available for your inspection in USD 352’s Administration offices during regular business hours. Kenny Studer is the asbestos coordinator of USD 352. All inquiries regarding the plan should be directed to him. USD 352 is implementing the asbestos management plan. It is the District’s intent to comply with federal, state and local regulations. USD 352 plans on taking whatever steps are necessary to insure your child and the District’s employees have a healthy and safe environment in which to learn and work.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES:
USD 352 provides a full range of special education services contracted through the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center. Contact your school principal for information.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS:
* Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP); five doses required. Four doses acceptable if dose 4 given on or after the 4th birthday. Tdap booster required for 7th grade students if more than 2 years since last dose of Td.
* Poliomyelitis (IPV/OPV): four doses required. Three doses acceptable if dose 3 given on or after the 4th birthday.
* Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR): two doses required.
* Hepatitis B: three doses required through grade 10.
* Varicella (chickenpox): two doses required for Kindergarten and 1st grade students; one dose required grades 2-10 unless history of varicella disease documented by a licensed physician. Two doses are currently recommended by the ACIP for all ages.
• Hepatitis A: two doses required for children in early childhood programs.

Legal exemptions to the immunization laws are found on the Kansas Certificate of Immunization. If you have questions, contact your school nurse or building principal.

Sherman County Health Department will have a special Walk-in Immunization Clinic: Monday, August 16, 8 a.m. to NOON and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.