

Accident changes travel plans



During a move from Florida to Colorado Springs Thursday, Oct. 7, Mindy Lee, 27, lost control of her red Dodge pickup in the west-bound lane of I-70 near mile marker 35 and rolled into the north ditch. Finding only one hood impression, Trooper B.L. Wilson said he suspected the truck only rolled once. Lee was wearing a seat belt and escaped the wreck uninjured. She was traveling in a

caravan with her mother, Vicky White, who was driving a moving truck. White stopped when she saw the vehicle go out of control and stayed to help pick up the mess on the side of the road. The pair planned to stay the night in Goodland before continuing on to Colorado.

Photo by Kathryn Gurfinkel/The Goodland Star-News

School board votes to extend capital tax levy

By Greg Stover

The Goodland Star-News

The Goodland School Board voted last Thursday to extend the 4-mill capital outlay levy for the next five years, which will bring in about a quarter million dollars per year for school building and equipment needs.

The resolution, which appeared on page 6 in Tuesday's *Goodland Star-News*, is similar to the one passed in 1999, which also authorized a 4-mill levy for five years. Unless a petition signed by at least 10 percent of district voters is filed before Nov. 29, the resolution will become effective in January. It will be published in next Tuesday's newspaper as well.

Money from the levy, around \$250,000 a year, will go to the school district's Capital Outlay Fund and can be used only to pur-

chase, construct, maintain and furnish buildings and equipment. The money can be used for repairs or new construction, and buy school buses and other equipment.

In his report, Superintendent Marvin Selby told the board the district's weighted enrollment had increased because 15 more students at the downtown learning center had been designated as "at-risk", and three more students were riding buses. Both categories add to a district's weighted enrollment. He said this will bring the district an addition \$8,000 this school year under the state school finance formula.

Selby said the buyer of the Edson gym, Carrol Clark of Glendale, Ariz., is working with an insurance company to get a policy on the building. He said the buyer assumes responsibility for the insurance once a contract is signed, and he

expects to hear from Clark sometime today.

Selby said the Region IX meeting of the Kansas Association of School Boards last Wednesday in Hoxie had a better format than last year. He said the group divided into three committees to consider and discuss one of three questions being addressed at each of the regional meetings.

The questions were:

- What could the association and school officials do to ensure that the Kansas State High School Activities Association is responsive when schools want to cooperate on or consolidate activity programs?

- Should the association consider legislative action or staff assistance to districts dealing with issues related to school building size? Research shows that school buildings that are either too small or too big for the student population have a nega-

tive effect on their achievement.

- What should the association do to respond to the Supreme Court decision in the Montoy school finance case?

Information from the regional meetings will be consolidated by the association in a report to be published later, he said.

In other business, the board:

- Voted unanimously to hire Tonya Gray as the Scholar Bowl sponsor at Grant Junior High, Kathy Bahe as the assistant sponsor for the high school cheerleaders and Maria Lazo as a six-hour-a-day custodian at Grant. The board voted to accept the resignation of Connie Carson as a six-hour custodian at Grant.

The meeting, scheduled for Monday, was moved up because of Columbus Day. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Oct. 25, at North Elementary School.

County health needs new doctor

DOCTOR, from Page 1

sioners:

- Approved buying a new motor grader from Martin Tractor of Colby for \$143,663 with trade-in. Public Works chief Curt Way told the commissioners he would hope to pay \$43,000 the first of the year, and then pay the \$100,000 over the next few years. He will be asking the four banks in Goodland to consider financing the balance, and will present the information at an upcoming meeting. The grader is to be delivered in about 30 days, and Way said it will help keep the equipment in rotation.

- Approved the purchase of an oil and gas program to be added to the assessor's computer system. Assessor Terry Ballard said over the past three years, the number of oil and gas parcels has grown from 138 to 391, and it is now taking more than six weeks to put the information in the computer system. Infinitec has a program that will work with the existing county computer system and would cost about \$7,800, he said.

Ballard said he could wait until January for the program so it could be paid for next year, and he would get a proposal from the software company based on that plan.

He then asked the commissioners to approve the purchase of a com-

puter to replace one of the old ones in the assessor's office. The commissioners approved the purchase of a computer through a local vendor at an estimated cost of \$1,500.

- Held a closed-door session with Ballard for five minutes to discuss a personnel issue.

- Held a 10-minute closed session with County Clerk Janet Rumpel and Crystal Wright on a personnel matter.

- Held a five-minute closed session with only the three commissioners in the room on a personnel matter.

- Commissioner Mitch Tiede reported on the prairie dog control seminar held Oct. 6, which drew about 55 people. He also said that the county's prairie dog committee wants to come to the Nov. 9 commission meeting.

- Building Maintenance Supervisor William McKnight told commissioners he is having problems with the Grasshopper lawn mowing machine. He said it is a 2000 model, and there appears to be bits of aluminum showing up in the hydrostatic fluid. The commissioners asked McKnight to baby the mower through the rest of this season, and then they will try to buy a new one before the end of the year.

- Approved claims vouchers for the first half of the month totaling \$130,618.

Three take EMT class with county, hospital help

EMT, from Page 1

be understaffed, but that they will be better off than many of the others in the 22-county area.

"Appreciate your support for this program," Gleason said. "Many ambulance services in the 22-county area do not have this support, and they are struggling."

He said the Sherman County am-

bulance service has over 500 calls a year, and that the number of long transfers is up this year.

Tiede asked if there are any long-term needs of the ambulance service, and Gleason said they will need to update the radios because ambulance services are changing radio frequencies in the next few years. He said it will probably cost about \$25,000 for all the radios.

Annual meeting to be Tuesday

MEETING, from Page 1

dates must be residents of Sherman County.

The nominations are forwarded to the county commissioners for appointment.

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