

Changes proposed in county's policy on culverts

By Tom Betz
The Goodland Star-News

Where to install culverts on Sherman County roads and who pays for them is set out in a resolution passed in 1992, but last Tuesday, commissioners were asked to consider some changes to make the language clearer.

Curt Way, public works manager, said the existing resolution needs some clarification to make sure everyone understands how the culverts are to be handled and who pays.

The commissioners suggested Way have his amendments to the resolution reviewed by the county attorney before they give final approval.

Way said one change would be to

require landowners to pay up front for the installation of a culvert on their property. He said installing a culvert costs about \$700 for the pipe and the labor.

"We do not have a lot of trouble getting these paid," Way said, "but there have been a few where we had to threaten to pull them back out before the bill was paid. Having them paid up front would make it better for the county, and reduce this problem."

He said another addition would make it clear that the county would be responsible for culverts when a road is upgraded or drainage needs to be improved.

However, he asked that when a landowner requested a culvert for other reasons that they be respon-

sible for the cost.

The commissioners discussed the proposed changes, and told Way to submit them to County Attorney Bonnie Selby for review before they made a final decision.

In other business, commissioners:

- Approved signing a Blue Cross and Blue Shield contract for employee health insurance. The county had to pay \$52 to Blue Cross, the difference between the monthly bill for the first month of this year's coverage over what the county was paying last year.
- Approved a bid of \$2,467 from Marty's Electric to install a new 100-amp service in the picnic area on the west side of the Agriculture building at the Sherman County

fairgrounds. Other bids were received from B and B Electric, \$2,813, and from Pirate Electric, \$4,299. Midwest Energy has said they will donate a pole and install it to help with the project.

- Approved the annual weed report by Daryl West, head of the county noxious weed department. The report covers 10 randomly selected sections in the county, and West reported that of the 13 noxious weeds listed in Kansas, there were four present in the county — bindweed, burragweed and musk and Canadian thistle. He said amaranth, or devil's claw, is not considered noxious, but rather one of the 54 undesirable weeds listed by the state.
- Approved having Dean Graber

of Graber Enterprise spray the weeds at the fairgrounds for up to \$911. The commissioners hope giving Graber approval early would help him get ahead of the stickers.

- Heard County Clerk Janet Rumpel report she had been in contact with the clerk from Wallace County about the property tax cap for the extension district, and that they were interested in doing the same thing that Sherman County decided to do. The commissioners told Rumpel to have Selby draft a resolution adopting a 2.5-mill levy cap for the extension district, and to send a copy to Wallace County for their review so both were approving the same language.

- Approved placing an advertisement for drilling grass on the county Conservation Reserve Program land, with the county furnishing the seed. There are two areas to be drilled with a total of about 195 acres.
- Gave department heads until today to have their salary recommendations ready for the commissioners to review.
- Heard West report he was working on the prairie dogs, and that there were 14 landowners on the list. He said with the applications he has been making, he nearly has paid for the new four-wheeler. He said the prairie dogs are down in number from where they were two years ago, and he felt that in most places they are manageable.

Good Sam resident turns 101



Vera Daise (right) celebrated her 101st birthday Monday at the Sherman County Good Samaritan Center with a chocolate cake with chocolate icing and blue icing flowers. She was joined by about 30 friends and relatives, including her sister-in-law Eula Babcock (left), who also lives at the center.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

Sheriff buys new car, truck

The Sherman County Sheriff's Department will get a new car and a new pickup after approval by the county commissioners last Tuesday.

Sheriff Kevin Butts said the two vehicles were in the budget for this year, and they would trade in older vehicles.

The old car, a 2003 Crown Victoria with 82,500 miles is being driven by Deputy Jason Showalter, he said.

Butts had bids from Dan Brenner Ford-Mercury and Yost Ford to re-

place the car with a new Crown Victoria with a police package.

Brenner's bid was \$18,650 after the trade-in while Yost bid \$18,938. The commissioners approved the bid from Brenner.

Butts said he wanted to trade in a red 2002 Ford 150 pickup with 77,000 miles and had bids on a new pickup from Brenner for \$11,745, Herl Chevrolet, \$12,950, and Finley Motor, \$11,661.

The new pickup would be a full size 4-door crew cab with a short box. Butts said the reason for the

crew cab was to give the deputies more room to securely store their equipment and allow them to transport a prisoner with a second deputy riding along.

Butts said he felt the gas mileage of the GMC or Chevy would be a savings over the Ford. He said there was a difference of three to five miles per gallon over the Ford, and that over the life of the pickup it would be quite a savings to the county.

The commissioners approved the low bid from Finley.

matters of record

Accidents

The following accidents were reported to the Goodland Police Department:

Feb. 11 — Alvin Rust was driving westbound on 11th Street in a 2001 Ford F150 pickup at 9:19 a.m. when at the intersection of Center he hit Edward Lewis who was head-

ing northbound in a 1977 Ford F150 pickup. The accident caused Lewis' vehicle to spin and throw debris onto a 2000 Pontiac Montana driven by Mary Volk.

Carl J. Wright was pulling away from a gas pump at 3:52 p.m. in a 1998 Fiat when he hit a pole causing his load to break free and strike

a gas pump at 2710 Commerce.

District Traffic

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

Jan. 21 — Rhett N. Heyward, 20, Leawood, \$150 for speeding.

Alfredo Perez, 39, Westminster, \$138 for speeding.

Real Estate

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

Bonnie Hurd Duell and Curtis Lynn Hurd, co-trustees of the Lola I. Hurd Revocable trust, to Steven C. and Colleen K. Duell, the NW/4, Sec. 33, T7S, R40W.

Ronald and Linda Van Loenen quitclaim to Janet E. Smith, the north 10 feet, Lot 18, all of Lot 19, Lot 20 less the north two feet, Block 6, CK&N Addition in the Town of Goodland.

Darrell and Barbara Van Loenen, St. Croix County, Wis., quitclaim to Janet E. Smith, the north 10 feet, Lot 18, all of Lot 19, Lot 20 less the north two feet, Block 6, CK&N

Addition in the Town of Goodland.

Karen Van Loenen and Neal Hawks, Douglas County, Colo., quitclaim to Janet E. Smith, the north 10 feet, Lot 18, all of Lot 19, Lot 20 less the north two feet, Block 6, CK&N Addition in the Town of Goodland.

Connie Van Loenen, Finney County, quitclaim to Janet E. Smith, the north 10 feet, Lot 18, all of Lot 19, Lot 20 less the north two feet, Block 6, CK&N Addition in the Town of Goodland.

Edward L. Hayden warrants to Shirley J. Anderson, Doris Armstrong, Clara Jo Gillum, Edward L. Hayden, Jr., James L. Hayden and Richard L. Hayden, the S/2, Sec. 26, T10S, R41W.

E. Darlene Ackerman, trustee of

the E. Darlene Ackerman trust, to Renike Investments, the NW/4, Sec. 32, T6S, R37W.

Bertha Duell to Ralph and Wava Duell, an undivided one-fourth interest to the west 90 feet of Lot 10, all of Lot 11, Block 78, Subdivision of Blocks in the City of Goodland.

Roger and Margaret Duell to Ralph and Wava Duell, an undivided one-fourth interest to the west 90 feet of Lot 10, all of Lot 11, Block 78, Subdivision of Blocks in the City of Goodland.

Randall A. and Cindy Duell to Ralph and Wava Duell, an undivided one-fourth interest to the west 90 feet of Lot 10, all of Lot 11, Block 78, Subdivision of Blocks in the City of Goodland.

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