

Diversion fund reviewed by county

COUNTY, from Page 1

his recommendation.”

Treasurer Miller said she was uncomfortable with how the fund is being handled.

“I think we have sufficient checks and balances,” Selby replied.

She explained that the training fund and diversion fund are handled through the district court.

“These are not public funds,” she said. “These are generated by my office.”

She said the training fund pays a fee on a monthly basis, and state law limits what it can be used for.

“We are not complaining about how the money is spent,” Commissioner Kevin Rasure said. “We want to be sure that the county is handling this money properly.”

“They are not county funds,” Selby repeated.

Rumpel and Miller said they disagreed, and cited an attorney general’s opinion on the subject.

“I don’t see a problem,” Selby said. “Bauer doesn’t have a complaint. He is suggesting this change, but we are not out of compliance.”

“There is no statutory authority of how the money is being handled,” Rumpel said.

“Yes there is,” Selby said, “and I don’t think that is what Bauer said.”

“Training is not what we are talking about,” Rumpel said. “It is the diversion fund.”

“I’m not going to roll over and let this happen,” Selby said. “I have been assured this is being done properly since the fund was set up long before I took office.”

Commissioner Chuck Thomas asked what the diversion fund is used for.

Selby said she has used the money to purchase office equipment, but has not done much lately.

Thomas asked how much money there was.

Miller said the training fund had \$1,974 and the diversion fund had \$11,009 as of the end of June.

Selby said she hasn’t used the diversion money in quite some time, and agreed the fund is high.

“I work with Miller to redirect funds from the training fund to keep the monthly dues down,” Selby said. “The training fund pays 50 percent per month of income for dues.”

“You are administrator of the funds?” Thomas said. “It is your

public notice

LEGAL, from Page 7

test against any of the provisions of the proposed changes to the zoning regulation will be considered by the Commission. Property owners within 1000 feet of such property described above, wanting to protest the proposed change will have fourteen (14) days after the Planning Commission makes its recommendation regarding the requested rezoning to submit a protest petition to the office of the City of Goodland City Clerk. If a valid protest petition is filed with the

discretion what the money is used for?”

“Yes,” Selby said. “We have updated our computers and bought a new copier.

“We get the money from those cases where the person accepts a diversion program. That will change with the new DUI laws, where it does not come off your record with a diversion.”

“Why are you against doing a purchase order?” Rasure asked.

Selby said it takes too much time, and does not see a need for any more checks and balances.

“Shelby (Miller) writes the check when I ask her to and give her an invoice,” Selby said. “Shelby’s name is on the check. I do not have personal access to these funds. A purchase order is totally redundant. It is not something Bauer says has to be done.”

“I don’t see a big problem,” Miller said, “it (purchase order) would take me off the hook. All the other offices go through the voucher process.”

Selby asked about other funds that do not go through the voucher process, citing the sheriff’s commissary fund.

Miller said the commissary fund has a separate checking account because the money is not technically a county fund.

Tiede asked if the system should be left the way it is.

Rasure said he felt the commissioners need to see the documentation.

“As long as there is a system in place,” Thomas said, “and there are two names on the checks.”

“And one of those names is not mine,” Selby added.

She offered to provide the commissioners with an accounting of what has been spent.

Rumpel said she felt the diversion money should be deposited in the general fund, and at the end of the meeting handed Tiede a copy of an attorney general’s opinion on the matter written in April 1997.

The opinion says that diversion fees “received by a county attorney pursuant to a pay-and-dismiss policy should be paid to the county treasurer as directed by state law, credited to the general fund, and handled according to budgetary procedures applicable to all moneys deposited in the county general fund.”

K-27 bridge near halfway mark



The new bridge on K-27 south of Goodland is about half way through the construction process, and is expected to be completed by this fall. The section of K-27 south of Goodland to the Wallace County line is scheduled to be the second phase next year. Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Power plants to produce clean energy

POWER, from Page 1

be “state-of-the-art,” he said.

“The emissions are practically zero,” Justus said, adding that the plants will recycle water, too.

The plants will use “gray water” from the city’s waste water treatment plant, which will be cycled through all three plants.

“We’re going to be recycling 100 percent of the water,” Justus said, saying that will cut down on the amount of water used.

“We will use only 20 percent of what is normally required.”

“We want to be as environmentally friendly as possible,” Pickman said, adding they are striving for efficiency that will make it possible to offer good prices on power.

public notice

Legal Publication

Notice of sale of abandoned Motor Vehicle in the possession Sherman County Sheriff’s Department. The herein described the vehicle will be sold at public auction on August 23, 2005 at 9 a.m., to the highest bidder for cash, if the owner does not claim the same prior to time of sale and pay for removal, storage and publication costs incurred. Description of vehicle: Make AMC Model Eagle, Serial or identification number 2CCKK3852FB709307 Color brownish tan, Year 1985. Vehicle is in storage at Sherman County Sheriff’s Lot, 813 1/2 Broadway, Goodland, Kan.

Published in The Goodland Star-News on Tuesday, July 19 and 26, 2005.

Combining all three plants, Justus said, helps to make them more efficient and environmentally friendly.

“We’re surpassing all standards,” he said.

An article in TreeHugger, an online magazine dedicated to environmentally friendly products and services, touted the power plant project as good news.

Writer John Laumer of Philadelphia explained how combining the three plants helps to protect the environment.

The article said the implications for cleaner fuel are even greater when local farmers use the biodiesel to grow the crops used to produce the fuel and feed consumers.

“Writing a post like this makes me think it’s something I dreamed after eating too much organic food during a Kansas tornado, and I bet-

ter wake up and recheck the source,” Laumer said. “Gratefully, it seems good enough to become true!”

Goodland girl shoots to be country music star

MUSIC, from Page 1

“Your gal at Goodland is good; she writes her own music. You can’t believe how talented these people are.”

The winner at Dodge City will go on to the state competition Sunday, Sept. 18, at the Kansas State Fair in Hutchinson. The state winner will receive \$1,000 cash and will go on to the regional competition.

The showdown is designed to find the most promising country music talent in the nation, organizers say, giving the performers a chance to launch their careers. The competition begins each year with hometown talent contest sponsored by more than 400 radio stations across the country.

Local winners advance to state contests, where prizes include \$1,000 in cash and the opportunity to compete at one of the five regional contests. The five regional winners are flown to the national finals.

LIGHT THE WAY TO A CURE

Keep the fire of hope burning by purchasing a luminaria candle in memory of someone lost to cancer, in honor of someone still fighting, or in special recognition of someone who has beaten this dreaded disease.

Relay for Life of Sherman County Friday & Saturday - Aug.19 & 20 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. at The Sherman County Fairgrounds

Complete this form and send it along with your donation to: Sherida Shoff, 1222 Broadway, Goodland, Kan. 67735

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