

Commission accepts bid for roof repair

The Decatur County Commission approved a bid last Tuesday of \$37,483 to repair the roof at the Good Samaritan Center from Mile-R-More Roofing Co. out of Lamar, Colo.

The roof was damaged by a storm, although the commissioners aren't sure when, and it started leaking recently.

Although a firm out of Colby has been contacted, they have not sent in a bid, commissioners said.

The commissioners decided to go with the Colorado company and have the bill paid by the county's liability insurance.

With the Tuesday morning meet-

ing being the last one in 2002, the commissioners handled some things they do yearly.

They signed seven township orders for the road and bridge department.

They approved a yearly resolution to allow full-time employees to put \$30 a month in the "cafeteria" benefit fund through the employee benefit fund for those who have been employed longer than two years, and \$15 for those in their first two years. They also signed a resolution for the county to be a part of the insurance pool for Kansas County Association Multi-lined Pool.

The commissioners signed a reso-

lution to establish a \$100 fee for drinking establishments.

With the recent budget cuts in state aid and the idea that there may be more on the horizon, commissioners decided to wait on raises. Although the biggest bite has come out of the road and bridge department, they said, that hurts the entire county.

The commissioners decided to wait and if the economy turns and the state doesn't take any more money back, they will look at raises in March or June.

In other business, the commissioners:

- Received information on a vi-

sion plan from Corporate Plan Management Inc., the county's insurance provider.

For a single person, it is \$13.75 a month or \$165 a year; for an employee and spouse it is \$25.80 or \$309.60 a year; and for an employee and family it is \$41.25 a month and \$495 a year.

The cost includes on eye exam a year, a pair of glasses and a year's supply of contact lenses.

Employees can choose whether they want to have the vision plan.

- Appointed Elaine Marcuson as the Summit Township treasurer to replace David Anderson, who moved out of state.

- Heard that Ambulance Director Patrick Pomeroy and Jerry Chambers with the Regional Prevention Center will buy tags for anhydrous ammonia tanks with an \$875 grant. Mr. Pomeroy said they will work with the Decatur County Farm Bureau on how to hand the tags out.
- Received a request to declare Decatur County a problem county for seircea lespedeza, a noxious weed.
- County Clerk Marilyn Horn contacted Noxious Weed Director Gaylen Huntley, who said the county doesn't have a problem with this weed. The commissioners didn't approve the resolution.

County Roundup

At a meeting Tuesday morning, the Decatur County commissioners:

- Approved replacing a power unit on a fire truck in Jennings. Story on bottom of page.
- Approved a bid to repair the leaky roof at the Decatur County Good Samaritan Center. Story to left.
- Heard that work at the landfill including putting rock on the parking lot, a water line to the building and a bathroom is finished. Story to come.



Spreading the cheer

SINGING CHRISTMAS CAROLS, school secretary Elisabeth Orr (above) joined volunteers, who put on a recital at the Good Samaritan Center last Monday. Center Activities Director Jan Badsy (right) emceed the event.

— Herald staff photos by Cynthia Haynes



Man released from jail on 10 percent of bond

A 41-year-old Oberlin man originally arrested on two felony charges and one misdemeanor was released from jail on Tuesday after some of his charges were reduced and he put up 10 percent of his bond.

Dan Mayberry had been charged with aggravated burglary, a level 5 person felony; aggravated assault, a level 7 person felony; and lewd and lascivious behavior, a class B non-person misdemeanor.

In court Tuesday, the charges were reduced to criminal trespass, a class B non person misdemeanor, and assault, a class C person misdemeanor. The charge for lewd and lascivious behavior was left unchanged.

District Magistrate Judge John Bremer reduced the original \$50,000 bond to \$5,000. Mr. May-

berry took the option of paying 10 percent, or \$500, and was released from the Decatur County Jail, where he has been since December.

The judge gave him several conditions he has to follow while released on bond. He has to show up for court, avoid intimidating witnesses or their family, and can't leave the state without permission.

Although Mr. Mayberry paid the \$500, the rest of the bond is a recognizance bond for the remaining \$4,500. Both Mr. Mayberry and his sister Eve'va Kolar signed the bond.

A recognizance bond means he promises to follow the conditions set in the bond. If he flees the state, the court can collect his assets up to \$4,500, and if he doesn't have that much, the bond can be collected from Mrs. Kolar.

County replaces rescue gear

The Decatur County commissioners approved replacing a hydraulic pump and motor unit for the hydraulic extraction tool for a fire truck in Jennings. It operates on 5,000 pounds per square inch pressure.

Fire Chief Bill Cathcart said the unit on the truck is the original from

the 1970s, although it was repaired about six years ago.

The replacement will cost around \$4,300. The chief said there is \$5,300 in the emergency management plan budget. The commissioners said they would check to see if the item could be bought with that money.

City Round-up

At its meeting Thursday night, the Oberlin City Council:

- Heard that the city had been turned down for a state block grant to repair homes on the southwest side of town. Story to right.
- Decided to sell two older cars, leaving the city administrator with a used police car and the police department with just three vehicles. Story on Page 1.

City turned down for grant

The City of Oberlin did not get a state block grant it applied for to repair some homes on the southwest side of town.

City Administrator Gary Shike said that the letter he received from the Kansas Department of Commerce and Housing, which issues the grants, was vague and did not say why the city was turned down.

The grant would have allowed homeowners to repair their property or demolish old buildings at little cost. It was applied for last summer. Only property in a section of the southwest side of town, which was

considered to be the poorest, would have been eligible.

Mr. Shike said that he plans to call Amy Griffey of the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission in Hill City to see how the city can redo the request and send it back.

The city has spent too much time on the grant not to reapply, Mr. Shike said.

In other business, the council:

- Designated Farmers Bank and Trust, First National Bank and The Bank as depositories for the city.
- Heard a report on the events for

January at The Gateway.

- Set the next meeting for 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 14, so as not to conflict with the annual Chamber of Commerce banquet, which is set for Thursday, Jan. 16.
- Approved the mayor's reappointment of Janice Shobe to a two-year term on the Economic Development Commission; Connie Grafel, Judy Cochran and Glenva Nichols to two-year terms on the Convention and Visitors Bureau; and Ron Jansonius to a three-year term on the Minimum Housing Standards Board.

Now is the time to buy state park permits

If you're going to buy a Kansas State park permit, it is cheaper in the first three months of the year.

Between January and March a person under 65 can purchase the permit at the clerk's office for \$30, but from April to September the per-

mit goes for \$45 and then from October to December it goes for \$35.

It's the same for those 65 and older who buy the permits. From January to March they cost \$15.25, from April to September, \$22.75 and from October to December,

they are \$17.75.

This is the first year that it costs more to purchase the permits in the last three months of the year.

Mrs. Horn said she didn't know why the permit prices had been changed.

Internet tonight!

475-2206

IRRIGATION COST-SHARE FUNDS

Cost-share funds are available through the Decatur County Conservation District to install irrigation pipelines.

Funding is provided by the State Conservation Commission through appropriations from the Kansas Water Plan Fund. For more information call Diana Solko at the conservation district office (785) 475-3131, Extension 101.

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