

Commissioners accept only bid on ambulance

The Decatur County commissioners approved a bid for a new ambulance at their meeting last Tuesday from Lifeline out of Sumner, Iowa for \$119,670.

Half of the money will come from a state-federal grant and half from the county.

The county received just one bid for an ambulance and opened it at the meeting.

Amy Griffey, with the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission, said she will need to send a letter to the state to get permission to accept the lone bid. Since other companies had a chance to bid on the ambulance, Mrs. Griffey said she didn't think there would be any problem with the state.

Half of the bill for the ambulance will be paid from a state Community Development Block Grant.

The commissioners can approve the bid contingent on getting a letter from the state, Mrs. Griffey said. The commissioners agreed to accept the bid.

What is the delivery date? asked County Attorney Steve Hirsch. It is 210 days from the order date, replied Troy Allen with Lifeline.

There won't be any prepayments made on this project, said Mrs. Griffey.

The full amount will be paid through the grant when the ambulance is dropped off or picked up.

County Roundup

At their meeting last Tuesday, Decatur County commissioners:

- Approved an ambulance bid of \$119,670 from Lifeline out of Iowa with the county paying for half and a state-federal grant the other half. Story at left.
- Talked with one of the county's part-time sheriff's deputies, who asked about the county paying for half of a satellite service at her house in Cedar Bluffs so she could have faster Internet. Story below.
- Talked with the road and bridge supervisor about getting grant money to help replace three bridges. Story below.

The commissioners approved a power cot in the bid price for \$9,856.

Mrs. Griffey said the state should be able to sign off on the single bid within a week and then the order can be placed.

In other business, commissioners held a 15-minute closed session for personnel at the request of interim Ambulance Director Linda Manning. There was no action taken.

County would like grant to fix bridges

The Decatur County commissioners talked with the road and bridge supervisor about getting grant money for three bridges that he wants to replace next year.

Amy Griffey, with the Northwest Kansas Planning and Development Commission, said the bridges need to be in highly populated parts of the county for the grant to pay well. If the bridges are in the less-populated area, then the grant doesn't pay as much.

Two of the bridges are in Oberlin Township, near town, and one in Grant Township, commissioners said.

Two are about three miles southwest of town by Morfords and the

other is northeast about three miles west of Lyle.

With the grant process, said Mrs. Griffey, the Kansas Department of Transportation normally pays 80 percent and the county 20 percent. The state will want the county's share up front.

Anything that has been done on the bridges before the grant is awarded can't be reimbursed, she said, so if the process has already started, that should be kept in mind.

If an engineer is working on bridge details, that will not be reimbursed by the grant, she added.

Road supervisor Tim Stallman said he would like to apply for the grant.

Deputy asks for help paying for Internet

A part-time sheriff's deputy asked Decatur County commissioners Tuesday about helping to pay for satellite service for her house in Cedar Bluffs since she also helps with the emergency management department.

Deputy Patti Skubal said when there is a storm, and she needs to know the weather for emergency management, her computer service at home is so slow it doesn't work.

She asked commissioners about helping to pay for satellite service at her house. She said she would pay half of the service if the county would pay the other half.

The price through Wild Blue

would be between \$50 and \$80, depending on the package.

The commissioners said they would consider the request.

Mrs. Skubal said she wants to attend the Kansas Emergency Management Agency annual conference in Hays in September. She said it will cost about \$150, and she would let the commissioners know more details when she gets the registration forms.



AT FROGS CAMP on Friday morning, Max Diederich (above) tried to blow up a blue balloon as big as he could before it popped. Jenna Long (below) got ready for a "grape race" with a green grape held between her toes. The camp is held at the Oberlin City Park on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. — Herald staff photos by Cynthia Haynes

Camp gets kids hopping

It's back! The Fun Radical Outdoor Get-away Summer camp started last week with 25 kids in City Park.

Pastor Heidi Wiebe said the Oberlin Covenant Church sponsors the FROGS camp, which runs through Friday, July 28, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

The camp is open to those who have finished first grade through those going into sixth grade.

The Head Frog is Anthony Marshall and the Assistant Frog is Kim Wessel. This is Mr. Marshall's third year working at the camp and his first year was head hopper.

This is Miss Wessel's first year; she will be a senior at Decatur Community High School. She said the kids play games, learn songs and do crafts.

Pastor Wiebe said a snack and water are provided for the kids



each day, but they bring their own sack lunch, which they eat in the park around 11:30 a.m.

She said the church felt that there wasn't a lot for the kids to do in the

summer, and they wanted to provide a structured environment for them. They started the camp four years ago.

The kids don't have to attend the

camp every day, Pastor Wiebe said, but they can if they want, or they can drop in any day that works.

The camp is free.

Overlay work will cause delays on K-117

Drivers using K-117, the road to Hemdon and Trenton, Neb., should expect delays starting this week as a contractor for the Kansas Department of Transportation puts on an overlay of new asphalt.

Work is scheduled to start on Friday for the 12-mile job. During the day, the road will be reduced to one lane through the work zone.

Everyone using the road, which runs from U.S. 36 north to Ne-

braska, should expect a 15-minute or less delay, the department says.

The job will be done by Dobson Brothers of Lincoln, with the cost being \$936,982.

Before the overlay, workers will

do a hot in-place recycling of the surface, heating the asphalt, ripping up surface and rolling it smooth.

According to the department, the work should be done by mid-August, weather permitting.

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Dinner & Dance
 at the
Oberlin American Legion
Saturday, July 8
 Serving: Sirloin Steak, Baked Potato, Side Salad, Vegetable & roll
 5-8 p.m.
 RSVP appreciated - not required
 Call Scott at 785-475-2530

Dance to MOBILE MUSIC
 9 p.m. — Midnight

Oberlin American Legion
 114 S. Rodehaver — Oberlin, KS