



Contact Us

CALL (620) 364-5325 FAX (620) 364-2607

EMAIL ccrepub@gmail.com

or MAIL THE REPUBLICAN 324 HUDSON ST. BURLINGTON, KS 66839

ONLINE EDITION: www.coffeycountyonline.com

Death Notices Page 2

- Virginia Brothers, 85 Richard Winn, 72

Public Notices Page 8

- Estate of Mahlin Charles Gillespie - Order for Hearing and Notice to Creditors. Rural Water District No. 5 Anderson County - Notice of Annual Meeting. Burlington Housing Authority - Notice of Annual Meeting. Coffey County - Invitation to Bid New Motor Grader. Quest Dev. Co., Harold Dvorachek - Notice of Filing Application. City of Burlington - Treasurer's Quarterly Report. Estate of Jerry Lynch - Notice of Hearing and Notice to Creditors. In the Interest of Brianna Torrence - Notice of Hearing. Long-Scott Creek Joint Watershed District #93 - Notice of Annual Meeting.

Access public notices throughout Kansas at www.kansaspublicnotices.com

Lake Levels

John Redmond 8 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2 Lake Elevation: 1,041.9 Normal: 1,041 Inflow (cfs): 1,070 Release (cfs): 3,370

Melvorn Lake Elevation: 1,034.56 Normal: 1,036 Inflow (cfs): 20 Release (cfs): 109

Pomona Lake Elevation: 972.65 Normal: 974 Inflow (cfs): 40 Release (cfs): 164

Average Gas Prices Week ending Feb. 2, 2021

Kansas Nation \$2.20/gal. \$2.41/gal. 2.0 cents 0.5 cents

Index

- Classifieds 7 Community 3,5 Courthouse News 6 Deaths 2 Devotional 5 Letters to the Editor 4 Opinion 4 Public Notices 6 Record 2 School 8 Sports 8,9,10 Weather 2

The official newspaper of Coffey County

Burlington, New Strawn, Lebo, Gridley, LeRoy, Waverly, and Hartford

Lebo-Waverly USD 243 Burlington USD 244 LeRoy-Gridley USD 245



COFFEY COUNTY COMMISSION

Updates include sheriff's vehicles, maintenance

Mark Petterson Managing Editor

BURLINGTON — Coffey County commissioners heard updates from the county engineer, sheriff and Coffey Health System chief executive officer when they met Monday morning. Chairman Tom Hugumin presided at the regular weekly meeting with Commissioners Don Meats, Bob Saueressig, Jesse Knight and Tim Johnson in attendance. County Engineer Wayne Blackbourn presented his weekly report, which included

primarily road and sign maintenance. Commissioners approved the CP-2 for David Lehman, section blade, full-time, transferring positions from leadman in the asphalt crew to section blade in the blade crew, within the same department, subject to regular IPP, wage classification change to MB6 with his wage remaining the same at \$22.92, effective Feb. 1. Blackbourn presented a summary of rock quotations from the following quarries: Harshman (Paxson, Lebo, Waverly and Melvern), Knight

Land, LLC (Melvern-Knight), APAC-Kansas (Hartford) and MidStates Material (Wolf Creek). No quotations were listed for Nelson Quarries. The prices listed were about the same or slightly higher than last year. The quarry used depends where the rock is needed. Commissioners approved Blackbourn's recommendation to purchase a maintenance agreement with Foley Equipment Company - Caterpillar, Chanute, for motor grader B-022 in the amount of \$5.62 per hour of equipment

usage for the plan term earliest of 6,000 hours or 24 services as per contract. Blackbourn reported one road permit had been issued to Quanta Subsurface to make geotechnical test borings on the shoulders of minor roads at six locations. A zoning permit had been issued to Sean Lehmann to construct a 40' by 100' steel frame building at 494 Underwood Road. Sheriff Tom Johnson said the Coffey County Highway Department is interested in the 3/4-ton pickup driven by the previous sheriff. Commissioner Saueressig encouraged Johnson to explore possible vehicle trades with the highway department, as the sheriff's department

the number of sheriff's department vehicles. He said four of the six vehicles have at least 155,000 miles on the odometer. Some vehicles may be traded and others may be sold at auction. Johnson said the Coffey County Highway Department is interested in the 3/4-ton pickup driven by the previous sheriff. Commissioner Saueressig encouraged Johnson to explore possible vehicle trades with the highway department, as the sheriff's department

See County, Page 7

County down to 17 active COVID-19 cases

The Coffey County Health Department, in its weekly COVID-19 update released Thursday, Jan. 28, confirmed 14 new cases of the disease and 29 recoveries since Jan. 22. Active cases include eight males and nine females and include two individuals in the 11-30 age range, 14 in the 41 to 80 age range and one in the 91-100 age range. As of the update, the county has 17 active cases and has had 574 total positive cases, 12 deaths and 545 recoveries. As of the most recent update on the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's COVID-19 page, posted 9 a.m. Monday, Feb. 1, Coffey County has also had 45 hospitalizations and 1,789 negative tests.

The state of Kansas, according to the most recent update on KDHE's COVID-19 vaccine dashboard, has vaccinated 185,010 people, or 6.4 percent of Kansans. Of those, 125,023 are female and 59,585 male and 11,056 are age 0-24, 108,693 are age 25-64 and 65,261 are 65 or older. There have been 229,459 doses administered, including 185,010 first doses and 44,449 second doses, and 413,350 total doses distributed. Of vaccines administered, 51.01 percent have been the Pfizer vaccine and 48.99 percent have been the Moderna vaccine.

See Lebo, Page 7

CITY DAM PROGRESS



Mark Petterson/The Republican



Photo by Ryan Saylor

Work on a new retaining wall, sidewalks and stairs at the Burlington City Dam has come a long way in the past 90 days. B & B Bridge Co., St. Paul, had the contract for the work, which is visible at ground level (above) and an aerial drone photo, which Ryan Saylor shared on a social media page. City crews are working to put the finishing touches on the project.

Lebo City Council increases tapping fees

LEBO — The Lebo City Council heard reports and approved a cereal malt beverage license for the new Casey's General Store, at their Feb. 1 regular monthly meeting. CMB licenses are issued for specific locations and do not transfer and are also issued for a calendar year. Council President Jamie Jasnoski called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Other council members present were Troy Friend, Jerry Headley, Jim Jones and Jerry Julian. Employees present were Superintendent of Streets and Utilities Gary Knight, Clerk Carrie Sloan, Marshal Aaron Cathard, and Municipal Court Clerk and Zoning Administrator

Catherin Griffin. Mayor Larry Boden Sr. was not present. Knight reported he had completed several year-end reports for 2020. Both the water report and the natural gas report showed 6 percent losses. Knight completed a compost report, worked on two culverts, cleaned a drainage ditch, and helped put in the gas line at the new Casey's General Store. The Lebo Police Department's January report showed complaints about blowing trash and three cases involving loose dogs. A hit and run accident occurred on West Fifth Street. Criminal reports included use of a financial card and search of an

apartment for marijuana and paraphernalia. Traffic control included defective equipment, illegal tags, running stop signs, and an obstructed tag. There were two situations regarding welfare checks. The council approved Ordinance 590, which repeals Ordinance 477 and sets new tapping fees for gas and water utilities. The new fees are \$600 for water and \$500 for gas. This ordinance increases water by \$200 and natural gas by \$100. The sewer fee did not change. Among the funds received by the City of Lebo in January were: \$5,827.08 from the Kansas Highway Fund, \$5,795.06 in compensating use tax, and \$15,547.67 in sales tax, all from

the State of Kansas. The city received a total of \$113,760.22 from the Coffey County Treasurer. The council approved paying \$200, or half, of the cost for digging out a water leak at Murphy Agri, LLC. Clerk Sloan provided information in two letters and other documentation to the Coffey County commissioners on how funds from them had been spent during 2020 and provided information on how funds would be used in 2021. Sloan reported the Lebo Park and Recreation Board had \$10,375.80 carried over from the 2019 budget and received \$37,867.50 from the county during 2020. From those funds a total of \$24,036.98

was spent on park and recreation projects in 2020. Listed among those expenses was over \$9,000 for care of the grounds in the three parks, \$4,600 for park electricity, and over \$4,000 for insurance on equipment and buildings. Clerk Sloan also informed Coffey County commissioners in writing that at the end of 2019 the City of Lebo had \$243,842.98 in Infrastructure Funds and received \$155,710 during 2020 from the county. Expenses for 2020 total \$180,966.09. The \$218,586.89 left in the account at the end of 2020 will be used in 2021 to help complete Phase 2 of the streetscape project, place

New Strawn City Council sets Strawnfest for June 12

NEW STRAWN — The New Strawn City Council set June 12 as the date for Strawnfest 2021. The town's belated 50th anniversary will be celebrated at Strawnfest, since the COVID-19 pandemic forced the annual event to be canceled in 2020. A suggested theme is "50 + 1 Strawn is a place for fun." Mayor Mark Petterson presided at the Jan. 14 regular meeting with council members Jeanne Haas, Gary Haehn, Rhonda Taylor and Jim Weeks present. Council member Richard Croll was absent. Others present were Zoning Administrator Martha Newkirk, Maintenance Operator Steven Dwight, City

Clerk Lana Johnson and City Attorney Philip Wright. Susan Haehn attended as a visitor. During public comments, Susan Haehn voiced concern about the darkness in the Arrowhead Hills Addition, especially on Arrowhead Drive. There are no street lights, only yard lights. When the subdivision was platted, the intent was for no overhead wires or poles. Maintenance Operator Steven Dwight planned to look into lighting options. Zoning Administrator Martha Newkirk discussed the zoning-related fee schedule. City Attorney Philip Wright said some fees are tied to ordinances that would need to

be changed, if the fees are changed. Council member Haehn voiced a concern about the haying permits. Maintenance Operator Dwight presented a report. He plans to attend a wastewater training Feb. 10 in Paola in order to earn continuing education hours required for his state wastewater license. The council approved allowing Dwight to purchase 400 feet of sewer jet hose from Mayer Specialty Services, not to exceed \$1,080. On a 3-1 vote, the council accepted a bid from Trophy Fisheries amounting to \$4,898 per year for three years for lake treatment. Haehn opposed the

motion. Dwight will be getting quotes for an on-demand water heater at the park restroom and a pump for the backhoe. City Clerk Lana Johnson submitted a written report that included: no fourth quarter alcohol tax (2020 was \$2,362.47 less than 2019); new KPERS employer rate of 8.87 percent effective Jan. 1, which is up from 8.61 percent; audit scheduled for Feb. 25; and \$422.36 sent to Kansas Set-off in December. The December Yard of the Month award went to the Stukeys on Arrowhead Drive, second place went to the Fosters and third place to the

Hauths. The city clerk sent a letter of congratulation and \$25 Chamber Bucks to the first-place winner. The council briefly discussed having a Yard of the Month award during the summer months. The council entered into a 20-minute executive session with Dwight present for a portion, to discuss employee evaluations under the non-elected personnel exception to the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA). In open session, the council approved giving Dwight a 40 cents per hour raise, retroactive to Jan. 1.

See Strawn, Page 7