



Rice County Rap

Rice County, Kansas

March 9, 2010

Volume 3, Issue 10

Department Head Connection

Greg Klein, Emergency Management Deputy Director

Greg Klein and Terry David were present for the informational report that Greg brought to the Commissioners. Here are the highlights:

1. The Mitigation Plan is at FEMA waiting for approval; then the county and all sub-jurisdictions will need to adopt the plan.
2. The National Weather Service Presentation was held on February 17 with 111 in attendance; Chance Hays presented. Severe Weather Awareness Week is this week - March 8 - 12; there have been four winter weather conferences with county, city, school district, hospital and private entities in attendance.
3. The Wireless Emergency Notification (WENS) system has had 1816 alerts sent out since Oct., 2009 including weather, road closings & reminders.
4. March 16 is a meeting with Jayhawk Pipeline and KDHE concerning a crude oil pipeline south of Lyons running next to the sink hole.
5. Collaboration is taking place concerning the Radio Systems in the county, including Public Works, EMS, EM, police and fire. This includes the forward thinking of changing to narrow band - a mandate by January 1, 2013 and the age of many of the radios and systems.
6. Greg displayed the new ID Badge system purchased by the South Central Homeland Security Council. He is working with EMS, Sherriff's officers, Jailers, Health Department and Dispatch for these badges.
7. Greg will be a part of the City of Lyons natural disaster plan annual review on March 23. He has also met with Lyons staff explaining the ID badge system.
8. Rice County Hazmat and some EMS employees were given a tour of the JACAM plant on Ave Q by Gene Zaid on February 11, discussing the chemicals and spill or leak situations outside the plants.
9. There were sixteen Hazmat calls in 2009 ranging from oil & fuel spills, different types of gas leaks, CO2 calls and assisting the Sheriff's office in Meth Labs. In 2010, there has been one CO2 call, one oil spill and a couple of natural gas leaks. There are currently 12 employees at this point in the Hazmat team.
10. The Rice County Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) was last updated in 1999. EM received a grant of \$2,500 for partial funding to produce a new LEOP. Because of time constraints, Greg outlined two bids that were solicited from firms to complete that project. One was EFM for \$17,920 and one was from Ida Kirmse for \$14,400. Other plans that require attention in 2010 are the Hazardous Analysis, the Foreign Animal Disease plan and Memorandums of Understanding for weather issues.

March 9 - March 16

Birthdays

March 13 -
Gayla Godfrey

Friday, March 12
8:00 am

- Department Head Meeting
Health Department Conference Room

March 15, 2010

- Department Head Connection
Emergency Medical Services Director
Terry David

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The Rice County Newsletter does not contain the official minutes of the Commission meeting nor does it convey the official county position on issues.



Life is not what you see, but what you've projected.

It's not what you've felt, but what you've decided.

It's not what you've experienced, but how you've remembered it.

It's not what you've forged, but what you've allowed.

It's not who's appeared, but who you've summoned.

And it's not enjoyed until you find what you already have.

Rice County Commission Meeting

March 8, 2010

The 9 o'clock appointment with the Commissioners was with Jill. She asked for signatures on an Authorized Signature Designation Form for the 2009 Home Grant; approval to sign a letter of support for the Energy Manager grant and permission for Jill to sign the grant application this week and send it to KCC; approval of an invoice for \$608.05 for the 2009 SCKEDD administrative fee for the Rice County Microloan Fund to be paid out of that fund; she relayed a question from Rhonda for permission to stay overnight in Hutchinson due to long hours before and after her state Register of Deeds conference since she is assisting set-up and clean up. This request was denied in keeping with the 50 mile overnight stay policy. Jill also advised that the first 2010 E-waste collection event will be Saturday, March 13 in Nickerson.

John Achatz and Dennis Wray of the Public Works Department reminded the Commissioners of the Township meeting Monday night, and the South Central Kansas Association of Commissioners and Engineers Annual Spring Meeting on April 1 in Hutchinson; informed them that it was time to go out for quotes on oil for the first half of the year. John will offer the specs to Jones Oil, Boroughs Oil and Co-op and bids will be opened on March 22 at 9:30 am. John asked to get 10,000 tons sand needed for the sand sealing of the NE quadrant of the county from Nickerson Sand. Permission was granted. There was a discussion about the Public Works repeater and radios. Greg Klein brought more information about that and it is reported on page one.

John Stewart and Dan Dobbins from Northern Natural Gas made a presentation to the Commissioners about Senate Bill 553 that is being heard in committee on Wednesday, March 10. They brought about concerns of how this bill could affect their business and others like theirs.

Scott Bush brought a letter written to Stawn Construction concerning the work done at the Health Department for approval to send. He also brought a draft of a resolution concerning disposal of construction and demolition materials. Scott reported on a meeting he had with John Sweet and John Achatz concerning the airport hangers. He explained the specifics of the hangers, the ownership and the leases. Scott brought a lease for the ground where the hangers that are owned by individuals. Modifications were made and he will be taking it to Mark Tremaine, the Lyons city attorney. Josh Michaelis came to be present for an executive session. There was also a lengthy discussion about the WorkFit program. This is a service that could replace our present pre-employment physicals and drug screening and take assessments of present employees. Dialogue will continue on this subject. Scott asked for our insurance agent and an EMC agent to come to talk about how this could affect our Workman's Comp coverage.

County Clerk Alicia Showalter brought the preferred customer contract from Landsource for the maintenance of the sprinkler system at the Courthouse. She also brought the bill for dues to the Lyons Chamber of Commerce for \$150 for approval. Alicia asked for an executive session to discuss non-elected personnel.



HIGH ON RICE COUNTY

REMEMBER DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 14 AT 2 AM



SPRING FORWARD