

County purchases more property near courthouse

Written by Darci Tomky

Following the recent purchase of the bowling alley property just to the east of the courthouse, Phillips County has now bought the Absmeier property to the north of the bowling alley, reported commissioners at their Nov. 30 meeting.

The \$15,000 purchase now gives the County about one quarter of the block in the 200 block of South Campbell Avenue.

The board hired Jackie Reynolds as the new Phillips County Social Services director.

In November, a motion was made by Bud Biesemeier and seconded by Jerry Beavers to change what the county will offer for the health insurance benefit for 2013. The County will now pay up to the maximum deductible for each of the four available plans for 2013.

Commissioners have just returned from their annual Colorado Counties Inc. winter conference Nov. 26-28 in Colorado Springs. They noted part of the conference covered what happens now that Amendment 64 has passed, but unfortunately there were more questions than answers.

In November, commissioners approved a Ford Expedition vehicle order for Phillips County Sheriff's Department. After trading in a 2000 Jeep Cherokee, the cost of the vehicle was \$32,198.

They noted the County renewed a janitorial contract with Jamie Poe for the courthouse, resource center and communications center.

Commissioners reported a zoning change from agriculture to commercial for a 10-acre parcel of land three miles east of Holyoke on Highway 6 for Aaron and Angie Powell. A hearing will take place Friday, Dec. 7.

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A Christmas party for County employees is set for Thursday, Dec. 20 at the Haxtun Community Center.

A reception for outgoing commissioners Bud Bieseimer and Jerry Beavers is scheduled for Friday, Jan. 4. After 12 years on the Board of County Commissioners, both Bieseimer and Beavers agreed the board has accomplished a lot in those 12 years, and they've had tremendous support from the communities.

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