

Kinnie elected chairman of commissioner board

Written by Darci Tomky

Joe Kinnie was elected chairman for 2013 for the Phillips County Board of Commissioners.

Newly-elected commissioners Harlan Stern and Don Lock have jumped in to their roles on the board following their swearing-in ceremony in January to continue county business as usual. Stern and Lock will serve as co-chairs of the board in Kinnie's absence.

At their meeting Wednesday, Jan. 30, commissioners explained a safety issue in the county when landowners string electric wire across trail roads, which are not heavily used, to fence off pasture corn stalks in the winter.

The commissioners asked landowners to contact the road foremen when a situation like this comes up so the trail roads can be barricaded and marked as temporarily closed for the safety of the traveling public.

Road foreman for Phillips County Dist. 1 (Amherst area) is Evan Consalvos, 854-4173; Dist. 2 (Holyoke area) Kevin Scott, 854-3529; and Dist. 3 (Haxtun area) Mike Salyards, 774-7422.

In the month of January, the county secured the title to the 1975 mobile home, previously owned by Robert Carrick, on the property recently purchased by the county just east of the courthouse. The trailer was removed and county forces have completed a general cleanup of the outside areas on the property.

Commissioners approved Michael Davis as a Haxtun Fire representative and John Ayoub as a Holyoke EMT representative for terms on the Phillips County Communications Board.

Also at their meeting, the board reported that the county received approval of a state highway access permit, allowing the widening of the access to County Road 26 immediately west of Paoli.

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Commissioners adopted a supplemental budget for 2012.

Finally, the board approved several purchases and sales.

They approved the purchase of a 46-inch screen for the Communications Center to monitor cameras at the courthouse and Event Center.

New tires for front-end loaders were purchased from H & R Tire. Dist. 1 received bias ply tires at an approximate cost of \$6,500, and the price for radial tires for Dist. 2 was \$10,748.

Commissioners approved a request from the sheriff to purchase four tasers at a cost of \$4,828.

For the purpose of snow removal and other projects, the county purchased a 2005 four-wheel drive Honda ATV with additional equipment for \$4,000 from Garold Roberts.

Dist. 1 sold a handy hitch for \$3,500 and a box scraper for \$900 to Yuma County Road and Bridge Department.

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