

Funds committed to clinic

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
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JOHNSON

Johnson: Construction contract still waiting for USDA approval.

Gothenburg Memorial Hospital will receive a \$2.5 million federal loan to build a doctor's clinic.

Yet GMH administrator John Johnson is hesitant to call it a done deal.

"Everything will happen because the funds are obligated but the type of contract still has to be approved by the USDA office in Washington D.C.," Johnson said Tuesday. "We want to make sure every step is taken to completion."

To pay for the \$3.1 million project, GMH will obtain a \$500,000 loan from Gothenburg State Bank.

"USDA officials want to create a partnership between them and the local community," he said.

Lincoln-based Sampson Construction Company, the contractor, will break ground April 2 which will coincide with the hospital's annual health fair.

Subcontractor contracts were approved during a meeting Monday, Johnson said.

GMH board members approved the building of a new clinic in the spring of 2010 because of cramped conditions at Gothenburg Family Practice.

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The practice is in a clinic attached to the hospital where three doctors and two physician's assistants lease space.

In the spring of 2010, the board hired Sampson to design and construct an 18,000 square-foot clinic.

Once construction is completed,

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