Zoning administrator appointed

With the recent resignation of Dawson County surveyor Jake Ripp, an enforcement officer for floodplain issues has been hired.

At least temporarily.

Pam Holbrook, who is the county zoning administrator, was appointed to the position by Dawson Commissioners at their May 15 meeting.

As the flood plain enforcement officer, she will create, define and regulate floodway and flood fringe districts in the county, according to a county resolution—a job that has normally been part of the county surveyor's job description.

Commissioners continue to accept applications for the surveyor job.

As Johnson Lake gears up for its second annual art and wine festival on June 8, commissioners approved three special licenses for businesses to sell liquor during the event.

Three Brothers Vineyard of Farnam, Mac's Creek Winery of Lexington and Lakeshore Marina Grille will provide alcohol during the Johnson Lake Area Chamber of Commerce-sponsored event.

Lundgren Farms of Lexington received a special license to sell liquor at a May 25 wedding reception at a private residence.

In other business, commissoners:

approved an agreement with the Nebraska Department of Roads for bridge inspections. They also decided to participate in a federal purchase program so the county can receive federal assistance.

okayed an agreement dealing with road signs which was federally mandated.

heard an update from Dan Schwatzkopf of the Krull Agency in Hastings about insurance, renewal options, health care reform and its impact.

learned that commissioner Bill Stewart has not heard from the United States Department of Agriculture or the Community Economic Development group about the purchase of the old Sixth Street grocery store in Lexington by the county.

In the meantime, the county is leasing the building and plans to move Health and Human Services there after June 1.

Inmates from the Dawson County Jail have been painting the building which has saved the county $1,700 in labor, officials said.

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