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Chadrad Communications, Inc.
226 Bordeaux St - Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-5545 fax 308-432-5601
E-mail: kcsr@chadrad.com

(Neb.)-Rushville, Sheridan County Discuss Law Enforcement Specifics



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 10/22/2013 09:57 AM

(SHERIDAN COUNTY)-Present at the Sheridan County commissioners meeting Monday morning were chair Dan Kling, commissioners Jack Andersen and James Krotz, and county clerk Sindy Coburn.

Rushville Mayor Chris Heiser, councilwoman Anna Janssen and Sheriff Terry Robbins met with the commissioners to discuss the renewal of the inter-local agreement under which the county provides law-enforcement services to the city. For approximately \$84,000 a year, the county keeps one officer on duty in Rushville (except when emergencies elsewhere prevent) and provides for the enforcement of city ordinances. State law requires the city of Gordon, because of its population, to provide its own police department. The village of Hay Springs, due to its population, is not required to provide police services. The Hay Springs village council has chosen not to contract with the county for additional police services and receives the same level of service as rural areas of the county. Rushville has the option of providing its own police force or contracting with another agency for police services.

Mayor Heiser stated his belief that the agreement was a good deal for the city of Rushville, even though recent events in White Clay sometimes left Rushville unattended. There was considerable discussion concerning more aggressive enforcement of speed limits along Hwy. 20 in Rushville. The sheriff will be researching the cost and availability of additional radar equipment for the campaign.

Councilwoman Janssen expressed her concern regarding the number of vehicles parked near the jail. Some of these vehicles are being held by the sheriff as evidence and some are surplus department vehicles. There was considerable discussion about other storage options.

The Mayor and a city council representative will return next month to continue the discussion of the contract.

In other news, road superintendent Tom Kuester presented the board with his recommendation that the county accept a bid from DMI of Rapid City of \$39,700 for a 2013 RANCO bottom-dump gravel trailer with a trade-in

allowance of \$9,000. This bid is approximately \$800 higher than the bid for an Armorlite trailer, but the RANCO trailer has a heavier suspension and the county has an existing parts inventory for RANCO trailers. The county also has a longstanding maintenance relationship with DMI on their existing fleet of RANCO trailers. The board voted to accept the bid from DMI.

Marvel Buettner of Hay Springs submitted a request for the subdivision of two rural parcels of less than 10 acres just north of Hay Springs. The commissioners approved the request.

The minutes of this and all meetings of the commissioners are available to the public at the office of the Sheridan County clerk or online at sheridancountynebraska.com.

--Submitted by James Krotz

All meetings of the Board of Commissioners are held in compliance with Nebraska Open Meetings Law.