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Sheriff's department gets new K-9

(KMZA)--The Nemaha County Sheriff's Department has purchased a new K-9.

Sheriff Rich Vernon says the dutch shepherd was purchased for \$9,500.

The dog will be trained for both patrol and drug detection work. The new K-9 will undergo 14 weeks of training beginning March 9. His handler will be Sgt. Darren Wessel.

Vernon said the department's current K-9 is 12-years-old and has some health issues. He will be retired when the new dog completes his training.

Vernon says funding for the purchase of the new K-9 came from the county's drug seizure fund and not tax dollars.

He says the sheriff's department has had a police dog since the mid-90's and have had good experience with the dogs. Vernon said the dogs pay for themselves by assisting in seizures.

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