

City gives support to proposed fire district

**(KNZA)--The Hiawatha City Commission has approved a resolution supporting the efforts of the Hiawatha Fire Department to form a fire district.**

**The action came at Monday evening's meeting.**

**The proposed fire district would consist of the city of Hiawatha, Hiawatha Township and Padonia Township.**

**The resolution confirms the city's intent to join the fire district.**

**In addition, it confirms the city's intent to transfer the fire department's current vehicles, equipment and the fire department building to the fire district.**

**The fire district would be responsible for the remaining more than \$90,000 owed on one fire department truck.**

**Interim Fire Chief Gene Atland said the fire department plans to meet with the Brown County Commission March 30 to seek their approval to form the fire district.**

**Following a hearing drawing no public comment, the Commission approved an ordinance authorizing the issuance of nearly \$6.3 million in bonds for the Hiawatha Community Hospital.**

**The bonds will be used to refund the hospital's existing bonds. In addition, they will provide around \$2 million in capital to the hospital for equipment upgrades and facility improvements.**

**City Administrator Mike Nichols said the city is acting as a conduit and there is no financial obligation.**

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