Trailer fires at Brown Co landfill discussed

(KNZA)--Representatives of Hamm's Inc. met with the Brown County Commission Monday to discuss fires that have destroyed three of their trailers at the county transfer station in a less than two-year period, with the most recent fire in June.

Charlie Sedlock and Dan Watkins with Hamm's proposed an addendum to their contract that includes a \$4 a ton surcharge for 36-months to recover the cost of two of the trailers.

Sedlock said the trailers cost \$70,000 to \$80,000 a piece.

While the exact cause of the fires is unknown, he said the industry has been wrestling with more fires caused by lithium-ion batteries.

Hamm's is working with the county to mitigate the risk of future fires.

On the recommenation of County Attorney Kevin Hill, the Commission tabled for two weeks a decision on the contract addendum to allow the county an opportunity to discuss the proposed surcharge with local trash haulers.

Hamm's transports trash collected at the Brown County Transfer Station to its landfill at Perry for disposal.

In other business, Commissioner Lamar Shoemaker discussed with commissioners a request from the city of the Horton that the county contribute half of the cost of repairs to the Brown County Fair building roof. Shoemaker said the city has obtained a bid from Lanter Roofing Systems in the amount of \$17,100. The commission voted to contribute up to \$8,500 toward the roof repairs.

Many Signals Communications