

County approves purchase of asphalt zipper

**(KNZA)--Brown County will be getting a new machine to aid in the repair of the county's hard-surfaced roads.**

**The Brown County Commission, when they meet last week, approved the purchase of a 2013 asphalt zipper from the city of Hiawatha for \$43,000.**

**The purchase was approved on a 2-1 vote, with Commissioner Bill Pollock casting the dissenting vote.**

**The city accepted sealed bids for the machine and the county was the successful bidder.**

**In other business, the Commission was presented with two bids received for the replacement of a bridge south of Fairview.**

**Pollock, whose district the bridge is located in, said he would like to look further into installing a tube instead of replacing the bridge and utilizing a grant the county was awarded for the project.**

**Commissioners Rich Lehmkuhl and Lamar Shoemaker questioned the financial feasibility of changing plans at this point in the process. It was pointed out that the county had already invested \$54,000 in the project.**

**In addition, Lehmkuhl said not moving forward with the bridge project could hurt the county's chances of receiving grants in the future.**

**Road and Bridge secretary Tami Lehmkuhl said the Commission needs to make a decision by December 13 on whether to authorize the awarding of a contract for the bridge replacement project.**

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