

Atchison Co Commissioners to Act on Employee Benefits

Atchison County Employees may see an improvement in their employee benefits for next year.

County Commissioners met with an insurance committee that was formed in December consisting of various department heads or their representatives in their regular Wednesday meeting.

County Commissioner Jeff Schuele discusses the committee's recommendations.

(Play Audio) RT: :45

Commissioners plan to review the companies for the next 30 days before making a decision.

They also unanimously passed a resolution modifying electronic device usage in county vehicles and use of county property.

The electronic device policy bars any county employee texting while driving as well as using a cell phone while driving, unless if it's a hands free device.

Schuele says employees can use phones in the vehicles otherwise, but will have to pull over and come to a stop.

The cell phone use rule has an exception for employees designated as emergency personnel in emergency situations.

Commissioners also opened and accepted the annual chemical bid from CBS Chamberlin of Castle Rock, Colorado for 84 thousand 924 dollars.

Schuele says the bid was about 16 thousand dollars higher than last year due to rising fuel costs.

The chemicals are used to eliminate designated noxious weeds in the county.

Commissioners also appointed Wes Lanter as interim Emergency Preparedness and Noxious Weeds director.

Lanter was an assistant under departed EP director Lori Chew.

Schuele explains the reasoning behind the appointment.

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Schuele says as of Wednesday, they have received 10 applicants for the EP position and Commissioners plan to review and discuss the applications next week.