

County OK's Participation In CETA for Another Year

Colorado County Commissioners' Court, in session Monday, approved a resolution to participate in the Comprehensive Education Training Act (CETA) for the year 1980.

The county has for the past several years participated in the program and is qualified to hire six persons under the federally-financed program but the county has had difficulty in finding qualified, employable persons to fill these six slots.

The county does at the present have an employee under the CETA program who is handling the collection of ambulance fees and the program is progressing very satisfactorily, reported Judge Lester Crank.

Precinct 3 Commissioner Crockett Leyendecker said that he did not believe the program was needed in this county and that the county should go along with the program "just because someone else will fill our six slots if we don't." Precinct 4 Commissioner Bill Stiles said that he opposed participation in the program for two reasons: first, the federal government can't afford such programs and secondly, because of the strong job market in this area.

Judge breaks tie. They voted against the plan, Precinct 1 Commissioner Otto Leos and Precinct 2 Commissioner Rafael Vazquez. Judge Crank broke the 2-2 tie by voting for the continued participation.

This county is involved in a 11-county consortium under the CETA program (the eleven counties in the H-GAC with the exception of Harris and Galveston counties.) The

program is administered by Colorado County and each of the other counties are assigned a number of spots which could be filled.

It was noted in the discussion that qualifications for eligibility make it difficult to find persons in this county for the program especially since one of the requirements is that a person must not have been employed for a prior period.

Judge Crank stated that housewives who have been inactive in the business world and want some experience in training are probably the most acceptable applicants. Maximum length of employment under the CETA program is for 18 months.

The current contract for the county's participation would have ended Dec. 31, 1979 if the court had not voted to renew its participation.

Educational Program

The members of the court and Sheriff Goe (Deo Muller and Chief Deputy Jim Broussard and a number of the deputies from the department saw an educational pipeline safety program, presented by G. "Phiney" of Dow Chemical, U.S.A.

Phiney showed a slide film which stresses safety and precautions when working in the areas of pipelines, and the dangers which can arise from rupturing a pipeline.

The court approved a contract and bond for Deo and Keng Paving Co. for paving projects in the four commissioners' precincts.

Approved an application to bore under Schulenburg Lane from the Gladden Water and Sewer District to the Shirley Oaks subdivision being developed.

veiled as a Hazardous Subdivision in Precinct 1. Approved an application for installation of a power line for a distance of 1.2 miles along County Road 108 north-west of Garwood and four miles of FM 1880 as requested by Wharton County Electric Co., Inc.

County Invests \$121,000 More In CD's

The investment of an additional \$121,000 in county funds, earmarked for expenditure in the 1979 budget but not needed for the next 90 day period, was approved by Colorado County Commissioners' Court Monday on recommendation of County Auditor M. L. Briscoe.

On May 14th the court authorized placing \$300,000 in CD's to mature in 90 days and to bear 14.11% interest in the county depository, the First State Bank of Columbus. Also, \$425,000 was authorized to be placed in CD's on May 28th, also for a 90-day period.

Funds included in the latest \$121,000 CD are: \$20,000 from Road and Bridge Precinct 4; \$25,000 from additional ad valorem, precinct 2; \$15,000 from revenue sharing, general; \$30,000 from revenue sharing, unallocated; \$20,000 from the right of way fund; and \$11,000 from additional ad valorem unallocated.

Right of Way Assumed

The court assumed as suming jurisdiction (and maintenance) of a 52 of a mile section of former FM 950 near Garwood. The section was abandoned when the new FM 950 routing and bridge went into use and the state highway department asked the county to assume jurisdiction and maintenance of the road. The request was approved but contingent on the fact that the highway department pave two short areas at each end of the road where the connection with the new FM 950 routing. This was the suggestion of Precinct 4 Commissioner Bill Stiles, in whose precinct the section of road lies, and the court concurred with his suggestion that the acceptance be delayed until these two portions of the road are paved.

Questions Costs of Lawn Care

During the discussion on the payment of accounts, Commissioner Bill Stiles questioned the amount of expenditure for care of the courthouse lawn. The court does not have a contract with Columbus Tree & Lawn Serv. of Columbus, but the firm does work for the county as requested. The expenditure for the months of May and June amounted to \$1739.56, noted Stiles and he said he considered this excessive and suggested that perhaps a more economical method might be used.

Judge Crank pointed out that this included some costs for fertilizers, fungicides, and for trimming as well as for care of the lawn.

It was agreed that a full-time custodian at the courthouse would offer more services, but it was the conjecture of most members of the court that probably the costs would not be any less.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS

Added to the Eagle Lake Headlight subscription listing for the past several weeks have been: Donna Danklefs, Houston; Mark Borchert, Garwood; Ken Woods, Bryan; Ricky Hensold, Sheridan; To subscribe to the Headlight, call 234-2783.

EDITORIALLY SPEAKING

Gasoline siphoning can cause a person at least two major problems, he says. A person can swallow gas while transferring it, and the effects can be serious, even deadly.

Also, a second potential problem of gasoline siphoning is that of aspiration or getting it into the lungs.

Ellis says if gasoline ingestion does occur in the home, the first thing to do is call the Poison Center at 785-1420. "If there is a lot of coughing or choking, we'll send the person in for an X-ray to see what the gasoline looks like. It is not coughing or choking, we'll put the person on an 18-hour watch for fever, coughing, chest congestion or any other symptoms that may be an aspiration problem."

Siphoning Gasoline Is Dangerous

Gasoline siphoning has increased "enormously" recently, according to Mike Ellis, director of the Texas State Poison Center and Ellis says the average seems to be directly related to the gasoline shortage in the area.

Ellis says his department is receiving an average of 10 calls a day about gasoline poisoning. The increased practice of siphoning, Ellis thinks, is a major reason for the increase in the number of gasoline poisoning cases and the gasoline shortage. He says adults, because of the shortage, are siphoning gas from car to lawn mower, from car to car or other car.

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