

Community Development News

By Christy Hopkins

Greeley County This weekend is participating in the Rural Opportunity Zone program and still has funds available this year for those who've relocated to Greeley County after July of 2011 with outstanding student loan debt. The application deadline is September 30! Visit the website below for more information or give us a call at (620) 376-2548. There are also income tax benefits for those who have relocated to our community from outside the state of Kansas. Here's the link: <https://www.kansascommerce.gov/.../taxes-and-financing/roz/>

homecoming at Greeley County Schools! The students will be having a fun week of activity and the theme for this Friday night's football game is Hawaiian.

Just a reminder: if your organization is interested in taking on the Christmas Idea Fair, please get in touch. The third weekend in October will be here before we know it!

It continues to be an active summer for the Country Fresh Market! I'll look forward to seeing you Wednesday evening under the Dixon Drug awning.

Supervisors...

(Continued from Page 1) Stephanie Wineinger was reappointed to the Library Board.

Clerk and Sheriff's fee reports were approved.

County auditor James V. Myers' contract for the county audits and compilations for the coming year was approved unanimously, at 1% higher than last year.

A building permit was approved for Daniel Veleta.

A temporary liquor permit was approved for the Amusement Association, with Monty Moritz abstaining.

A contract for building inspection costs of \$4,650 was approved unanimously.

Bond discussed a KPERs audit that was done.

Moritz said he had a complaint about the condition of the Horace

Road.

Phillips asked when the Recycling Center started parking their trailer behind the EMS building. It limits the parking when there are classes. Supervisors thought it would be hard to move or find another spot for it.

Temporary locations for the health department were discussed but nothing has been found to date.

Myers brought up the request for a road closure that had been previously discussed.

The meeting was adjourned until 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 16th, when supervisors will have a phone meeting with the architect for the health department remodeling.

Official minutes of supervisors' meetings are available at the county clerk's office.

Kansas Water Plan Virtual Public Hearings

October 7 and 8, by Webinar

Virtual public hearings for receiving comments on the draft Kansas Water Plan (KWP) will take place on two dates and times: at 2 p.m. on Thursday, October 7, 2021 and 10 a.m. on Friday, October 8, 2021. These hearings are being conducted in compliance with statutory procedures for updating the KWP.

The Kansas Water Office (KWO), in coordination with feedback from local, state, federal and interstate partners, is currently developing the 5-year update of the KWP. The KWP is one of the primary tools used by the State of Kansas to address current water resources issues and to plan for future needs. Statutory authority and basic guidance for formulating the KWP is contained in the State Water Resources Planning Act.

At their August 17, 2021 meeting, the Kansas Water Authority approved proceeding forward to the formal public input phase of the KWP update process. The aforementioned hearings and concurrent comment period are taking place in conjunction with this formal public input phase. The entire draft Kansas Water Plan being presented

for formal public comment can be found on the KWO website at:

<https://www.kwo.ks.gov/water-vision-water-plan/water-plan>

WHAT: Public hearings for comments on updated draft Kansas Water Plan

WHEN: 2 p.m. on Thursday, October 7 and 10 a.m. on Friday, October 8, 2021

WHERE: Online, hearings links available at: <https://www.kwo.ks.gov/water-vision-water-plan/water-plan>

Written comments are also being accepted until midnight on Friday, October 15, 2021. Written comments may be submitted any of the following ways: (1) by U.S. mail or other delivery service to The Kansas Water Office, 900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 404, Topeka, Kansas 66611-1249, or (2) by sending an electronic copy via email to emailkwo@kwo.ks.gov.

If accommodations are needed for a person with disabilities, please notify the Kansas Water Office at 900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 404, Topeka, KS 66611-1249 or call (785) 296-3185 at least five working days prior to the desired hearing date.

Kansas Common Sense

September 13, 2021
Senator Jerry Moran
We Shall Never Forget
Remembering September 11, 20 Years Later

Saturday marked 20 years since the September 11 attacks that razed New York City's Twin Towers, decimated the west side of the Pentagon, hallowed a field outside of Shanksville, Pennsylvania and claimed 2,996 American lives. Two decades later, those initial moments of fear and uncertainty still burn brightly in America's collective memory and stand as a defining moment in our nation's history.

We shall never forget. As the events of September 11 have brought profound change to America and the world, we will never forget the lives lost that day and the sacrifice of so many—firemen, law enforcement officers, co-workers, friends, neighbors and strangers—who answered the call to serve and save their fellow Americans and to those who have answered the call to service since.

Following the September 11 attacks, our military servicemembers and veterans in Afghanistan fought honorably to accomplish every mission their country asked of them. Over the past two decades, veterans, their fellow servicemembers and their families have sacrificed greatly while fulfilling their mission in Afghanistan. As the lead Republican of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I want each veteran to know that they not only have my support, but also my admiration and confidence for what they will go on to achieve for our country.

May we never forget the way we united in the aftermath of the attacks, as one nation under God. And may we renew our commitment to respecting one another, to working together for the common good and to answering the call to serve.

Delivering Remarks Commemorating the 20th Anniversary in McPherson

On Saturday, I participated in McPherson's ceremonies commemorating 20 years since the September 11 attacks. When I remember that Tuesday, I think about the shared devastation we, as Americans, felt. But, I also remember the way we pulled together to support each other, as Kansans and as

a country forever changed. I was humbled to be a part of the ceremonies, and it is my hope that everyone takes a moment to reflect on the events of September 11, remember those who lost their lives in the attacks and rescue efforts, and honor those who have sacrificed through their service since that day.

Bolstering Kansas Leadership in Aviation
Announcing \$103 Million in Grants for Kansas Aviation Manufacturers

This week, I announced grants for over 30 Kansas aviation manufacturers through the Aviation Manufacturing Jobs Protection (AMJP) program. These funds will help Kansas aviation employers retain 4,284 employees and was created by legislation I introduced with Congressman Ron Estes.

The aviation manufacturing industry in Kansas plays a critical role in providing our state with high-paying jobs and supporting commercial and general aviation across the country. As our economy continues recovering from the pandemic, having a trained, fully-staffed workforce will help aviation manufacturers recover more quickly and meet the demand for new aircraft and repairs. I'm pleased the AMJP program is providing support to this important industry and their invaluable workforce.

Unveiling the Boeing 777 with WSU, Aerospace Industry and State Leaders

This week, I was also pleased to help welcome a new company to the Wichita community, the Kansas Modification Center (KMC). The KMC, in partnership with Wichita State University's National Institute for Aviation Research (NIAR) WERX program, will help solidify the Wichita area as a leader in the maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) industry. During the welcome ceremony, KMC and NIAR WERX's first project was on hand, a Boeing 777-300ER passenger aircraft which will be converted into a freighter that meets the growing needs of the e-commerce and express cargo market industry. The official announcement of the new partnership and unveiling of the Boeing 777 aircraft marks a new era for the 'Air Capital of the World' and exemplifies the community's innovative spirit.

USDA Expands Assistance to Cover Feed Transportation Costs for Drought-Impacted Ranchers in Kansas

MANHATTAN, Kansas September 8, 2021— In response to the severe drought conditions in the West and Great Plains, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced today its plans to help cover the cost of transporting feed for livestock that rely on grazing. USDA is updating the [Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees and Farm-Raised Fish Program \(ELAP\)](#) to immediately cover feed transportation costs for drought impacted ranchers. USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) will provide more details and tools to help Kansas ranchers get ready to apply at their local USDA Service Center later this month at fsa.usda.gov/elap.

"USDA is currently determining how our disaster assistance programs can best help alleviate the significant economic, physical and emotional strain agriculture producers are experiencing due to drought conditions," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "The duration and intensity of current drought conditions are merciless, and the impacts of this summer's drought will be felt by producers for months to come. Today's announcement is to provide relief as ranchers make fall and winter herd management decisions."

ELAP provides financial assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees, and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease, certain adverse weather events or loss conditions as determined by the Secretary of Agriculture.

ELAP already covers the cost of hauling water during drought, and this change will expand the program beginning in 2021 to cover feed transportation costs where grazing and hay resources have been depleted. This includes places where:

Drought intensity is D2 for eight consecutive weeks as indicated by the [U.S.](#)

AG Derek Schmidt seeks to expand investigation into February natural gas price spike

TOPEKA – (September 13, 2021) – Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt is seeking expert assistance for his ongoing investigation into the sharp price increases of natural gas during the period of extreme cold temperatures in February.

Schmidt has submitted a request for proposals seeking to retain a law firm with expertise in the natural gas marketplace to assist with the investigation and any potential civil litigation enforcing Kansas anti-profiteering law. The Legislative Budget Committee recently reviewed the RFP without recommending any changes. The RFP is now posted publicly with the state procurement office and interested firms are invited to bid until October 28, 2021.

"State law prohibits 'unjustified' price increases for 'necessary' goods and services during a declared state of disaster emergency, and on their face these increases appear to violate Kansas law," Schmidt said. "Our investigation

[Drought Monitor](#): Drought intensity is D3 or greater; or

USDA has determined a shortage of local or regional feed availability.

Cost share assistance will also be made available to cover eligible cost of treating hay or feed to prevent the spread of invasive pests like fire ants.

Under the revised policy for feed transportation cost assistance, eligible ranchers will be reimbursed 60% of feed transportation costs above what would have been incurred in a normal year. Producers qualifying as underserved (socially disadvantaged, limited resource, beginning or military veteran) will be reimbursed for 90% of the feed transportation cost above what would have been incurred in a normal year.

A national cost formula, as established by USDA, will be used to determine reimbursement costs which will not include the first 25 miles and distances exceeding 1,000 transportation miles. The calculation will also exclude the normal cost to transport hay or feed if the producer normally purchases some feed. For 2021, the initial cost formula of \$6.60 per mile will be used (before the percentage is applied), but may be adjusted on a state or regional basis.

To be eligible for ELAP assistance, livestock must be intended for grazing and producers must have incurred feed transportation costs on or after Jan. 1, 2021. Although producers will self-certify losses and expenses to FSA, producers are encouraged to maintain good records and retain receipts and related documentation in the event these documents are requested for review by the local FSA County Committee. The deadline to file an application for payment for the 2021 program year is Jan. 31, 2022.

has reached a point where additional resources and expertise in the complicated natural gas marketplace are required."

Under state law, the attorney general's authority includes enforcing limits on profiteering during a declared disaster and on the filing of false claims for payment from government entities. After natural gas prices spiked during the declared winter weather disaster, Schmidt's office immediately opened an investigation on February 19 to determine whether there is evidence that the unprecedented price increases violated state law. More than a month later, on March 30, Gov. Laura Kelly then requested the attorney general "conduct an immediate and thorough investigation into the legality of price increases imposed during the February winter weather event by natural gas supplier or third-party marketers outside the [Kansas Corporation Commission's] jurisdiction." Schmidt's investigation is ongoing.

Country Fresh Market this Wednesday

This week's Country Fresh Market is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13. The market will take place from 5 – 6 p.m. under Dixon Drug's awning, on the southeast corner of the Broadway and Greeley Avenues.

Vendors will include:

- Ruth Lehman will have lunchbox peppers, greens, gherkins, bread, and cookies at the market.

- Marilyn Kleymann will have homemade noodles, banana bread, beer bread

other baked goods, eggs, and jam.

- Other vendors may be present, depending on their schedules.

The Country Fresh Market welcomes new vendors and encourages products and goods of all kinds. There is no cost to participate in the market. Please contact Greeley County Community Development at (620) 376-2548 or stop by the office at 510 Broadway in downtown Tribune for more information.

It's your future. Let's protect it.™
Together we'll create a plan to protect what matters most to you.

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Greeley County Republican
P.O. Box 610
Tribune, Kansas 67879
Entered at Tribune Post Office as second class mail matter.
Second Class Postage Paid at Tribune, Kansas 67879
Published weekly every Wednesday at least 50 weeks per year.
Subscriptions are non-refundable.

National Advertising Representative
KANSAS PRESS SERVICE, INC.
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