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Outdoor board agrees to pay Manalapan

By NOLA SIZEMORE
Staff Writer

The Harlan County Outdoor Recreation Board Authority held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday and a lease with Manalapan Land Company was a topic of discussion.

In May, 2009, a 25-year lease was signed between Harlan County Fiscal Court, the recreation board and Manalapan Land Company.

As part of the contract, the lessees (Harlan County Fiscal Court and Harlan County Outdoor Recreation Board) agreed to pay rent to the lessor (Manalapan Land Company) 6 percent of the gross proceeds received by the out-

door board from the sale of permits or other income generated directly or indirectly from the use of the leased land, including but not limited to fees for parking, camping or income from sales of maps, T-shirts and hats which contain references to the Black Mountain Off-Road Adventure Area.

"\$151,000 worth of permits have been sold since we started and we owe Manalapan 6 percent of that," said board chairman Dallas Gilbert. "We are under lease to them."

Board treasurer Brandon Goins told the board he had received a verbal bill from Manalapan asking for the money.

"This is due Friday, definitely," said Goins. "Dewayne (Bennett) was very clear on this. This is our first time on this issue. It's all new so we're trying to do it right. It's time to pay the rent."

Goins said the lease began on May 1, 2009, but the park had started selling permits in March.

"It's the right thing to do," said board member Mike King. "We can back up and pay, take that extra step."

Board member Dianne Corrison said even though the board had not signed anything she felt Manalapan should be paid from the date the first permit was sold.

"To be fair, honest and above-board, we need to go back to the

point we actually started selling our first permits," said Corrison. "We were selling and making money at that point that we didn't have a right to yet."

Corrison said she felt Manalapan should have brought this issue before the board for discussion.

"Manalapan did not formally send a bill," said Corrison. "I understand it was just a verbal bill. If we are going to be open with all the dealings we do with everyone in the county, including the person we owe the most money, we need to pay him."

The board voted to pay Manalapan money owed beginning in March 2009 when the first permits were sold.



NOLA SIZEMORE/Harlan Daily Enterprise
Harlan County Outdoor Recreation Board Authority members Dianne Corrison and Dallas Gilbert are pictured during the meeting.

Lynch patrolman dismissed by council members

By NOLA SIZEMORE
Staff Writer

The Lynch City Council dismissed patrolman Owen Petrey from his duties at their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday after Petrey was expelled from the Eastern Kentucky University Police Academy.

Lynch Chief of Police James Miller reported to the council he was informed by the academy Petrey had left the academy and didn't return as required. Upon his arrival back at a later date, Petrey violated academy rules and was expelled by staff.

"I was told the expulsion



PETREY

will be for a period of two years," said Miller.

Because of this action taken by the police academy, council voted to dismiss Petrey from his duties as patrolman for the city of Lynch.

"He had the makings of a good officer," said Mayor Ronnie Hampton. "He violated rules and disqualified himself. He cannot work as a police officer for the next two years. So, in essence he fired himself. I like Owen."

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Letcher residents seek water



JASON EDWARDS/Harlan Daily Enterprise

The Cumberland City Council discussed finances during its regular meeting on Tuesday. Council members talked about hiring a CPA to look at possible financial problems within the city.

Council approves franchise with KU

By JASON EDWARDS
Staff Writer

The Harlan City Council approved the Kentucky Utilities (KU) franchise agreement and discussed several city projects in the works during its regularly scheduled meeting on Monday.

Mayor Danny Howard told members of KU present at the meeting they had done a great job of restoring power to the city and county during the snowstorm in December. He said on behalf of the city he was very appreciative for all the work put in to restoring power.

Howard said at one point

he saw what seemed like 75 line trucks in Harlan working day and night in an effort to restore power to residents.

"I'd like to thank you guys for the job you did in this snowstorm. I know at one time I had quit counting trucks," Howard said. "I looked out on Christmas Day and there was still a crew coming off Ivy Hill. I know that I did and you did not want to see anyone without electricity, and I know you guys did everything humanly possible to make that happen."

Howard said the city street boys have worked long hours to clear the city's

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Cumberland lines could be extended

By JASON EDWARDS
Staff Writer

Several Letcher County officials came to the Cumberland City Council meeting on Tuesday in hopes the city can provide residents near the Harlan/Letcher line with city water.

Letcher County magistrate Bob Lewis, Letcher County Judge-Executive Jim Ward and Engineer Cory Napier were present representing the residents of the Harlan/Letcher line.

Lewis explained several Letcher County residents on the Harlan side of the mountain don't receive water from Harlan or Letcher counties. Lewis said supplying them with water from Letcher County would be costly and very difficult due to the mountain.

Napier explained to the council how Letcher County is seeking a letter from the Cumberland council saying

the city of Cumberland would supply residents of Letcher County with water from Cumberland.

Napier said the project was ready to move forward if the city would provide them with letter. He said the first phase of the project would add nearly eight miles of lines toward the Letcher County line, all he needed was the letter.

Napier said the letter needed to state Cumberland could provide the required amount of water to Letcher County.

Napier said a flow test had been conducted on the line but it had failed to produce the needed results. He said after some research it was determined a smaller piece of pipe had been used and if it was replaced then the flow test would produce the needed 70 gallons-per minute output required.

"We will take the water from the line, pump it up to a tank and then we'll distribute from our tank, Letcher County's tank on into their system," Napier said. "So we are needing a source. We are needing some place to get the water."

Magistrate David Kennedy said he had spoken with the Harlan Fiscal Court and was told if Cumberland would supply water to Letcher, then Harlan Fiscal Court would take care of replacing the line with no debt to Cumberland.

Napier asked the council if the line was replaced could Cumberland supply the water to the residents.

City engineer Paul Miller said he looked at other possible solutions, but it all came back to the issue of could the Cumberland water system supply the

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City stickers will increase in Loyall

By NOLA SIZEMORE
Staff Writer

The cost of purchasing a city parking sticker in Loyall will get more expensive on Feb. 1.

"At the end of this month, we will start issuing citations for those individuals who have failed to purchase their city parking stickers," said Loyall Mayor Clarence Longworth during a meeting Monday. "Those people who are eligible for free stickers have until the end of the month to pick them up. If they don't pick them up this month, they won't be free. If our police officers have to go out and issue a citation on people to get them in to get a free sticker, I don't believe they deserve to get it free. They will have to pay for it. If they can't come forth before then they will pay just like everyone else. The cost will be \$12.50 after Feb. 1. If anyone purchases their stickers before Feb. 1, the face value is \$10."

In other action, Longworth advised the council that \$3,000 had been spent in December to run new



LONGWORTH

water lines to two new customers in the Black Bottom area of the city.

"When the system was put in over there we missed some people," said Longworth. "So, we backed up and put

lines to their homes." City treasurer Mandy Longworth said the city had received an extension from the Environmental Protection Agency in regard to the city's Early Action Plan (EAP) and Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) for water and sewage within the city.

"These plans will now be due to the EPA by Feb. 15," said Mandy Longworth. "The EAP is a plan in case a pump or other equipment goes down and what action we plan to take when that happens. The LTCP is a plan for 25 years down the road. It covers what projects we would like to do and what funds we expect to come in. We have one section in this plan about replacing water lines in this area of the city.

It all depends on funding we get. If we get funding in the near future we will go ahead and replace the lines. If funding comes way on down the road, we will just have to wait."

Discussion regarding the completion of the old Loyall sewer project brought comments from waste, water and treatment plant supervisor Mark Duff.

"We now have an all new sewer system," said Duff. "We still have five people in Black Bottom who have not yet hooked onto the city sewer. Other than that, there are no major problems to report and everything is going well."

Council members approved the city financial report after the mayor advised council he had given each full time city employee a \$100 Christmas bonus.

"We have one part-time city employee that received a \$50 bonus," said Longworth. "I felt like they deserved something. I just wanted to show our appreciation for all they do."

Weather, water problems affect classes in Perry

HAZARD (AP) — A continued water shortage coupled with snowy weather in eastern Kentucky has Perry County schools officials worried about learning, testing and nutrition of students.

The Lexington Herald-Leader reported that while the weather has affected several school systems, Perry County public school students haven't been in classes since Dec. 18.

The county canceled classes again Wednesday for lack of water and officials say Thursday and Friday are doubtful.

Students will have fewer instructional days before state testing in April and children from many families are missing the breakfast and lunch programs.

A "backpack program" providing needy students with food to take home for the weekend only operates when classes are in session.

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