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Grant Township board approves multi-township district

Grant and Butler townships will combine assessing duties, following action taken by the Grant Township board of trustees Tuesday afternoon.

In a 3-2 vote, the board approved forming a multi-township assessing district with Butler that will take effect in January 2010.

Grant trustees have considered the issue since June when Butler Township Supervisor Dave Anderson and Clerk Wayne King requested the township assessing offices merge. Anderson said current Butler Township assessor Lois Karlock is not expected to seek reelection. Also, he said, the township's population may have fallen below the 1,000 residents needed for the township to have its own assessor.

The biggest concerns for Grant officials have been whether the move would benefit Grant Township residents and how the multi-township district would be funded.

The Grant board, along with Anderson and King, discussed statutes concerning forming such a district, which Grant attorney Bill Nelson called "horribly written."

According to statutes, once a multi-township district is formed, both assessors continue until one for the new

district is elected but the laws do not specify if a multi-township district is formed immediately upon agreement by the townships involved.

Also, the new district may levy for taxes but there a maximum levy is not set in the statutes.

Trustee Rich Thompson said he has been asked by Grant residents if taxes would go up under a multi-township district.

Anderson responded that if taxes were to increase, it would be because of rising costs, which would affect townships with or without the new district. "Costs may be higher but there would be a reason," he said.

Nelson said he expects the move to cut costs. "I can't imagine that it wouldn't save you money based on the economy of scale," he said.

Anderson pointed out that Hoopeston Area school district could benefit from a multi-township assessing district because one assessor would oversee parcels in both townships, equalizing assessments - and tax dollars - for the schools, which include students from both townships.

With a multi-township district, the supervisors and clerks of both townships will serve on a board oversee-

See TOWNSHIP on other side

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Seeking Health Center Board Nominations
The Hoopeston Regional Health Center Board of Directors is seeking nominations for three of the nine Board of Director positions. The Board of Directors plays a critical roll in the oversight and governance of Hoopeston Regional Health Center and its success in meeting the mission and vision of the organization. Listed below are general outlines of the personal and professional qualifications for being a Board Member.

Personal Qualifications
Certain basic qualifications must be possessed by all Directors for the Board to function effectively. Those qualifications are:

- Honesty, Integrity, having a sense of justice, and of sound moral character.
- Availability to participate in Board and Community Activities
- Objective and deliberative approach to problems
- Experience translatable to Health Center Operations
- Understanding the role of the Board of Directors as related to the overall organization
- Acceptance of the Board policy relative to conflict of interest
- Willingness to accept responsibility of governance

Professional Qualifications
Since the Board of Directors is a composite of persons who have various professional backgrounds, nominees should have one or more of the competencies below:

- Health care competency
- Financial competency
- Education competency
- Knowledge of the civic community
- Managerial competency
- Legal competency
- Engineering competency
- Knowledge of legislative activity

If you are interested in nominating someone or you have a personal interest in serving on the Board of Directors, please submit your nominations in writing to:
Hoopeston Regional Health Center, Attn. Board of Directors Nominating Committee
701 E. Orange St., Hoopeston, IL 60942

If you have questions regarding the nominating process, please call
John Crawford, Chief Executive Officer at (217) 283-8240.

Nominations must be received by September 12th, 2008 by 4 p.m.

Hoopeston volleyball team takes two of three against Donovan

Hoopeston Area girls took two of three in a volleyball match against Donovan Tuesday night.

Donovan took the first game, 20-25 but Hoopeston Area came back to take the second two, 29-27 and 26-24.

The girls “played hard and worked well as a team,” said coach Nikki Pruemmer.

Kelsey Norton had eight kills for the night, followed by Alicia Ron with four. Jenna Zollar had nine assists and Lyndey Braddock had four blocks. Katelin Sheppard had four aces, along with three digs, followed by Norton and Ron with three each.

The team-s record now stands at 1-4.

The team faces Bismarck-Henning at home Thursday.

Township continued from other side

ing the assessor. Currently, Grant does not have a separate line item in its town budget for the assessor’s office separate from the town budget. The board plans to implement a line item for the 2009-10 budget that will allow them to transfer that money to the multi-township assessor’s budget and Butler officials will do the same. At the same time, both will decrease the amounts budged for individual township assessing needs.

After that, the board of the multi-township assessing district will create its own budget and levy its own taxes.

Trustee Dave Ervin made the motion to create the multi-township district, which Dale Lithgow seconded. They, along with Supervisor Bill Boose, voted in favor of it, while Thompson and Trustee Mike Eckersley voted against the district.

After the vote, Eckersley stressed that his vote was “not because I have anything against Butler,” but rather because he still had too many unanswered questions.

Police News

A 26-year-old woman reported Tuesday that someone took money from her vehicle while it was in the 500 block of West Washington.

A 40-year-old woman reported at 5 p.m. Tuesday that someone took money from her purse. The theft of over \$300 happened in the 1000 block of West Penn.

Weather

Mostly sunny today. High 83. Tonight, chance of thunderstorms. Low 64. Tomorrow, chance of thunderstorms. High 78, low 63.

For current weather conditions, call Hoopeston Weather Service, **(217) 283-6221.**

Also, he said, the fact that there is no cap on the levy for the new assessing district is tantamount to an open check-book. “I don’t like that,” he said.

Classifieds

CHILDCARE

Baby sitter needed for 3 children 6:50am-8:30 am. School days only. Help children get ready for school and take baby to sitter. Please call 217-304-0009 before 8am or after 3:30pm.

HELP WANTED

Full time cook and servers needed at L&M Lunch. Apply in person, 307 E. Main, Hoopeston. No phone calls, please

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LOST & FOUND

Lost: 3 year old, small grayish female cat wearing a blue flea collar. Missing from 600 block of East Main. If found, please call 283-9756

\$50 reward for return of ring lost at Sweet Corn Festival on Saturday 8/30. Men’s gold class style ring. Name engraved on inside. Please call 748-6227.

RUMMAGE SALES

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