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Other Employment



Sentinel bill big topic at forum

By David Lias

david.lias@plaintalk.net

To arm or to not arm school employees?

That was the issue that District 17 legislators grappled with during a legislative forum held Saturday morning.

Freshmen State Reps. Ray Ring, Vermillion (D), Nancy Rasmussen, Hurley (R) and Sen. Tom Jones, Viborg (D) addressed a large audience during the two-hour meeting held in Vermillion City Hall meeting chambers.

The event was sponsored by the Legislative Affairs Committee of the Vermillion Chamber of Commerce and Development Company (VCDC), the VFW Auxiliary, the Clay County Democrats and the Clay County Republicans.

Ring noted that school sentinel legislation – HB 1087 – had been approved by the state House just days earlier on Jan. 29, and is scheduled to now be heard by a Senate committee.

The proposed



legislation would allow districts to arm school employees, hired security personnel or volunteers. The bill leaves discretion up to the schools. Proponents argue it grants more local control to districts, especially those that are not located near law enforcement, to train and arm their own security and staff. Those against the bill say more guns are not the answer.

According to the bill, the school board must run its security plan by the county sheriff before implementing a sentinel program. Willing volunteers, staff and hired security personnel are also mandated to go through state training and certification in order to implement a program.

The initial bill that was brought had no provision for training for these school sentinels," Ring said, adding that the legislation was approved by the House Education Committee on Friday, Jan. 25 and received considerable debate on the House floor Jan. 29 before receiving approval by state

M-F 10-6, Sat. 10-5,

representatives. "We made the bill more acceptable, in my opinion, with an amendment that requires that people, before they become school sentinels, receive training.

"I spoke against the bill in the committee, and on the floor," he said. "I think it's a bad idea, and it will now go to the Senate side, where I believe it has been referred to the Senate State Affairs Committee. I'm afraid it's going to pass. The governor hasn't committed himself, yet. He's pretty much hedged so far."

Rasmussen said that although she doesn't serve on the Education Committee, she sat in on the committee's meeting when it heard testimony regarding the school sentinel legislation.

"I just think it's a really important bill," she said. "The testimony was long, and it was emotional, because the safety of our children is emotional for

Rasmussen said she was surprised the bill passed by a close vote -8 to 7 - inthe House committee. She

said she believes the strong emphasis on local control in the legislation, which leaves the ultimate decision on whether guns are allowed in schools up to school boards, is to satisfy the concerns of West River lawmakers.

She said the bill's primary sponsor, along with lawmakers from western South Dakota, are concerned about security, response times and other issues in sparsely populated areas of the state, where schools are more isolated.

"I and my husband made phone calls over the weekend, because with the local control, I thought the bill was addressing the school boards, and we didn't have any school board members come (to Pierre)," Rasmussen said. "In our calling, I had two in favor of the bill and one against. Ray and I talked about this ... Ray received e-mails that were the opposite. I wanted to poll the people of District 17,

■ FORUM

LAND AUCTION

549.85 (±) Acres in Spirit Mound and Prairie Center Townships in Clay Co., SD In order to settle the Wilfred Schmidt Estate, we will offer at public auction the following Real Estate at the SD National Guard Armory, 603 Franklin St, Vermillion, South Dakota located 1 block south of Hwy 50 and HyVee intersection.

Tuesday, March 12th, 2013 | Sale Time 10:00 a.m.

ATTENTION BUYERS - The following farms will be sold separately, they will not be combined, and this will give the farmer or investor opportunity to buy highly productive ground that is nearly all tillable.

Farm # 1: 70.21 (±) Acres: This farm has 68.64 tillable acres, great eye appeal, and lays level. According to Surety AgriData the farm has a productivity index of 85. From Vermillion Hwy 50 & 19 - 3 N, 1/2 E and 1/4 S 463 rd**Legal Description:** S 1/2 of the NE 1/4, except Lots C & D in the SW 1/4 of the NE 1/4 of Section 35, T-93-N, R-52-W, Spirit Mound Township, Clay County, SD

Farm # 2: 80.98 (±) Acres: This farm has 78.45 tillable acres, lays level and according to Surety AgriData has a productivity index of 80.2. From Vermillion Hwy 50 & 19 - 3 N and 1/2 E 314th St

Legal Description: W 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of Section 36, T-93-N, R-52-W, Spirit Mound Township, Clay County, Farm # 3: 79.94 (±) Acres: 47.83 presently tillable acres, plus 29.7 acres in CRP at \$94.91 per acre and expires

in 2016, balance in building site. The farm lays level, has rural water and is joined by tar road. According to Surety AgriData has productivity index of 79.8. From Vermillion Hwy 50 & 464th Ave - 3 1/2 N 464th Ave

Legal Description: S 1/2 of Lots 1 & 2 of the NW 1/4 of Section 30, T-93-N, R-51-W, Prairie Center Township, Clay County, SD Farm # 4: 160.19 (±) Acres: 153.32 presently tillable acres, plus 5.2 acres in CRP at \$97.69 per acre and

expires in 2016. This farm is all tillable and according to Surety AgriData has productivity index of 77.8. From Vermillion Hwy 50 & 464th Ave – 3 E and 7 1/2 N 467th Ave

Legal Description: SW 1/4 of Section 3, T-93-N, R-51-W, Prairie Center Township, Clay County, SD Farm # 5: 78.49 (±) Acres: This improved farm has 61.57 tillable acres, balance in grass and building site, consists of 2 converted bunker silos made into storage 40'x100'& 32'x86'; machine shed 30'x32'; converted corn crib for storage 42'x44'; and two 8,000 bushel grain bins. The farm has a good location, rural water and is joined to the west by Hwy 19. According to Surety AgriData has productivity index of 77.9. From Vermillion Hwy 50 & 19 - 4

Legal Description: N 1/2 of the NE 1/4 of Section 23, T-93-N, R-52-W, except Lot H2, Spirit Mound Township, Clay County, SD

Farm # 6: 80.04 (±) Acres: This farm has 78.53 tillable acres, lays level with great eye appeal. From Vermillion Hwy 50 & 19 - 4 N & 2 1/4 W 313th St

Legal Description: W 1/2 of the NW 1/4 of Section 28, T-93-N, R-52-W, Spirit Mound Township, Clay County, SD *According to the FSA Office these farms combined have 531.1 acres cropland with a corn base of 177.8 acres with 83 bu. Direct Yield and 112 bu. CC Yield and soybean base of 307.4 acres with 30 bu. Direct Yield and 36 bu. CC

TERMS: 10% non-refundable earnest money deposit due on the day of the sale. Balance due on or before May 1, 2013. Title Insurance and Closing Fee split 50/50 between buyers and sellers and farms closed by Clay County Abstract & Title Co. Farms sold subject to any easements or right away of restrictions and to confirmation of personal representative. The farms are all leased for 2013 crop year with the buyer to receive \$125 per tillable acre credit at closing, as this is the end of a 4 year lease. 2012 Real Estate Taxes to be paid by the Estate and 2013 Real Estate Taxes to be paid by the Buyer. Statements and descriptions believed accurate but not guaranteed. The Estate does not warranty or guarantee that the existing fences lie on the true and accurate boundary and any new fencing, if any, will be the responsibility of the purchaser, pursuant to South Dakota statues. Burlage Peterson Realty represent the seller in this transaction.

For additional information contact Auctioneers and Realtors. Come prepared to buy. www.sdauctions.com

WILFRED SCHMIDT ESTATE - OWNER Ernie Schmidt, Personal Representative

AUCTIONEERS & REALTORS Lenny Burlage, Jim, Scott & Bob Peterson 317 4th St, Brookings, SD - 605-692-7102 www.burlagepeterson.com

Scott Moore, Centerville, SD 605-366-8683



ATTORNEY FOR ESTATE Craig Thompson 109 Kidder St. Vermillion, SD 57069 605-624-2097





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