2010 **Legal and Public**

authorize the Hwy Dept. to contact engineering firms for estimated cost of basic survey work regarding the Clay Creek Ditch.

At 10:45 a.m. Packard moved seconded by Kephart and carried to adjourn as Ditch Board and reconvene as County Commission-

Teddi Gertsma/States Attorney met with the Board regarding an alleged illegal ditch cleaning with possible road damage and field located in Prairie Center ditching The States Attorney will have the Sheriff do an investigation to see if there is sufficient evidence to prosecute and report back to the board.

At 11:00 a.m. Passick moved seconded by Wilson and carried to go into Executive Session along with the States Attorney to discuss pending court case.

At 12:40 p.m. Passick moved second by Kephart and carried to come out of executive session. No action taken

At 12:45 p.m. Kephart moved seconded by Wilson and carried to adjourn and reconvene on Tuesday October 9th at 9:00 a.m.

Leo F. Powell, Chairman **Board of County Commissioners**

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City agrees to assist grant process for soccer field

By Travis Gulbrandson

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The city of Vermillion will act as a "passthrough" in the grant process of the construction of a new soccer field.

The decision was made at the regular Vermillion City Council Meeting Monday

City Manager John Prescott said the University of South Dakota and the Vermillion Youth Soccer Association are trying to get a pair of grants from the U.S. Soccer Foundation.

"It's all encompassed in one resolution, but technically it's two separate grants that they'll be applying for," he said. "They can receive up to \$200,000 in funding for the synthetic turf, and \$50,000 toward the lights.'

Both parties felt the Vermillion Youth Soccer Association to submit for the grants with respect to being a recognized non-profit group, Prescott said.

"USD felt it would look more like a university field, when this is designed to be a university and community field," he said. "So, that's when they proposed last week that the city be the applicant for this."

Prescott said the city is working to put together a resolution to accomplish two things in this regard.

The first pertains to the lighting portion of the grant – primarily that there needs to be documentation that the local governing body approves of the field being lit.

"I think the situation that we have in Vermillion, this particular field would be a non-issue," Prescott said. "It would be located north of the softball complex. Any sort of residential proximity to that facility is either university (property) or quite a way away."

The second part is to authorize the mayor to submit the grant application on behalf of the city, USD and the Vermillion Youth Soccer Association.

The grant application is not seeking any funding on behalf of the city, Prescott said.

Between the grant dollars and the dollars that the university has lined up through the foundation, that would cover the costs of the soccer field improvements as well as the lights. The city would be acting as the grantee," he

If the grant application is successful, the city would negotiate a sub-grantee arrangement, which would be utilized to place the responsibilities of carrying out the wishes of the grant upon USD and the Youth Soccer Foundation, Prescott said.

"In essence, we would become a passthrough," he said.

The timeframe of the grant is relatively short, Prescott added.

"I believe the field turf has to be done within 18 months of a grant's being signed off on, and I believe the lights have to be done within 11 months," he said. "And I believe that ... before the end of this calendar year, we and the university would know if Vermillion's been selected."

The finished field will be shared by USD and the Vermillion Youth Soccer Foundation.

"This particular field will obviously be built to a larger standard that college and perhaps our high school students would better be able to utilize," Prescott said. "The bigger the chilled gets, the bigger the soccer field gets. So our under six, under eight, under 10, it's probably a little bit too large of a field, but there are a number of ways this field could be used so that our high school students in particular may be able to utilize it."

The grant actually pertains to two fields in the same general area, Prescott said.

"The west one would be the primary athletic competition soccer field. That is, if you will, the varsity competing field," he said. "The other one would be more of a practice field.

"I would estimate that since this is on USD property, during the time that soccer season is going on at the university, they would have first rights to definitely the varsity field," he said. "I think the other one would be something between the city, the soccer association and USD. We could work out how that plays out."

The city council members present at the meeting all voted in favor of the proposal.

"I think it would be something that would be a nice benefit for our community that our university should be able to offer a highquality soccer field like this," Prescott said.

Farm and business groups oppose \$180 million state tax increase

A grassroots coalition representing family farmers and small businesses is asking voters to reject what is believed to be the largest tax increase in the state's history.

On Nov. 6, South Dakota voters will decide whether they are willing to pay \$180 million in new revenue every year to school boards and Medicaid providers, such as hospitals and clinics. The money would come from a 25 percent increase in the state sales tax. The funding would be in addition to what the two groups already receive from state taxpayers.

Opponents say voters should put their foot down and vote against the new tax.

"Initiated Measure 15 is an enormous tax increase that would give \$90 million in new revenue to K-12 school boards, and \$90 million in new revenue to Medicaid providers, every year, forever," said No on 15 cochair Michael Held of the South Dakota Farm Bureau. "Just over the next decade, that's a whopping \$1.8 billion in new money for those two groups. Not one cent of the new tax money would go to infrastructure, public safety, or higher education."

Giving more money to schools and Medicaid providers might sound good, but the plan has some major problems, warned No on 15 co-chair Shawn Lyons of the South Dakota Retailers Association.

"If you read this vaguelyworded proposal, there is nothing that says specifically how the money is to be spent," Lyons said. "It doesn't have to be used to raise teacher salaries or reduce class sizes, and it doesn't have to be used to reduce medical costs. They could stick it all in reserves if they want to."

The lack of oversight should be another red flag for voters, Lyons said.

"They have left out any provision for legislative oversight," he said. "That is lousy tax policy. We have a good citizen legislature which is vigilant about protecting taxpayers in the budgeting process. But if Initiated Measure 15 went through, these two groups would get a full 20% of the state sales tax dollars without having to account to the Legislature for how they're spending it." While K-12 education and

Medicaid providers had their state funds trimmed last year, members of the No on 15 Committee point out that every

other part of the state budget faced similar cuts in response to poor economic conditions. Since then, the Governor and Legislature have restored \$18 million of the cuts, and the state finished the budget year with \$48 million in unexpected

revenue and savings. "Everyone had to tighten their belts," Held said. "So why should these two groups step in line ahead of everyone else and get more state tax dollars back than was cut from them?'

Lyons also questioned the timing of the proposal.

"Last year, many of our state's farms, homeowners and businesses were hit with huge losses from flooding. This year, the pendulum swung the opposite direction, and people are struggling as a result of drought," he said. "Do we really expect those people to dig even deeper into their pockets and fork over 25 percent more in state sales tax on nearly everything they buy when they're not even sure how that money is going to be spent?"

The No on 15 group says they don't have the same financial resources as the people behind the proposed tax hike.

'We understand that the people who want this tax increase have planned an expensive, aggressive advertising campaign," Held said. "Our grassroots coalition represents the little guys, and we don't have that kind of money to throw around. All we have is a firm belief that the average person in South Dakota doesn't want higher taxes."

Along with the South Dakota Farm Bureau and South Dakota Retailers Association, other groups which are voicing opposition to the proposed tax increase are the South Dakota Farmers Union, National Federation of Independent Business, South Dakota Trucking Association, South Dakota Beer Distributors, South Dakota Innkeepers Association, South Dakota Agri-Business Association, South Dakota Petroleum and Propane Marketers Association, Music and Vending Association of South Dakota, South Dakota Manufactured Housing Association, Licensed Beverage Dealers of South Dakota, South Dakota Association of Cooperatives, and the South Dakota Grain & Feed Association, and the South Dakota Coalition for Responsible Taxation

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Cleveland Orchestra principal bassist comes to USD

Maximillion Dimoff, principal double bassist of the Cleveland Orchestra, will be at the University of South Dakota on Friday and Saturday, Oct. 12 and 13, sponsored by the Ruth Ann & James Weaver Guest String Artist Fund. Since his appointment in 1997 as principal double bass of the Cleveland Orchestra, Mr. Dimoff has appeared as soloist with the Orchestra at Severance Hall and Blossom Music Center, as well as on tour at Carnegie Hall and in Europe.

Mr. Dimoff's career began with an appointment as assistant principal bass of the San Antonio Symphony while he was still a student at Northwestern University. He was soon promoted to the principal bass position in San Antonio. Mr. Dimoff was also a member of the Grant Park Symphony Orchestra in bass department at the Cleveland

Chicago. In 1993, Mr. Dimoff moved back to his hometown of Seattle to join the Seattle Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Dimoff studied with Jeff Bradetich while attending Northwestern University. Other influential teachers include Warren Benfield of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Garry Karr, Eugene Levinson of the New York Philharmonic, and Ronald Simon of the Seattle Symphony.

Mr. Dimoff has taught masterclasses at major music schools including the Julliard School, the Manhattan School of Northwestern University, Carnegie Mellon University, the University of North Texas, the University of Michigan, and the Glenn Gould School at the Royal Conservatory in Toronto. Currently, Mr. Dimoff heads the double Institute of Music. He is also a coach and teacher with the New World Symphony in Miami. He performs on a double bass dating from 1651 by the Italian maker Antonio Mariani.

All events are free and in the Colton Recital Hall, at the Warren M. Lee Center for the Fine Arts on the USD campus. Here is the schedule:

- Friday, Oct. 12, 5 to 6:30 p.m. -Bass Class
- Saturday, Oct. 13, 1 to 3 p.m. -Masterclass
- Saturday, Oct. 13, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Recital with Susan Keith Gray

For more information or questions contact Rick Rognstad, (605) 677-5722. rrognsta@usd.edu.

Jami Lynn and Friends at Gayville Saturday

Gayville Hall presents "Jami Lynn and Friends" at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13, at the old-time music hall in Gayville.

The rising, young singer-songwriter Jami Lynn of Rapid City leads a two-hour show of traditional and original tunes, old-time popular classics, folk, and country with fiddler Owen DeJong, guitarist and singer Nick Schwebach, and piano player Terry Brooks.

Lynn's acclaimed, second CD, "Sodbusters," was released last year and has garnered steady radio play. She has been featured at the Sioux River Folk Festival and has performed in venues across the state and beyond since graduating with a degree in vocal performance from USD.

Brooks is a Sioux City pianist who performed many years in Las Vegas and Los Angeles in the shows of such stars as Bill Cosby, Whoopi Goldberg and Don Rickles.

Schwebach and DeJong have been performing old-time tunes

together since the 1970s and are Gayville Hall regulars. Gayville Hall is located at 502 Washington St. in Gayville. Tickets are \$12.50 at the door, or \$15 reserved. Call (605) 267-2859.

Eligible residents urged to file additional flood damage

South Dakotans who registered with FEMA in 2011 for damage caused by Missouri River flooding may be eligible for additional assistance if further damage has been discovered in the past year.

Residents of five South Dakota counties were eligible to register last year for possible damage claims because of flooding. Those who registered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) at that time are eligible to seek individual assistance - if additional flood-related damage has been found in the past year. The deadline for filing claims for new damage is Feb. 23, 2013.

"Because the original deadline to register was Oct. 24, 2011, many residents barely had time to return to their properties, much less identify all flood-related damages," said Kristi Turman, Director of the South Dakota Office of Emergency Management. "That's why the state Office of Emergency

Management and FEMA were urging eligible residents to register, even if they didn't have damage claims a year ago. Those who are registered may be eligible for assistance for additional damage from the flood. Those who failed to register are not able

Forty South Dakota counties were eligible for assistance for flood-related damage to public infrastructure because of widespread flooding in 2011. In addition, residents of five counties – Hughes, Stanley, Charles Mix, Yankton and Union – were eligible to file claims for damages because those counties received a presidential declaration for individual assistance.

Although the deadline is several months off, officials recommend that eligible residents file sooner rather than later.

"Damage would be more easily located and assessed before the snow falls," Turman said. "People who registered last year would be wise to report additional damage if they have

experienced some structure shifting, basement cracking or other damage that could be directly attributable to the Missouri River flooding. An inspector will make an appointment to check the property.

A total of 1,535 people registered with FEMA last fall. Each of those people is eligible to file additional claims if they have new damage that can be documented as being caused by the flooding of 2011. The filing process is expedited if the individual has the FEMA registration number from the 2011 filing.

Registered applicants who believe they may have additional flood-related damages should contact FEMA at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) to request an additional inspection. For individuals with speech or hearing impairments, TTY: 1-800-

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