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The hometown newspaper of Robert L. Brown, Brainerd, MN

PUC public input hearing on February 5

The three-member South Dakota Public Utilities Commission will hold a public hearing regarding the Crocker Wind Farm on Monday, February 5, at 5:00 p.m. at the Clark American Legion Hall. The purpose of the Crocker Wind Farm

public hearing is to hear public input comments.

The Crocker Wind Farm, a wind energy facility, located on approximately 29,331 acres of land will be eight miles north of Clark. The proposed project includes up to 120

wind turbines. The point of interconnect (POI) is to be located two miles north of Crocker.

The (legal) Notice of Public Hearing is found on page 7 of this *Courier* publication.

Setting a record half a century ago in Raymond

▲ Jenkins shoots pool for 53.5 hours



Approximately 51 years ago, a snooker (pool playing) marathon held for over 56 hours straight was held in Raymond at Andy's Bar and Grill. Bar owner Andy Kraft on the left (standing) is next to Jim Jenkins and Don Huber, the 25 and 27 year olds at the time who played in the marathon. Seated to the left is Jim Hurlbut.

Fifty one years ago this winter is when two men from Raymond, Jim Jenkins and Don Huber played pool in a snooker marathon. Jim played for 53.5 hours and Don lasted for 56 hours and 15 minutes straight.

According to Jenkins, "We had the Guinness World Book record for continuous pool playing for only a day and a half. Then some kids from Minnesota beat us."

For 56 hours and 15 minutes, Andy's Bar and Grill in Raymond was the place to be as cousins Jim Jenkins and Don Huber (and later on Glen MacTaggart) kept playing pool to beat the previous record of 55 hours and five minutes set in Aberdeen a few weeks earlier.

"The place was packed with as many people as you could fit in there," noted Jenkins of the gathering.

Jenkins
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Skaters enjoy winter recreation

Each and every winter, the city of Clark readies the ice skating rink for colder weather activity. It is up and going this winter. Pam Ambrose and Tammy Rusher are the ice skating rink attendants.

Ice skating temperatures have not been a problem since Christmas, with frigid weather being the norm.

It is winter in South Dakota.

Skaters on the first day (evening) the rink was open include, from left to right staring in the front, Giovanni Ramirez, Alex Henricks, Christian Ramirez, Zachary Ambrose and Yeleiney Ramirez.

Clark School Board talks plan improvements, going forward

January is when school boards usually evaluate leadership to look ahead to the following year. Such was the case Monday night as the Clark School Board met in executive session for approximately three hours. No motions were made following the closed meeting.

The purpose of the executive session was to evaluate the superintendent. Luanne Warren is the superintendent of schools at Clark and last month, during the December board meeting, long-time principal Jerry Hartley submitted his retirement resignation. Principal applications will close on January 24 and principal interviews will begin shortly thereafter.

During the almost two-hour portion of the public meeting, forward looking discussions, regarding the 2018-19 preliminary budget, updating the district improvement plans and finalizing the 2018-19 school calendar took place.

The 2018-19 school calendar was approved after limited discussion. This calendar was presented last month and the teachers had previously approved this calendar. It is very similar to the 2017-18 school calendar.

Superintendent Warren, when speaking of the 2018-19 preliminary budget, told the board that she wasn't intending to be the 'bearer of bad news' but the pipes running to the high school bathroom, west and south of the library, need attention.

"This might be a major project," said Warren and she explained that with old pipes and new energy efficient toilets, that a cavity, or eating through of the pipes has occurred and sleeves are currently being

put in for the missing pipes. "This might be a major project, our options are slim and it could be a project for this summer. I will be getting you more information," Warren told the board.

As the board and administration discussed upcoming district improvement plans, Warren told the board that one air handler in the gym is completely out and then Warren, on an optimistic note, told the board that the heating/electrical problem at the elementary has been found. The culprit is an air handler controller which was defunct.

Approximately a half hour was spent talking district improvement plans, specifically to building and grounds.

The Field House is 20 years old

Clark School Board
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City of Clark begins 2018

At city council meetings, healthy discussions are frequently followed by a decision on the matter being discussed.

The first two discussions at the January meeting of the Clark City Council were exceptions to this rule.

Don Weigel, of Clark Engineering, Aberdeen, updated the council on the status of the sewer retention pond. Weigel was to appear at the December council meeting, but adverse winter weather conditions didn't allow attendance at that meeting.

Weigel spoke of the wetland issue that needs to be completed next spring and then an exit-interview will take place. The Aberdeen engineer also noted that his punch list items of things to be completed had gone from 12 to four.

"I'm very satisfied that the total cost of this entire project increased by less than one percent from start

to finish," he commented and then he and the council discussed a gravel change order from November. The council will decide on who is to pay this bill at the February council meeting, to be held Monday, February 5.

The second important discussion dealt with valuations. Earlier in the day on Tuesday the majority of the city council, including Mayor John S. Pollock and finance officer Jackie Luttrell attended the Clark County Board of Commissioners meeting. At this meeting, Clark County Director of Equalization Jarvis Reidburn informed the board that county entities, including the city of Clark, were under valued. The S. D. Department of Revenue representative was also in attendance at this meeting. It is the goal of the DOE to get valuations up to the 85 percent of market value sales range.

In order to do this Reidburn gave

three options, with the first option being a raise of 11 percent across the board for residences in the city of Clark. This decision has not been made by Reidburn but it gave city officials a starting point for discussion purposes.

Luttrell repeated Tuesday night

City of Clark
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WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Jan. 2	16	-14	0
Jan. 3	3	-5	0
Jan. 4	10	0	0
Jan. 5	5	0	0
Jan. 6	17	1	0
Jan. 7	34	16	0
Jan. 8	38	17	0
2018 precipitation to date			0.00
2017 precipitation to date			0.03



New construction in Clark County is again visible, especially in the ag sector. New homes from left to right are, the home of Jerome and Melissa Nesheim, the home of Jason and Sarah McHenry and the home of Darrell and Pat Seefeldt.



The Clark County Courier does a construction story at the beginning of each year based upon building permits from the previous year. In the story below the new homes are listed and we attempt to get all the new homes in the county.



An estimated \$11,756,250 spent in 2017 Clark County Construction

Clark County tallied \$11,756,250 in estimated building project costs in 2017. This figure includes 83 permits - in total, 41 in the county and 29 within the city of Clark and 13 in the city of Willow Lake.

This compares to 108 permits in 2016 with a total of \$10,510,365. In 2015 there were 105 permits taken out and \$11,915,220 worth of construction.

In the past year, new construction in Clark County (out of city limits) tallied \$10,422,500 according to the 41 permits taken out in 2017.

In the city of Clark, according to the 29 permits acquired for building or adding on to properties within the city limits, the total came to \$975,750.

One may note that these numbers are approximations in estimating the cost of construction usually being on the low side. These are amounts estimated by property owners when taking out their permits and not the assessed values of the finished projects.

Construction in the amount of \$6,474,000 in total is ongoing at the Fordham, Collins, Hillcrest and Silver Lake Hutterite colonies. The

largest project is a \$3,500,000 turkey barn slated for the Silver Lake Colony, followed by a \$1,500,000 shop at the Hillcrest Colony. A well-house, a truck scale, a new home, farrowing barn and a grain bin are the additions being built at the colonies.

Grain bin construction totaled 12 new bins planned for farms in the county in addition to one being built at the Fordham Colony.

Four new home permits were taken out by Nathan Luvaas, Jason McHenry, Matt Raymer and Darrell Seefeldt. New home construction is

estimated to be \$8,600,000.

Home additions for David Dohmann, Wayne and Jackie Schlegel, Myron Hanson, Ramsey Knutson and David and Dawn Spieker total \$265,000.

Wheat Growers in Carpenter plans to tear down their existing fertilizer plant and build a new office and storage area in its place. The Pleasant Dutch Dairy in Pleasant township is adding a large pole barn for cattle. These projects total together \$627,000.

New shops and additions will be added to the properties of Wade

Schaack, Fuller Farms and Dick Reints.

Pole barns and sheds will be built for Andy Wookey, Makens Oak Tree, Bradley Temple, John Guest and Michael Gruenwald. These total \$1,057,000.

Jordan Hallberg and Dave Warren are adding on new storage buildings totaling \$193,500.

City of Clark

Clark County will be building a new city highway shop that will total \$400,000. The Clark School is planning on its construction for a new concession stand and bath-

rooms just west of the school for \$40,000. Hovde's Physical Therapy took out a permit to hang their new signage on the building.

One new home permit was taken out by Jerome Nesheim. Along with home additions for John and Barb Pollock, Kim Aamodt, Terrell Wheeler, these amounts total \$354,500.

Besides the garage at the Nesheim's site, two are in the works for Justin Bowers and Wayne and Sherry Harris, totaling \$42,000.

Construction
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