



Commission chooses to go with late applicant

Three of four incumbents reappointed to fair board By ROBERT PIERCE • Leader & Times As of Monday, there were four vacancies on the Seward County Fair Board, and exactly four people had applied for the seats.

At Monday's county commission meeting, administrator April Warden said a fifth application had been put on the list of names on board members' ballots.

"Your packets were put together on Friday," she said. "On Friday evening, we received an online form submittal for an application for the fair board."

Warden said upon receiving the new application, she asked administrative assistant Maria Aguilar if she had put a deadline for applications when the positions had been advertised in the Leader & Times.

"She said she did put the deadline on there of noon on Thursday because of the meeting," Warden said.

Despite submitting the application after that deadline, commissioners voted unanimously to permit Linnie Bearce's name on the ballot, giving the board five applicants for four openings.

The other applicants on the ballot, Jennifer Malin, Larry Phillips, Jana Christian and Chris Linenbroker, had all previously served on the fair board.

Warden said the terms are for one year, and as part of an agreement the commission has with the fair board, commissioners nominate fair board members every September.

Commissioners were then handed a ballot with the five names, and after each had been collected by Warden, she and county clerk Stacia Long tabulated the votes.

Warden then announced the results of the voting, with the late submittal playing a key role in the outcome.

“As a result of your vote, Jennifer Malin received five votes,” she said. “Linnie Bearce received five votes. Larry Phillips received four votes. Jana Christian received four votes. Christopher Linenbroker received two votes.”

Christian, Phillips and Malin were all reappointed to the board, but commissioners chose Bearce over Linenbroker.

Another vote by commissioners Monday had no surprises as a long-time vacancy was filled on another area board.

“This term has been vacant on the Southwest Kansas Area Agency on Aging, and we have finally had an applicant,” Warden said. “Lois Griffin is interested in serving on this board.”

Griffin was the only submitted applicant, and after a motion had been made and seconded, as expected, commissioners voted unanimously to appoint her to the SWKAAA board.