

Holt County Commission Considers Participation in NRCS Program

(KTNC)--The Holt County Commission is weighing how the county could participate in a new Natural Resources Conservation Service program.

The USDA's Regional Conservation Partnership Program is a five-year program that aims to address soil, water, wildlife, and natural resource conservation, restoration and sustainable practices. It focuses on local partnerships and can be used on private land and land – such as wetlands and buffer strips – associated with agricultural production.

The USDA's Chris Rader asked the commission to consider participating in the program. Rader said things that could qualify for the program include sand management in the Missouri River basin, as well as air quality improvements, flood prevention measures and drainage tiles.

Commissioners voiced support for the program, but are unsure whether the county could provide any financial support to something that benefits private land. They might consider providing other in-kind services to support the program, short of financial support.

Commissioners have also approved changes to the contract with Andrew County to house Holt County inmates in the Andrew County Jail. The agreement allows Holt County to house inmates that can't be kept in the county's 1861 Jail in Andrew County's new jail at a cost of \$30 per day.

A contract amendment removes a requirement that Holt County keep a minimum number of inmates at the Andrew County Jail.

Many Signals Communications