

Trial Cancelled Due to Plea

(KNZA)--A Hiawatha woman facing drug charges has entered into a plea agreement, cancelling a jury trial that had been set in the case for next month.

44-year-old Beth Mikita pleaded no contest this week in Brown County District Court to charges of possession of methamphetamine and misdemeanor theft.

In exchange for the plea, two additional drug charges were dismissed.

In January, Mikita and 26-year-old Kalan Pyle, of Atchison, were arrested in the Hiawatha Wal-Mart parking lot after the Brown County's Sheriff's Department's K-9, Ari, alerted on their vehicle.

Pyle pleaded no contest in April to a felony count of possession of methamphetamine, and his sentencing was continued this week to June 26th.

Last June, Mikita was placed on one-year supervised probation and ordered to pay more than \$8,000 restitution after being convicted of embezzling funds from the Hiawatha Chamber of Commerce while serving as Chamber treasurer between August 2014 and April 2015.

As part of the plea agreement in the drug case, Brown County Attorney Kevin Hill says Mikita has agreed not to contest a request for her probation to be revoked in the embezzlement case and to serve the original sentence of 16 months in prison.

She is scheduled to be sentenced June 26th.

Mikita remains in the Brown County Jail.