New position filled at county landfill

(KNZA)--A new full-time position has been filled at the Brown County landfill.

Following an executive session Monday, the County Commission voted to offer the position to Bruce Kleppe.

Kleppe accepted the position and is to begin work May 14th.

The new position was created due to an increase in trash volume at the county transfer station.

In other business, a representative from the Kansas Department of Commerce along with Hiawatha Foundation for Economic Development Director Mikaela Moore met with the Commission to discuss the county's participation in the Rural Opportunity Zone student loan repayment program.

The program provides up to \$15,000 in student loan repayments over a five year period for eligible individuals who re-locate to the county.

HFED currently sponsors two individuals in Brown County, with a \$1,500 annual allocation each which is matched by the state.

Moore says the HFED Board has voted to sponsor two additional individuals each year.

A fifth is currently employer sponsored.

Moore says there are currently nine individuals on the waiting list.

The Commission is expected to sign a resolution at next week's meeting for continued participation in the program.

The county has participated in the program since 2013.