

Two Falls City Men Sentenced in U.S. District Court

(KLZA) Falls City residents Brian Palmer and Jerry McKim were sentenced in U.S. District Court Monday for violating the Clean Water Act through a negligent discharge of a hazardous material into a U.S. Waterway.

In May, Palmer and McKim entered a plea of guilty to the charge as part of a plea agreement.

Magistrate Judge F.A. Gossett sentenced each man to six months probation and 30 hours of community service. They were also ordered to pay restitution in the amount of \$6,855, which was the cost of the cleanup.

Debris from the demolition of the roof and ceiling of the former Stephenson Motel in Falls City was dumped into a ditch, which led to the Big Nemaha River and subsequently to the Missouri River.

This part of the motel was torn down between October 2010 and January 2011.

Asbestos must be properly packaged and sealed prior to being disposed of in licensed landfills.

Palmer was a Director and McKim an Officer of Vision 20-20 Incorporated. The corporation was involved in the demolition of the Stephenson Motel in Falls City and then built the new Vision Inn Motel on the same property.

In June, Vision 20-20 was fined \$25,000 and ordered to pay restitution to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services in the amount of \$6,855 for monitoring the asbestos cleanup from unauthorized disposal sites.

Many Signals Communications