

USD 415 board hears update on bus fuel issue

**(KNZA)-The Hiawatha School Board heard an update on the bus fuel issue when they meet Monday evening.**

**Earlier this year, water had gotten into the underground fuel tanks at the bus barn, causing expensive bus repairs.**

**District Maintenance Director Chris Morey said the district is no longer taking fuel from the tanks, but are fueling up at Ag Partners on a temporary basis. He said the arrangement has been working well.**

**Morey said there is an 8-cent a gallon price difference between filling up at Ag Partners and having it delivered. The district uses about 16,000 gallons of diesel fuel a year and about 5,000 gallons of gasoline.**

**Meanwhile, Morey investigated the cost of removing the underground tanks and replacing them with two above ground tanks. He said a Kansas City company estimated the cost at \$173,000 to \$193,000 for the entire project. The district would be responsible for disposing of the tanks.**

**Following discussion, the board directed Morey to look into whether fueling up at Ag Partners is a long-term option, and compare that against adding the above ground tanks.**

**Even if its an option, the district would still have to remove their fuel tanks because EPA regulations don't allow abandoned tanks.**

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