

Sirens

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"On Monday, we have a portable outdoor warning siren scheduled to come to the lake," he said. "We're seeing where it would be best to locate a siren and how many sirens are needed to provide adequate outdoor warning."

The portable siren will sound very similar to the actual warning sirens already in use in both counties, he said. "Because of that, we want to provide the public advance notice that we're going to conduct these tests so as not to alarm anyone," he said.

The process remains in the very preliminary stages. A siren usually costs around \$20,000 for complete installation, Garvin said. Cedar County would seek Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funds for a new siren.

The Corps and two counties already hold a good working relationship, making for a smooth process, Garvin said.

"The Corps approached us about a siren at the lake," he said. "We've had discussions with them in the past, and we talked about how we can warn the general public in the recreational areas."

Yankton County has received grant money for sirens at the lake area on the South Dakota side, Garvin said. The upcoming testing will help avoid unnecessary coverage.

"Any sirens in the Gavins Point area would need to be placed to as not to duplicate coverage or interfere with the sirens Yankton County is planning to install," he said.

During next week's test, the vendor will bring a portable siren on the back of a pick-up, Garvin said. The test will gauge the impact of terrain and other factors.

"We need to determine how many sirens we need and where they need to be placed," he said. "We need to place the sirens strategically so we can warn the most people with a limited number of sirens."

Next week's testing and other conversations will also help determine who would maintain and activate the siren, he said.

Garvin doesn't expect to receive funds and install the new siren this year. However, it's important to start the process, which includes notifying state and federal officials about historical and environmental impacts of the selected site, he said.

Garvin is drawing upon his experience in obtaining a grant and installing 12 new outdoor warning signs throughout Cedar County.

"Three years ago, we wrote a grant for those 12 new sirens, and this (lake area) represents an expansion of our sirens for Cedar County," he said. "The 12 sirens are now up, and this (Gavins Point area) will be the next phase."

One siren previously installed was located in the Brooky Bottom area, while others were located in towns, Garvin said.

"A lot of communities had sirens 40 or 50 years old," he said. "To sound them, you needed someone to go to the fire hall and push the button for three minutes. That wasn't a really good idea."

Besides updating sirens, the project provided additional sirens where needed, Garvin said.

"Some communities have grown and have found that one siren isn't enough. In Hartington, you have the athletic complex and other sites that need coverage," he said. "Hartington, Laurel and Randolph got second sirens. Laurel is above and beyond the original 12."

Garvin appreciates working with the Corps of Engineers and Yankton County on the outdoor siren.

"We're all concerned about public safety, and this (project) is a partnership," he said. "We'll know a lot more after next week's testing."

The Corps' Gary Ledbetter and Yankton County emergency manager Paul Scherschligt could not be reached for comment for this story.

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Film

From Page 1

to finalize details of the upcoming conference.

She said the meeting was attended by only 5-6 people.

"I wanted to be there," Johnson-Struckman said. "When I walked in, there was (Sternadori) at the end of the table and there was an ongoing discussion about the film not being shown."

She went on to say no one was listening to Sternadori and some in attendance were attacking her credentials.

The implication was that students would be harmed by the showing of the film.

"It was an illusion of a reason for what was censorship for something that is important," Johnson-Struckman said. "(Women and Gender Conference committee members) were trying to do the right thing, but they were forgetting free speech in their quest to protect students. You don't protect students, college students are free agents. They don't have to go to that movie if they don't want to."

According to Johnson-Struckman, discussions ranged from moving the film to a new slot to replacing it with a film that would be sponsor approved.

She said that without notice, the originally scheduled showing of "The Honor Diaries" did not take place.

Jesus Trevino, associate vice president for Diversity at the USD, and also

on the Women's Research Conference Planning Committee, believes the issue was more about being able to better "process" the film.

Trevino said that "processing" is to have a dialogue where questions are heard and posed.

He said that the film needed a forum setting that allowed participants to not only discuss how acts portrayed in the movie hurt women, but also to protect the integrity of Muslims – making sure the majority that do not practice these type of abuses were not misrepresented.

"The committee voted for the film to take place and there is going to be no censoring on my watch, I will tell you that," Trevino said. "The film is very good because it brings up a good issue about women that needs to be addressed."

Trevino said that no one representing USD has come to him with demands or requests to censor the film. He added that he was surprised the original showing had been cancelled, as well.

He also believes this Friday's showing will run as planned due to having more time to set the "process" in proper order.

Sternadori said she is confused and surprised at the opposition to the film.

"When I first defended the documentary, I defended it on First Amendment grounds and had not even seen it, and I argued it's about human rights," Sternadori said. "It doesn't talk about religion very much. We don't want to generalize about the

religion of Islam because there are multiple cultures in multiple countries in multiple regions of the world.

"Can't we show the film and let people make up their own minds?"

Sternadori believes that the attempt to stop the showing of the film is a bigger issue.

"I don't understand why people are trying to define which Muslim community is more authentic, and which Muslim voices should be heard and which shouldn't," Sternadori said.

Sternadori said no one has complained about the content of the film, but more about the motivations of the Clarion Project, which sponsored the film.

"This would not be newsworthy if there hadn't been any resistance in showing the film," Sternadori emphasized, when asked the reasons given in opposition to the film. "I dug in my heels because it went against everything I had studied in graduate school and my personal beliefs of having information out there."

As far as Sternadori is concerned, showing the film is simply about creating conversation.

"People get educated only if they choose to," Sternadori said. "My personal stance on this is that this is an award-winning documentary, so let's just show it. This is a film about women's rights and human rights ... I am just putting it out there in the public's face and I hope there will be a good discussion about it."

She added that she believes the film will be shown on Friday.

S.D. Brand Board

Operating In The Black

BY BOB MERCER

State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — South Dakota's owner-ship-inspection program for cattle entering, leaving or changing hands west of the Missouri River is costing slightly less than the fee charged per head, the state Brand Board's executive director said Wednesday.

Debbie Trapp said the average expense is 93 cents this year. The board raised the brand-inspection fee to \$1 two years ago because the program was running in the red at that time. The fee previously was 90 cents per head.


The fee is used to pay brand inspectors who conduct the ownership checks at sale barns, ranches and other locations. State law requires brand inspections on cattle and horses in all counties west of the Missouri River.

Trapp said spending and revenue are running even and on track through three-quarters of the 2015 fiscal year that ends June 30.

The board in March 2013 voted 4-1 to raise the fee 10 cents as proposed by then-executive director Larry Stearns.

The South Dakota Cattlemen's Association supported the increase. The South Dakota Stockgrowers Association opposed it.

The Legislature's Rules Review Committee agreed in April 2013 that the board correctly followed the process for an administrative rule change.



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