

# Tabor

From Page 1

Toby Morris of Dougherty and Company updated the Yankton County Commission on the project. Dakota Plains general manager Matt Winsand listened in the audience.

After the meeting, Winsand told the *Press & Dakotan* his company is no longer pursuing a Bon Homme County site. He emphasized the decision isn't because of any negative feelings toward the county.

"It's nothing they did, it's just pure logistics," he explained. "We've always said the Yankton County site was our first choice."

The Napa Junction site offers advantages in terms of location and rail service, Winsand said.

In addition, the Yankton County response has changed greatly in the past year, Winsand said.

The County Commission underwent a shake-up, and the new members are more agreeable to the Napa Junction project and working with Dakota Plains, he said.

"Bon Homme County had its own shake-up with (commission chairman) John Pesek losing his seat, but that wasn't a major part of our decision," Winsand said.

## SEEKING NEW OPTIONS

Given the loss of the Dakota Plains facility, Bon Homme County officials say they are seeking other forms of economic development.

"There are some things out there, but it's mostly hearsay," Jelsma said.

However, one development is blowing in the wind for sure.

Bon Homme County took a major step toward another major project this week when the County Commission unanimously approved Article 17. The measure will regulate wind energy systems, which are currently not part of the county zoning ordinance.

Article 17 will go into effect Dec. 9, given the current timetable. However, the measure could be referred – and put on hold – by petitions signed by at least 194 valid signatures. Article 17 would then be placed on the ballot for a special election.

Brunken didn't think a referendum could wait to be held in conjunction with the June primary or any other regularly scheduled election.

"It would need to be held sooner, and it would be a county-wide election," she said. "I haven't budgeted for a special election this year, and it would be expensive. I would need to place the legal publications (in the newspapers), set up polling sites and line up workers."

The recently-constructed Beethoven project near Tripp would be grandfathered. The proposed Prevailing Winds project, slated for a nearby location, would fall under Article 17.

Bon Homme County commissioner John Hauck said he didn't support wind farms in the county. However, he made

the motion and voted for Article 17 during Tuesday's regular meeting.

He cited the need to look at wind farms as a badly-needed form of economic development in Bon Homme County. He didn't think the county could afford to pass up the opportunity, including the tax revenues.

"I've sat on this (County Commission) for seven years, waiting for growth to come to Bon Homme County, and I haven't seen it," he said.

Hauck referred to some of the local backlash to the proposed Dakota Plains facility.

"When we were talking with Dakota Plains, it was amazing how much negativity came out of the woodwork," Hauck said. "I hate what I see happening with (this division) between people (over wind farms). But unless some big manufacturing plant moves here, we can't keep turning everyone down."

Local governments, particularly the school districts, could use the influx of tax dollars from such development projects, Hauck said.

"I have a hard time saying

no, and I hate to turn down projects in Bon Homme County," he said. "It's two big projects (including Dakota Plains) gone if we lose this."

## STILL ATTRACTIVE

While Dakota Plains chose the Yankton County site, Bon Homme County remains an excellent location for prospective businesses, Winsand and Morris told the *Press & Dakotan*.

The two men applauded Bon Homme County's initiative in working with Dakota Plains. They noted the county would provide a good site for other ventures.

They added that the talks between Bon Homme County and Dakota Plains apparently spurred a number of developments, including the return and upgrade of railroad tracks and service to some areas.

In particular, they noted the work of the Dakota Southern railroad.

"There's been progress to get the track opened up," Morris said. "You're seeing cars on the rail that you haven't seen in years."

Winsand agreed. "It's some-

thing you haven't seen since 1986," he said.

The rail service and other attributes play a key role in landing any venture, Morris said. "It's as big as your infrastructure will take you," he said.

In both the short and long run, South Dakota will benefit from greater value-added agriculture rather than shipping the finished product – and greater profits – out of state, Morris said.

"Then, you can capture the extra dollars," he said.

Both Winsand and Morris noted the dramatic change toward a positive attitude for agricultural projects in southeastern South Dakota.

The state Department of Agriculture and local officials are working hand in hand to make things happen, Morris said.

"It's like night and day. I could go on and on," he said. "I've seen more progress in the last six months than the last six years."

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**Saturday, November 7<sup>th</sup>**

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Menu: Soups, Taverns, Hot Dogs, Pies, Coffee & Milk



**12th Annual Tabor Ambulance BINGO NIGHT**

**Saturday, Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> • 7:30PM**

Over \$800 In Payouts • Door Prizes To Be Given Away

Beseda Hall, Tabor • Lunch Served 6-6:30pm Prior to Bingo

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**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Sunday**

5-7pm Cooks Choice

**Thursday**

5-7pm – Domestic Beers **\$1.50**

5-7pm – Hamburger/ Pizza Burger & Fries **\$5.00**

**Friday**

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**Poppy Days Nov. 6 & 7**

**Saturday Entertainment**

No Band


Regular Menu 5:30-8:00

**Bingo Wed. at 7:00p.m.**

**Sunday at 6:30p.m.**

**Happy Hour M-F 4:30-6:00**

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**Czeckers Sports Bar & Grill**

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**Czeckers Will Be Closed Friday & Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>**

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**All-You-Can-Eat Broasted Chicken & Pollock Buffet With Salad Bar**

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1. Sponsor and Decorate an Artificial 6-7 ft. Christmas Tree along with a coordinating gift box for food donations and a tree removal bag – be creative!
2. Vote for your favorite tree by placing one non-perishable food item in the gift box located by that tree

Trees will be on display at the Yankton Mall with voting November 22nd-December 14th. Trees will be picked up by area families in need Dec. 15th-19th and food delivered to our local food pantry.

**Tree Registration Due: November 13th**

Call the Mall Office 665-5999 or Trinity 760-5857

**Tree Setup/Decorate Tree: November 17th-21st**

Please locate your business name on the floor and set up tree.

**Grand Prize For Best Decorated Tree is a \$100 Yankton Mall Gift Card**

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