

Chase County Hospital petition drive to wrap up this week

Written by Wauneta Breeze
Thursday, 29 September 2011 19:53 -

By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

A petition drive to dissolve the Chase County Hospital District is expected to be completed this week. Sue Smith of Imperial, who is coordinating the drive, said 10 circulators have collected “well over the required numbers, but we want extra names in case some are disqualified.”

Chase County Clerk Debbie Clark said earlier that close to 300 verified signatures, or 10 percent of the county’s registered voters, must be secured to force another vote in May.

Chase County voters approved creation of the hospital district in the May 2010 Primary by a 629-566 vote. That would mean that the hospital board would consist of persons representing areas in the hospital district.

Prior to that, the hospital board was appointed by the county commissioners.

“The majority of the people are not in favor of maintaining the hospital district as it’s proposed to come in,” Smith commented. She was also “amazed at the number of people who don’t know of the issue.”

“When this issue comes close to election,” Smith said, confident that she has the needed signatures to force another vote, “we’ll need more information out there” for registered voters.

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Persons wishing to sign the petition may contact Smith at (308) 882-5175.