



**ROBERT PIERCE**

• **Leader & Times**

Seward County commissioners approved a fee waiver for use of county buildings for an upcoming event.

The board voted 4-1 Monday, with commissioner Ada Linenbroker voting against, to waive the fees for the upcoming Southwest Kansas Miracles (SWKM) fundraiser, Spring Swing Fling, which will take place Feb. 24 in the Seward County Ag Building.

In 2017, the commission adopted a facility fee waiver application for waiver request and event information, and Monday, county administrator April Warden said she had checked and felt

certain the Southwest Kansas Miracles event met the county's public purpose criteria.

"Southwest Kansas Miracles has helped the people in our community with needs, whether it be gas cards for them to be able to travel with family members to appointments out of town," she said. "They've provided medical equipment for people who cannot obtain wheelchairs, walkers, and they've been so kind as to offer that to some of our employees as well who have been working through other medical injuries in the past. We've called them, and they've provided that help to us."

Warden said the help SWKM provides even includes helping get a motel room for a family member coming in from out of town, and the Spring Swing Fling is simply a way for the organization to raise money to help with needs.

"The money that they've raised at this particular event goes toward the stuff," she said. "It doesn't pay anybody's salary. That is one of the things I took into consideration when asked to do this particular request."

Linenbroker's objection to the waiver came as a result of the \$20 admission fee being charged for people to get into the event.

"It is open to the public, but it's that they charge an admission fee," she said. "Most of the things that we have approved, there isn't admission. That's the only problem that I have with it."