

Cache library pact drawn up

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Cache County commissioners and Logan Mayor Desmond Anderson agreed in principle Tuesday afternoon to convey to Logan City total ownership of the Cache Public Library after a period of seven years, during which county residents can still use the library and the city will maintain the bookmobile.

Mayor Anderson will now carry the agreement to the Logan Municipal Council which must give its approval before the agreement is in force. It will also be presented to the library board for its approval.

In other matters Tuesday afternoon, the commissioners gave final approval to the Sheep Creek Cove planned unit development (PUD) south of Hardware Ranch. A problem of hospital bills incurred by inmates in the Cache County Jail was also discussed.

The library agreement is an amendment to an earlier proposed agreement where the city would take over ownership of the

library but would continue to provide services to county residents in perpetuity as well as provide facilities for the bookmobile.

However, the municipal council rejected that proposal, Mayor Anderson explained, because of concern about having to continually provide city-financed services to a growing county population.

Various formulas were proposed as a means for the city to buy out the county's interest in the library, but they would wipe out the county's investment in only a year or less of service to county residents, Anderson said.

"I think that is not justifiable," he said, noting that because it would be very difficult to accurately assess who — the city or county — paid what into the library, he would prefer to simply arrive at a term of library service which both parties could agree to.

He proposed a period of seven years, at the end of which county residents outside Logan City could no longer use the library unless new arrangements were made. The commissioners accepted.

Commissioner Ted Karren noted, "I realize a perpetual agreement is beyond your ability to accept and we can't expect it of you."

Said Commission Chairman Marion Olsen, "I think this is fair and equitable. I favor it."

Mayor Anderson and the commissioners all commented that the agreement leaves the door open for new arrangements at the end of the seven years and at any time in between.

Commissioner Robert Chambers said he would still prefer a countywide library system in the future, but that, "considering everything, this is best for now."