



Court approves settlement

From Staff Reports

WAHOO – A settlement related to the drowning of a Wahoo boy in 2012 has been approved in Saunders County Court.

The settlement, which was agreed upon in mediation and confirmed by Saunders County Court Judge Patrick McDermott on March 26, was for a total of \$300,000.

The lawsuit, which started out as a \$1 million Tort Claim against the Lower Platte Natural Resources

District, was tied to the June 12, 2012 drowning of Baden Martinez-Rush.

The 11-year-old was reported missing on June 12. His body was found the next day in the spillway of the Lake Wanhoo Dam. Investigators determined that the boy had gone fishing by himself, had entered the water of spillway and was caught by the suction of one of the spillway's pipes.

Of the \$300,000 settlement amount, \$200,000 will be paid

by the Lower Platte North Natural Resources District and \$100,000 will be paid by Olsson Associates, the engineering company that designed the Lake Wanhoo dam and spillway.

According to the settlement agreement, the \$300,000 will be split between Martinez-Rush's parents, Raul Martinez and Danelle Rush. Danelle Rush's share will be divided evenly between Rush's three surviving siblings.