LEXINGTON—Dawson County commissioners plan to open bids for Internet service, possibly fiber optics, during their Feb. 1 meeting.

The county board has spent the past several months wrangling with availability, cost and need for Internet upgrade.

Several county offices use extensive Internet-based programs that would benefit from faster service.

But commissioners have struggled to get a handle on exactly what is needed and what services are available to meet those needs.

Following a meeting with representatives from three provider companies in December, courthouse coordinator Brian Woldt put specifics on paper so bids could be sought.

During their regular bimonthly meeting on Dec. 31, county board members voted to publish those specifics and seek sealed bids for improved Internet service.

In other business on the county's light agenda for the year-end meeting, commissioners:

heard the monthly road report from superintendent Jon Mooberry and voted to enter into an agreement with South Side Irrigation District for the rehabilitation of a bridge on the Orchard Canal. The agreement outlines ownership of the bridge and approaches and is similar to contracts with other irrigation districts.

approved, following a public hearing, vacating a dead-end portion of Drive 446 near Road 752 in the southeast corner of the county.

reappointed the following individuals to the extension board: Cody Wolf, District 1; John Hanson, District 2; Becky Funk, District 3; and Matt Albrecht, District 4. The District 5 seat remains open.

appointed Dave Lahm to the Cozad Airport joint zoning board for a term to end December 2016.