

Oil sinks on storm-related supply concerns

NEW YORK (AP) — Oil closed Friday at its lowest point in almost four months as two U.S. Northeast refineries remained shut after Superstorm Sandy.

With production of gasoline and diesel reduced, and demand dropping off in the storm-stricken region, there is a likelihood that the nation's already ample supplies of oil will grow.

Benchmark crude fell \$2.23, or 2.2 percent, to close at \$84.86 a barrel — its lowest level since July 10.

Major refineries owned by Phillips 66 and Hess Corp. still aren't operating four days after the massive storm hit. The two have the combined capacity to refine almost 310,000 barrels of oil a day.

Philadelphia Energy Solutions says its refinery complex has been restarted with delivery delays. But the delivery of fuel throughout the New York area has been stifled by the severe damage and power outages left in the wake of the storm.

"Even if there is demand we can't get it where it needs to go," Energy analyst Phil Flynn said.

The concerns overshadowed a better-than-expected report on the labor market in October.

The Labor Department said Thursday that employers added 171,000 jobs last month, although the unemployment rate ticked up to 7.9 percent. More jobs were also added in the previous two months than was first reported.

That suggests the slow economic recovery remains on track. Flynn said the stronger jobs numbers drove the value of the U.S. dollar higher. That tends to make investments like oil and other commodities less attractive.

Brent crude, which is used to price international varieties of oil, dropped \$2.49, or 2.3 percent, to \$105.73 a barrel in London.

In other energy futures trading in New York:

- Wholesale gasoline futures dropped 6 cents to \$2.57 per gallon.
- Heating oil fell 9 cents to \$2.95 per gallon.
- Natural gas dropped 14.5 cents to \$3.55 per 1,000 cubic feet.

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US has 1,800 rigs exploring for oil, gas

HOUSTON (AP) — The number of rigs actively exploring for oil and natural gas in the U.S. dropped this week by 26 to 1,800.

Texas-based oilfield services company Baker Hughes Inc. reported Friday that 1,373 rigs were exploring for oil and 424 were searching for gas.

Three were listed as miscellaneous. A year ago, Baker Hughes listed 2,026 rigs.

Of the major oil- and gas-producing states, Texas dropped 20 rigs, Colorado lost seven, North Dakota decreased by six, Alaska and California each lost two, while New Mexico decreased by one.

Oklahoma added six rigs, while Arkansas, Louisiana, West Virginia and Wyoming each gained one. Pennsylvania remained unchanged.

The rig count peaked at 4,530 in 1981 and bottomed at 488 in 1999.

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OPEN LETTER TO TERRY COUNTY VOTERS

Dear Terry County Voters:

By way of introduction, my name is G. Dwayne Pruitt and I served as County Attorney for Terry County from 1977 until retirement twenty-seven and a half years later. I served as President and Chairman of the Board of the Texas District and County Attorneys Association, a statewide body of more than 5,800 members. Prior to retirement in 2002, the Texas State Bar and District and County Attorneys Association honored me with the "The Prosecutor of the Year" award. I feel I know something about serving the people as your elected prosecutor. I was asked by a friend at church to comment and recommend who I felt should be elected to the position of County Attorney. In Terry County, the prosecutor has responsibility for both misdemeanor and felony cases, everything from DWI to capital murder. It is not an 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. job and is not the place for on-the-job training.

Ramon Gallegos worked for me for over 9 years as an assistant, doing every phase of prosecution from trial to appeals, and did an excellent job. He has served as your elected prosecutor for 9 years, and he served as a private attorney for over 10 years. There is no substitute for experience. By contrast, his opponent has been licensed for 4 years and only recently tried her first felony jury trial by herself, according to the lawyers I have talked with. She and her relatives are all very fine folks and have always been very wonderful people in my eyes. However, this is too important of a position to be a popularity contest; therefore, I am endorsing Ramon Gallegos as your County Attorney and hope you cast your ballot for experience in this vital position for the County.

Sincerely Yours,

G. Dwayne Pruitt
Attorney at Law

Pol Adv paid for by G. Dwayne Pruitt, PO Box 746, Brownfield, TX 79316.

Council hears quarterly reports

The Brownfield City Council worked through a number of routine agenda items Thursday morning, including quarterly reports from several department heads.

The city's new Code Enforcement Officer, Lorenzo Mancina, gave an abbreviated report due to his limited time on the job.

He told the council that he would present 12 structures this week to the zoning board for demolition and another 11 next week.

The council then heard from Fire Chief Dennis Rowe, who reported that a new water truck given to the city by the Texas Forest Service is almost ready for duty. The truck holds 1,200 gallons of water.

Rowe added that October was a busy month with calls, as well as several education programs in observance of National Fire Prevention Month.

"The kids always enjoy those and so do we," he said.

The chief also said he is currently reviewing revisions to the International Fire Code, which he will present for adoption at a later date.

City Councilman Geronimo Gonzales asked if the Brownfield Fire Dept. is affected in any way by the recent problems at the Meadow Fire Dept.

Rowe said his firefighters respond to all calls in Terry County and their obligation does not change, regardless of what happens inside another department.

"We will continue to do what we do," he said.

Police Chief Tony Serbantez was next and told the council his officers were working hard.

A quarterly breakdown of calls for service showed officers responded to 1,270 calls in July, 1,311 in August and 1,213 in September.

David Partlow addressed the council with a quarterly report from the Brownfield Industrial

Development Corp. Partlow said he continues to enjoy his role in Brownfield and is pleased with the amount of work he and his board have put in.

"We have a lot of irons in the fire right now and they are all very exciting possibilities for Brownfield," he said. "I've been fortunate to move here at a time when the economy is on an upward trend."

All of the quarterly reports were approved by the council.

In other business, the council voted unanimously to approve an increased budget for operation of the Visitor Information Center by the Brownfield Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber Director Lorena Valencia told the council that more funds were included for advertising and labor.

Valencia plans to advertise Brownfield more heavily in the Metroplex to attract overnight stays by travelers heading to Ruidoso.

She also said another person on the staff is necessary because several new events have been added to the Chamber's calendar next year, including a grape

harvest festival in July.

The council also renewed the formal agreement with the chamber to operate the VIC.

The city's investment policy and training for financial officers was approved with no changes.

City Manager Eldon Jobe said the policy is required by state law, as is the training on a biennial basis.

Refinancing was approved for bonds issued by the Canadian River Municipal Water Authority.

The move will save CRMWA and each of its 11 member cities, including Brownfield, money on the retirement of the debt.

The council also gave approval to eight applications for the wildly-successful property improvement plan.

All of the funds were depleted in three days after its announcement.

Council members absent Thursday included Cynthia Morin, Rod Bearden and Brent Besler.

Present were Tom Hesse, Roxanne Barr, Mayor Bob Simpson, Geronimo Gonzales and Jackie Pinson.

Arrest

From Page 1

structively. They also learned of Holcombe's outstanding arrest warrant for parole violation, and placed him into custody.

Further investigation led them to request a search of the home, which revealed about 1.5 grams of methamphetamine, pipes used to smoke the drug and packaging materials that suggested it was intended for delivery. The meth and paraphernalia items were located inside a baseball cap in plain view in the residence.

Holcombe was taken to the Terry County Jail and booked. He is not eligible for bond due to his parole-revocation status.

He will likely be returned to a state prison facility to complete the remainder of his sentence for his original delivery-of-methamphetamine conviction. If convicted of the new charge, he could face up to an additional 20 years.



RAMON GALLEGOS
County Attorney
with Felony Responsibilities

- 30 Years Experience
- 100 Felony Cases
- Knowledge of Justice System
- Served as Assistant County Attorney
- Has Managed Controversial Cases

I, Ramon Gallegos, am announcing my intent to seek re-election for a third term as your Terry County Attorney with Felony Responsibilities. The future is bright for Terry County, but there is a lot of work that must be done. We strive every day to effectively and efficiently prosecute the crimes that are committed in Terry County.

In 1982, I began my legal career as the Assistant County Attorney under the guidance of County Attorney G. Dwayne Pruitt. I took advantage of the opportunity Mr. Pruitt offered, and learned all I could about how the criminal justice system works. In 1988, after six years in Brownfield, I left the County Attorney's Office to enter private practice and better hone my skills. I returned to Brownfield in 2000 with my wife, Rosa Gallegos, and my two children Casandra and Adam to work with Mr. Pruitt once more.

I believe we deserve to live in a community where our prosecutor is dedicated to keeping our community safe and has the tools to accomplish that goal. Eight years ago, I stepped into the role of County Attorney holding myself to that standard, and prosecuting those that try to threaten our community's safety. This is not an easy task, and as a community, you deserve

a prosecutor who does not take the task lightly. EXPERIENCE IS KEY.

Experience can't be substituted. I have spent the last 30 years practicing law, gathering experience to keep our community safe. Experience not only in understanding the law, but also in the managing of the more controversial cases. In my time as an attorney, I have tried more than 100 felony cases. To contrast, my opponent has only tried 1 felony case. Don't be fooled, the Terry County position requires experience. The job of prosecuting those accused of murder, sexual assault, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated robbery, aggravated assault, felony DWI or any other felony should not be left to just anyone who wants the job.

On November 6th, you have the opportunity to be heard. You will decide who will be your County Attorney with Felony Responsibilities for the next four years. The key words are "Felony Responsibilities." Remember, 100 cases to 1. 30 years to 4. Your vote counts. I ask for your vote this November to ensure another four years of a safe community.

-- Ramon Gallegos
Terry County Attorney

ELECTION DAY: Tuesday, November 6, 2012 For a ride, please call 806-549-2728

Political Advertising paid for by Ramon Gallegos