

The Alva Review

By: Helen Barrett

Budget outlooks for Woods County Schools improved with the collection of \$383,954.88 in previously omitted taxes.

Woods County Assessor Monica Schmidt said the new funds are from 148 miles of omitted pipeline discovered through the persistent efforts of Visual Lease Services for the years of 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004.

Western Gas Resources, Inc., stated they were unaware of the 1,033 miles of omitted pipeline in these seven counties when they purchased the system since it had not been included on their maps.

The pipeline discovered by VLS is in Woods, Woodward, Major, Grant, Garfield, Blaine and Dewey counties. Its total market value in Woods County was \$33,520,876, Schmidt said.

“Once the tax representative for Western Gas became aware of the situation, he worked diligently with the counties to finalize the data and provided an updated map.” Schmidt said.

“It’s been a long time coming,” Schmidt said.