



Kingman County Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – Nov. 19, 2013



Fire destroys truck, frozen meat

A truck hauling 42,000 pounds of frozen meat caught fire Nov. 16 near Cunningham at the intersection of US 54 Highway and NW 150th Avenue, prompting response from multiple agencies, including Kingman County.

The driver of the truck, owned by Monson & Sons, Britt, Iowa, pulled off the highway at approximately 12:30 p.m. after noticing smoke and fire coming from a dual on the trailer. The Cunningham Fire Department was first on the scene and was joined by firefighters from Reno County District 7 and Kingman. Cunningham Fire Chief Harold Stark said the fire was extinguished in about an hour's time but units remained on the scene until 5:30 a.m. Sunday.

Fred Simon, Kingman County director of emergency management, responded due to the nature of the cargo. He said the burned meat was removed under the supervision of the Kansas Department of Agriculture. The Kansas Department of Transportation also was at the scene.

The driver of the truck, who is from Dubuque, Iowa, was not injured. One Cunningham firefighter was taken to a local hospital for dehydration and heat-related symptoms and was treated and released.

The truck, trailer and contents were a total loss. The value of the loss has been estimated at between \$350,000 and \$400,000.

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