

By Jan Schultz

The Imperial Republican

Four area residents were arrested at a rural Chase County residence and jailed on drug charges after a search warrant was secured Monday.

Chase County Sheriff Kevin Mueller said those arrested on felony methamphetamine charges include Wade Ambrosek, 33, and Stephanie Way, 28, both of Haigler; and Phillip Hatton Jr., 36, and Kristi Ohrman, 32, both of Benkelman.

Sheriff Mueller said the rural residence at 72788 Avenue 320, where Ambrosek and Way reside, was entered shortly after 10 a.m. Monday with a search warrant.

Three Chase County deputies, two State Patrol troopers and a State Patrol drug dog were on the scene.

The four arrested were charged with possession of a controlled substance. Hatton and Ohrman also face additional felony charges for possession of a firearm during a drug violation.

Evidence allegedly taken from the home and in vehicles on the property were methamphetamines and drug paraphernalia, according to the sheriff.

All four were lodged in the Chase County Jail Monday with bonds of \$10,000 each set by Judge Edward Steenburg. Ohrman was released shortly after on her own recognizance due to medical issues, Mueller said. As of Tuesday, the other three remained in jail.

Sheriff Mueller said his office has been investigating these individuals for some time and just recently acquired the search warrant.

Arraignment for Ambrosek, Way and Hatton is tentatively set for Wednesday this week in Chase County Court. Since Ohrman was released, she will face arraignment on April 9, Mueller said.

Chief Deputy Mike Dukes, along with Deputies Dave Ridlen and Spencer Rowley were involved in Monday's arrests.