

# Still no action on city manager

By Jim Cornelius  
News Editor

After meeting for their third executive session regarding employment issues surrounding City Manager Andrew Gorayeb, there still is no action on his status from the Sisters City Council. That may change after a meeting scheduled for Thursday.

Gorayeb has been on paid administrative leave since February 25, after complaints were made by some City employees regarding conduct that was described only as not financial, physical, or sexual in nature. The City requested an independent investigation and received a report, which they reviewed in executive session on April 4. The council met again in executive session on April 7 and most recently on Thursday, April 14.

By statute, executive sessions held for such personnel matters are closed. Media may attend in an observer's role but are enjoined from reporting on the session.

Asked after the meeting if the multiple executive sessions are an indication that there is an impasse between the Council and the City Manager, Mayor Chris Frye said, "not necessarily."

Asked if the City Manager is expected to return to his position, he said that that is "yet to be determined."

Asked if the council *wants* to have Gorayeb return to his position, Frye said that that is "still to be determined."

Overhearing the question, Councilor David Asson made a "thumbs-down" gesture. He later clarified that the gesture reflected his personal feelings on the matter and he was not attempting to speak for the Council.

Frye said that the process has taken so long because "there's a lot of parties involved, a lot of things to consider, and to do things correctly takes time."

City Attorney Steve Bryant noted, "The communication is going through the parties' attorneys."

Asked if there is a risk of litigation in the matter, Frye responded, "When isn't there?"

The mayor acknowledged that the matter has dragged on for nearly two months now.

"We are sensitive to the fact that people want answers, that they want to know things," he said. He reiterated that the Council is focused on "doing things correctly."

A special meeting has been set for Thursday morning.

"We hope to have a much clearer picture on Thursday, with hopefully a defined path we can take," Frye said.

*The Nugget* reached out to Gorayeb but as of press time he had not responded.

## Bike raffle...



PHOTO PROVIDED

Richard Skupa from Sisters receives a key from Sam, member of Bend Bikes. Bend Bikes made a generous donation that made it possible for the Sisters Band of Brothers to acquire an electric bike. The bike will be displayed and raffle tickets will be sold at Ray's Food Place through Armed Forces Day, May 21. The winning ticket will be drawn at Takoda's restaurant that day at 6 p.m.

# Trail training set in Camp Sherman

Registration is currently open for volunteers interested in an annual training weekend focused on developing skills to perform trail maintenance on the Deschutes National Forest.

Each year the Deschutes and Willamette National Forests, The Pacific Crest Trail Association, and the High Cascades Forest Volunteers host trainings, called Trail Skills Colleges, which train and certify volunteers to do trail work.

The sessions are designed to train both new and

returning volunteers and to allow them to meet other volunteers who work to provide quality recreation experiences for forest visitors. Learning trail stewardship will enhance your trail experience and help make the trails we enjoy better for all.

Class offerings include chainsaw and crosscut certification, introduction to trail maintenance, trail design, rock retaining-walls, managing a trail crew, wilderness first aid and CPR, and many others.

The training is free of

charge and volunteers may attend the full weekend or only portions of the training.

Training will be held on June 2-5, at Allingham Guard Station near Camp Sherman. Registration for Allingham closes May 15.

For more information and to register for the trainings, visit: <http://www.highcascadesvolunteers.com/Training/SpringTraining.html>.

For more information, contact Joe Welke, Deschutes NF trails volunteer coordinator, at 541-383-4040.

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