

MISLEY: Manager has been serving in La Pine

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officials in Central Oregon who have worked with him in a variety of capacities. He has been involved for the past couple of years on committees for Next Generation and Communications in the Oregon City/County Management Association (OCCMA). Last year he served on the Central Oregon Community College budget committee.

Currently, Misley is a member of the American Leadership Forum of Oregon (ALFO) Class 36. As part of that program, he spends time traveling around Oregon with other government, non-profit, and private-sector leaders learning how to better understand, and then contribute toward, solving challenges faced by communities.

Misley sees one of the big challenges for any small city — and Sisters in particular — in the balancing of resources and services, in the present and projecting into the future.

“Ensuring essential services are always addressed first and then exploring other opportunities requires skilled staff and strong leadership,” Misley said.

He understands maintaining the quality of life that brought people here can be a challenge for any growing community while they adapt to change.

“How to address change is best rooted and informed with broad, community-driven input. The Sisters Country Horizons visioning process has been doing just that, and brought to the surface many strategies to address current and continuing challenges and opportunities,” he said.

Misley thinks the Sisters community as a whole has a very strong social fabric.

“People are passionate about their community and also their local government. That creates an environment conducive to exploring ideas and capable of accomplishing a lot. The City as an entity has dedicated people working and serving the community. The quality of life has been shaped and cultivated over the years, and as a result the vibrancy of the community is inspiring. Overall, the City is in an excellent position to continue providing quality services while also working with the community to accomplish other wants and needs.”

As the city manager, Misley likes to foster a team environment both with staff and the community. He believes a staff that enjoys working together will show

that through the good work they do.

“That requires sharing responsibility and empowering every member of the team to contribute in important ways,” he said. “Collaboration is critical for creativity, and creativity is vital for assessing operations and having an effective feedback loop. Open, honest communication coupled with empathy goes a long way to building trust, and trust is integral to maintaining a team. The same goes for maintaining trust with the community in the work we do and as public servants.”

Misley describes himself as “a bit of a talker” who wants to provide thorough and articulate responses in dialog. He also understands the importance of being a good listener.

“I want to learn as much as I can about everything and understand topics from multiple perspectives, and to do that requires more listening than talking,” he said. “I enjoy working with people and try to bring the right balance of seriousness and understanding, and humor, to every situation. I enjoy collating perspectives and information and working through how to put all of the pieces together to get stuff done. I am very results-oriented, but the process along the way is just as important.”

On behalf of the City Council, Mayor Chuck Ryan said, “The City is very lucky to have found a local candidate who has the exact experience and qualifications that the City was searching for. We were very pleased with the overall talent of the candidate pool we interviewed, but Cory clearly rose to the top of that slate of candidates. We look forward to having Cory help advance our strategic visioning process so that Sisters will evolve into the community that our Sisters Country residents have outlined for us.”

Misley’s family is mostly



PHOTO PROVIDED

Cory Misley is Sisters’ new city manager.

in the Portland area, where he graduated from Oregon City High School, before receiving his bachelor of science in political science and psychology from Portland State University. He went on to earn a master’s of science in public policy and management from Carnegie Mellon University.

He is pleased to be a little closer to Portland while also being able to stay in Central Oregon. Misley said his family is looking forward to spending more time in Sisters.

Getting outdoors in every season fills Misley’s leisure time, whether camping, snowboarding, biking, or almost any other activity. He also enjoys socializing with friends, family, and community as well as reading or listening to podcasts.

For the next month, Misley will be winding down his duties in La Pine.

“I look forward to meeting all of Sisters. I’ll be doing my best to reach out, but please don’t hesitate to reach out to me,” Misley said.



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Prepare for fall/winter weather conditions

Rain, chilly temperatures and snow at pass level arrived in Sisters Country last weekend.

A nasty four-car pileup on Highway 20 at Santiam Junction on Sunday — precipitated when a driver lost control on the slick road — is a reminder that drivers need to be extra careful on the road in this season.

Cold temperatures and precipitation can cause problems for drivers, particularly in the early morning and late evening hours, when moisture on roadways freezes. Drivers should check their speed at these times and be especially alert in areas where roads are shaded for much of the day.

Sketchy conditions common to the season are likely to prevail on Santiam Pass in coming weeks, so holiday travelers should be alert and prepared.

The Oregon Department of Transportation advises travelers to use www.tripcheck.com to check

on road conditions before traveling. ODOT also recommends the following winter driving tips:

- Plan ahead, give yourself plenty of time.
- Adjust your driving for the conditions if there is ice or snow on the road.
- Be ready to handle potentially dangerous situations.
- Look for signs indicating when chains or traction tires are required, and chain-up early when you are required to do so.
- If you lose traction, slow down gradually — don’t slam on your brakes.
- Use extra caution when driving on bridges or concrete highways; ice forms first on these surfaces.
- Give snow-plows and road-maintenance equipment extra room and don’t pass snow-plows on the right (plow drivers will pull over to let you pass, so be patient).
- Don’t use cruise control in wet, icy, or snowy weather.

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