

Seat

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successes and failures.

"You've got to be able to work with people," Kirsch said. "That's a tough one right there."

As mayor, he was also witness to city councilors who got voted into office on the promise of fixing problems and dramatic change. He said that wouldn't be his goal as a state representative, rather he would try to represent his conservative district in the Capitol.

Kirsch, who also manages a hardware store, wants to see lower taxes with more tax dollars going toward public safety and schools.

According to Secretary of State records as of Thursday, Kirsch's campaign finance activity this year consists largely of a \$1,000 loan to himself.

Jami Cate

Jami Cate's family has worked land outside of Lebanon for five generations.

Now primarily a grass seed farmer, Cate had become increasingly worried in recent years about the sustainability of her way of life. She looked at the Legislature and didn't see enough representation of the natural resources industry.

But after Senate Republicans walked out over House Bill 2020 — the controversial greenhouse gas emissions cap-and-trade bill — and the Timber Unity move-

ment rallied thousands of rural, blue collar workers at the Capitol, she saw a "glimmer of hope."

"If people are ready to stand up for themselves, I'm definitely ready to stand up and fight on their behalf," Cate said.

Until recently, Cate was the chair of the Lebanon Strawberry Festival, an event she's helped with in a variety of roles for years.

In addition to advocating on behalf of the natural resource industry, Cate said the state needs to undo some of its unfriendly business policies and invest in education, particularly career and technical education.

Cate has received more than \$11,000 in campaign contributions since September.

Scott Sword

When the Timber Unity movement emerged earlier this year, Scott Sword immediately noticed a change in the blue collar men with whom he's worked his entire career.

Instead of talking about "guns or girls," Sword said "they started talking politics for the first time I've ever seen."

That same movement rekindled Sword's interest in politics, he said. Sword served three terms as the mayor of Vernonia in the late '80s and early '90s and later spent a term and a half as a Silverton city councilor.

Sword started working for his father's logging business after he returned from the Air Force. In 2001, his father sold it to

him. Sword still owns the company, but now his son is managing.

He believes there needs to be a "pro-business" majority in the Legislature.

"I do understand what the impacts of legislation do for, and do to, business," Sword said.

Sword has been heavily financed by the timber industry early in this campaign. He has raised \$22,000 in two months, including \$7,000 in money he loaned himself, \$5,000 from Freres Lumber and \$2,500 from the Oregon loggers political action committee.

Bruce Cuff

His campaign to represent House District 17 in the Oregon Legislature will at least the sixth attempt by Bruce Cuff to earn a spot in state government.

The real estate professional ran for this seat in 2008 and 2010, and then campaigned for governor the past three election cycles because he said he was happy with his district representation.

"I've been sitting here waiting for 10 years," Cuff said. "We've had good people in place."

Despite not winning these elections, Cuff said that he has stayed involved in district politics for more than a decade, including as a precinct committee person.

Over that time, he said that he's been consistent in his beliefs about removing restrictions on the natural resource industry and reducing taxes on business.

Cuff has raised about \$4,000 in the past month, but nearly \$2,200 of that

came in the form of cash contributions to himself. Also, in early December, Cuff forgave \$21,400 in loans that he granted himself during previous campaigns.

Susan Coleman

The only candidate with experience in the state Capitol, Susan Coleman began working as Sprenger's legislative assistant in July 2018.

Coleman said this experience has allowed her understand how the building operates and how bills actually make their way through the legislative process, especially when facing a Democratic supermajority.

"Relationships are key to moving things forward," she said.

Being in the Capitol also gave her the opportunity to receive phone calls from people living in House District 17. Coleman said the top issue people called in about during this past legislative session was gun control, but mental health was also high on that list.

Coleman said the state needs to provide more resources to mental health programs that exist and consider creating new programs to handle the load.

Coleman also serves on the Sweet Home City Council.

She has not begun fundraising, according to state campaign finance records.

Contact reporter Connor Radnovich at cradnovich@statesmanjournal.com or 503-399-6864, or follow him on Twitter at @CDRadnovich

Homelessness

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Before joining the rural group in 2011, Marion and Polk counties generally gained more money year-to-year, according to a presentation given by proponents earlier this year to justify the split. They secured about \$727,000 per year from 2005 to 2007, about \$887,000 in 2008 and more than \$953,500 in both 2009 and 2010.

The numbers started varying wildly in 2011, when the counties received \$920,350. The next year, they got more than \$1 million. Then in 2013, the payout went to \$958,529 before falling to about \$668,000 in 2014. Payments have hovered at less than \$800,000 since then, though the counties expect to receive more than \$900,000 in 2020.

The money will pay for several local projects, such as a rapid-rehousing program through the Center for Hope & Safety for domestic violence survivors

experiencing homelessness.

Lane County's Continuum of Care was awarded nearly \$3.4 million in 2016, according to Lane County Health & Human Services spokesman Jason Davis. In 2017, the number rose to about \$3.46 million. In 2018, the figure was about \$3.6 million.

The listed year is a year before the year the Continuum of Care receives the money because it denotes the year Congress appropriates the money, Davis said.

Splitting off means no more resources in the area will be lost to other parts of the state, said Jimmy Jones, executive director of the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency.

"The community should not expect to see any immediate additional dollars, unless there are new bonus funds available," Jones said. "Down the road, additional dollars will be added to our total grant."

Contact reporter Jonathan Bach by phone at 503-399-6714 or by email at jbach@statesmanjournal.com. Follow him on Twitter at @jonathanmbach.

Garbage

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A new transfer station ideally would be located off Interstate 5 near the Keizer or Brooks exits, the consultants said, with a satellite station in the Mill City area. The report did not identify specific potential locations.

The report also recommends Marion County adopt a policy change requiring cities to have a recycling program for construction and demolition waste, as required by the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

GBB also floated the idea of Marion County building a sustainable business park, which could attract companies that specialize in converting waste materials into marketable products, such as fuel pellets, as well as companies that would use the products.

The county's request for proposals required the study to include an evaluation of the benefits and challenges of each recommendation, to compare costs, and to evaluate the impact on the local community.

The draft report does not yet include those items. GBB will refine the report before presenting it to Marion County Commissioners in January 2020, said Brian May, the county's Environmental Services Division manager.

Marion County has worked with McLean, Virginia-based GBB on solid waste issues for at least 10 years. The company prepared a similar report in 2017.

The current contract has a not-to-exceed amount of \$98,410, including travel reimbursements.

Contact the reporter at tloew@statesmanjournal.com, 503-399-6779 or follow at Twitter.com/Traey_Loew



A resident of the homeless camp outside the ARCHES Project day center sweeps the sidewalk outside his tent on Monday, Dec. 9, 2019.

CAPI LYNN / STATESMAN JOURNAL



Edward Jones

MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

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Public Notice Announcing the Availability of an Environmental Assessment

US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Rural Business Services (RBS)

Pika Solar, LLC: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

AGENCY: Rural Business Services, USDA

ACTION: Notice of Availability of an Environmental Assessment

SUMMARY: Notice is hereby given that the Rural Business Services, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act, is issuing an Environmental Assessment (EA) in connection with possible impacts related to a project proposed by the Pika Solar, LLC (Applicant). The applicant is proposing the construction of a 2.2 megawatt (MW) solar facility (Project) located on the north side of Dominic Road NE, approximately 0.8-mile east of its intersection with Hillsboro Silverton Highway in Marion County, Oregon. The proposed Project consists of approximately 12-acre portion of a larger 60-acre parcel in Marion County.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Beyer, State Environmental Coordinator at (503) 414-3368, 1220 SW 3rd Avenue, Suite 1801, Portland, Oregon 97204 michael.beyer@usda.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Applicant's proposed project would use ground-mounted, fixed tilt solar arrays, consisting of photovoltaic (PV) modules, inverters, and associated racking and electrical equipment. The Project would have a generating capacity of 4,064 megawatt-hours (MWh) of energy per year and would sell this energy to Portland General Electric (PGE) under a long-term fixed power purchase agreement. When constructed, the solar arrays and associated components would be no more than 10 feet in height and would be surrounded by 7-foot tall chain link security fence. The facility will be located on privately-owned property in Marion County, Oregon.

Environmental Resources Management, Inc. consultant, prepared an Environmental Assessment for RBS that describes the project, assesses the proposed project's environmental impacts, and summarizes, as applicable, any mitigation measures used to minimize environmental effects. RBS has conducted an independent evaluation of the Environmental Assessment and believes that it accurately assesses the impacts of the proposed project. No significant impacts are expected as a result of the construction of the project.

Questions and comments should be sent to RBS at the address provided. RBS will accept questions and comments on the environmental assessment for 14 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Any final action by RBS related to the proposed project will be subject to, and contingent upon, compliance with all relevant Federal environmental laws and regulations and completion of environmental review procedures as prescribed by 7 CFR Part 1970, Environmental Policies and Procedures.

A general location map of the proposal is shown below.



Dated: December 10, 2019
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Merry Christmas
During this holiday season, we wish you all the best.

