

Donations Help Local Public Safety Agencies

The Vernonia Police Department (VPD) and Vernonia Rural Fire Protection District (VRFPD) have received brand new automated external defibrillator (AED) units for all of their vehicles. A donation from the Terence Lindauer Memorial Fund was used to purchase the 11 new units so the community will have them in emergencies. Batteries for these units need to be replaced annually and it is the hope of all those involved in the donation and purchase that the commu-

nity will help with that annual cost.

The Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Fire District has received a donation from a former volunteer and current District member, Walter Furguson of Mist. Chief Joe Kaczinski said Mr. Furguson was interested in helping the Fire District with a purchase and it was decided to use the funds towards apparatus. Chief Kaczinski said the District has put a down payment on a "new-to-us" water ten-

der that is being purchased from a Fire District in British Columbia, and the donated funds will be used to pay off that purchase. Kaczinski said he hopes to pick up the new water tender in the next month.



Left (l-r): Captain Will Steinweg, Chief Dean Smith and Volunteer Coordinator Trish Smith of the VRFPD and Chief Mike Conner and Sergeant Shawn Carnahan of the VPD.
Above: Walter Furguson and Chief Joe Kaczinski

Nehalem River Scenic Waterway Plan *continued from front page*



further restrictions on fishing or logging. Havel explained that the state is not trying to further restrict the area, but they are interested in protecting what is currently there. He added that this will not dictate how the river can be used.

Councilor Webb inquired as to if this would affect the City's ability to discharge waste water, with Hendricks replying it would not, as DEQ regulates that.

Councilor Bruce McNair stated his concern that this would affect any future request for increased water rights. Hendricks said municipalities would not be denied access to water, and Havel said if there was ever a water emergency, he has no doubt the Governor would suspend the Scenic Waterway Designation. Hendricks added that they would never suspend water rights

for human consumption.

At the conclusion of their questions Council agreed to take a neutral position. They commented that there is "... much value in maintaining existing natural areas, and working to sustain substantial recreational use of our rivers." They added that since the designation does not happen in Columbia County, Vernonia would not be effected, "... in an immediate way." They noted, "... our only concern was the limitation on new water rights should the City of Vernonia experience growth in the future this designation will potentially complicate our access to serve our future need for water."

Council voted to

approve the final draft of the letter at their January 22, 2019 meeting.

To see the Draft State Scenic Waterway Management Plan for the Nehalem River got to: <https://www.oregon.gov/oprd/NATRES/scenicwaterways/Documents/Nehalem%20Draft%20Management%20Plan.pdf>



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